

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 12 SEPTEMBER 2019

SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE AND VALE OF WHITE HORSE AREA, VARIOUS LOCATIONS – PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACES

Report by Director of Community Operations, Communities

Recommendation

1. The Cabinet Member for the Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve the proposed Disabled Persons Parking Places on Gainsborough Green (Abingdon), Kynaston Road (Didcot) as advertised but defer approval of the proposal for Duke Street (Henley-on-Thames) to allow for further consideration of this site.

Executive summary

2. The provision of Disabled Persons Parking Places is reviewed when requested by members of the public. Specific proposals are assessed applying national regulations and guidance on the suitability of providing new bays or amending existing ones.

Introduction

3. The report presents objections received in the course of the statutory consultation on the proposals to amend and introduce disabled persons parking places (DPPPs) at various locations within the South Oxfordshire and Vale of the White Horse areas.

Background

4. The above proposals as shown at Annex 1, Annex 2 & Annex 3 have been put forward following requests from residents for a DPPP following a check of their eligibility applying the national guidelines on the provision for such parking places.

Consultation

5. Formal consultation on the proposal was carried out between 18 July and 16 August 2019. A notice was placed in the Oxfordshire Herald Series newspaper and emails sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, the Vale of the White Horse and South Oxfordshire District Councils. The relevant Town & Parish

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Councils were also emailed, as well as local County Councillors. Notices were placed on site and letters sent directly to approximately 200 properties in the immediate vicinity, adjacent to the proposals.

6. 14 responses were received during the course of the consultation, and these are summarised in the table below:

Location <small>(Annex number)</small>	Support	Object	Neither/No Objection
Cotman Close, Abingdon	1		
Gainsborough Green, Abingdon ¹		1	3
Russell Jackson Close, Berinsfield	<i>no responses recieved</i>		
Amwell Place, Cholsey	<i>no responses recieved</i>		
Kynaston Road, Didcot ²	1	1	
Gaveston Road, Harwell	<i>no responses recieved</i>		
Duke Street, Henley-on-Thames ³		2	
Greys Road, Henley-on-Thames	1		
Barley Close, Lewknor			1
Duffield Place, Marcham	1		1
Fettiplace Road, Marcham	<i>bay no longer required</i>		

7. The responses are recorded at Annex 4 with copies of the full responses available for inspection by County Councillors.

Response to objections and other comments

8. Thames Valley Police did not object to the proposals.
9. Seven of the proposed parking bays received either expressions of support, no-objection or no response at all. These will be implemented as requested.
10. The proposed bay in Fettiplace Road in Marcham is no longer required.

Gainsborough Green, Abingdon

11. One objection and three responses including comments were received from members of the public, raising concerns over the impact of the proposed bay on traffic movements in the area including emergency vehicles and also the additional parking pressures it would cause for residents. A concern was also raised that it would be detrimental to safety, in particular for children playing in the area.
12. It is accepted that the proposed location of the bay is not ideal but is nevertheless acceptable on traffic and safety considerations, noting that alternative provision for the applicant has been investigated in detail but no other viable options have been identified.

Kynaston Road, Didcot

13. One objection was received from a member of the public on the grounds of need on the part of the applicant and parking pressures in the area. It is, however, considered that the application is valid and that the proposal will not materially increase parking pressure in the area.

14. Didcot Town Council supported the proposed bay.

Duke Street, Henley-on-Thames

15. Henley-on-Thames Town Council and one member of the public objected to the proposed bay on Duke Street on the grounds of the loss of loading opportunity for the adjacent business premises. In view of these concerns, it is recommended that a decision is deferred to allow further consideration of this matter.

How the Project supports LTP4 Objectives

16. The proposals would help facilitate the mobility of disabled persons in the vicinity of their places of residence.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

17. Funding for the proposed waiting restrictions has been provided by from the County Council's revenue budget.

OWEN JENKINS
Director of Community Operations

Background papers: Plan of proposed traffic calming measures
 Consultation responses

Contact Officers: Hugh Potter 07766 998704
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September 2019

Drawing No. Revision 0

Key

-  Proposed Disabled Parking Bay

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Project title
**PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS
 PARKING PLACE**

Drawing title
**ABINGDON
 GAINSBOROUGH GREEN**

Drawing Status **ANNEX 1**

Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
N.T.S.	Jac	Jac	Jac
	Date drawn 06/19	Date checked	Date approved

Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref

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Project title
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 PARKING PLACE

Drawing title
 DIDCOT
 KYNASTON ROAD

Drawing Status

Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
N.T.S.	JaC	JaC	
	Date drawn 06/19	Date checked	Date approved

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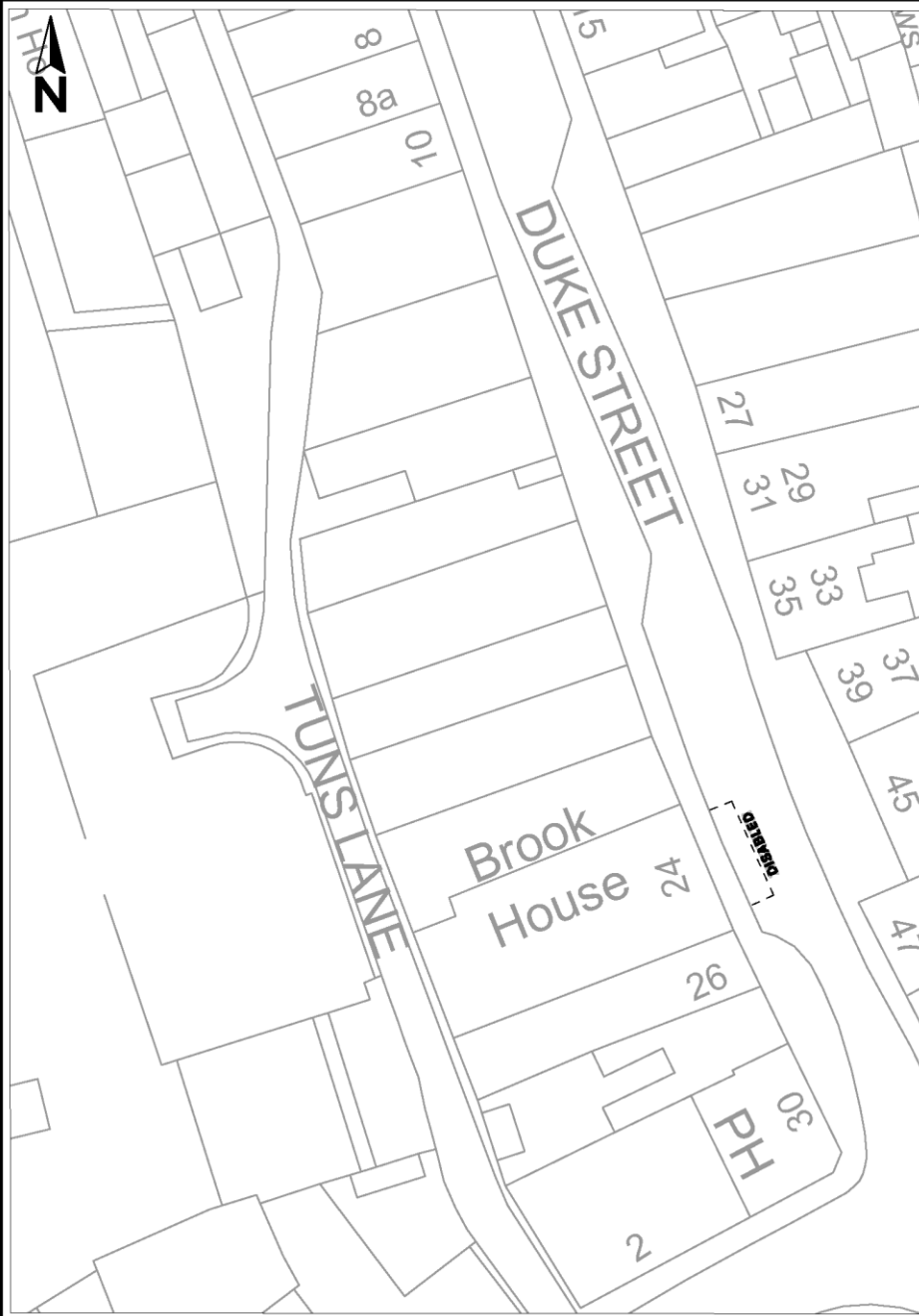
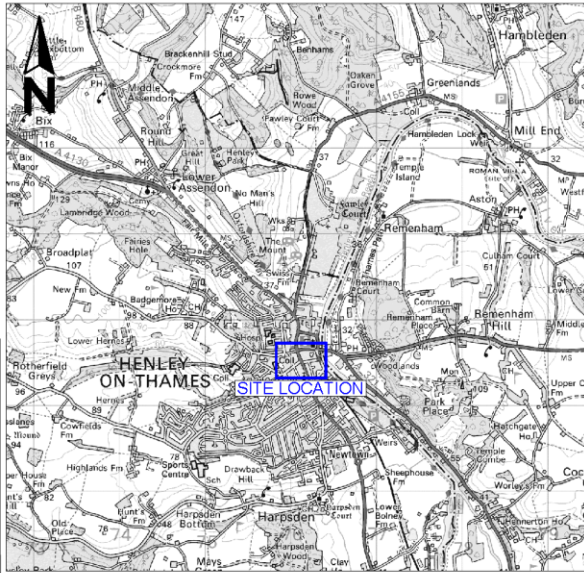
Drawing title
 HENLEY ON THAMES
 DUKE STREET

Drawing Status

Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
N.T.S.	JaC		
	Date drawn 06/19	Date checked	Date approved

Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref

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RESPONDENT	SUMMARISED COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	No objection
Gainsborough Green, Abingdon	
(2) Local Resident, (Abingdon)	<p>Object – I wish to appose the disable persons parking at gainsbrough green as it will disrupt the other parking in the area it will also cause possibly accidents due to children play out side and restrict others accessing there drives it will cause more obstructions than necessary and obstruct outhur parking out side there own houses with small children there are disable parking for the bungalows around the side of the road for them and the said person who this is for has been banned from driving and therefore no longer needed he used to park on the green opposite untill the council put bollards in to stop the parking.</p> <p>It will make it really tight for emergency services to pass through if this goes ahead and with a hospice round the corner this is not good</p>
(3) Local Resident, (Abingdon)	<p>Neither – the occupants of the bungalows used to park on the grass outside their back doors, The council then put wooden posts all around to stop this and made the lay by in Turner Road disabled parking only. Gainsborough Green is very busy with parked cars and emergency vehicles that come quite regularly to Nicholson House and the bungalows already sometimes have problems. We think putting a lay by in the road as per your plan would cause further problems.</p> <p>Could the lay by in Gainsborough Green in front of the old people's bungalows be made disabled parking as well? If people feel they cannot walk this short distance the question must beshould they be driving a motor vehicle on the road?</p>

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<p>(4) Local Resident, (Abingdon)</p>	<p>Neither – Putting a 2 disabled spaces opposite to them would make things very difficult for all of us. There is a home for disabled people. We already have problems with carers finding parking spaces along the road.</p> <p>Further up the road is Nicholson House Care Home who frequently have lorry deliveries and emergency ambulances calling. Extra parking spaces that have been proposed would cause problems for their access as well.</p> <p>The parking problem has been caused by the erection of unsightly wooden bollards to stop 2 bungalows from parking on the grassed areas outside their homes. They have my sympathy. Might I suggest money spent on these bollards would have been better spent on an a disabled layby which would better serve give better and safer access for the people from the bungalows and not impede on the rest of the community.</p> <p>I should also like to make the point that whoever came up with this idea must have visited the site during the day when everyone are away in their vehicles working. If they had arrived after 5pm they would realise their proposal would not work.</p>
<p>(5) Local Resident, (Abingdon)</p>	<p>Neither – I do not disapprove but however I do feel that this will cause issues regarding parking. As it is an issue to park at the best of time. I do think where it's been decided to place the bay is going to cause obstructions to other traffic with all vehicles parked. There is lots of green area outside said property where they could be many bays without causing problems. Could that not be considered? Or a drop kerb for us to park off road?</p>
<p>Kynaston Road, Didcot</p>	
<p>(6) Didcot Town Council</p>	<p>Support</p>
<p>(7) Local Resident, (Abingdon)</p>	<p>Object – There is no-one in the immediate vicinity of the proposed spot that has a disability that makes them unable to get to a car. I have been led to believe that one of the occupants at the address where the spot is proposed does have a blue badge, however it does not appear to be related to a mobility issue; at least it doesn't stop the individual walking regularly into town from the address.</p>

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	<p>Also, there is a drive at the house. Whilst this is technically shared with their neighbour it is never used by the neighbour, who chooses to park their vehicles on the road and in the front garden.</p> <p>At times, and only infrequently it can be difficult to park in the area. However, given the above explained circumstances, a restricted parking spot will only make these rare occasions worse. I believe this would be a vast waste of council tax payers money and resources.</p>
<p>Duke Street, Henley-on-Thames</p>	
<p>(8) Henley-on-Thames Town Council</p>	<p>Object – The Committee CONSIDERED the consultation documentation provided. The Committee is in support of the proposed disabled parking bay in Greys Road. The committee does not support the proposed disabled parking bay in Duke Street which is in a loading bay and considered essential for deliveries to businesses in town.</p>
<p>(9) Local Resident, (Henley-on-Thames)</p>	<p>Object – My opinion has not changed in that I am totally against any disabled parking bay being put in to a current loading bay area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By introducing a disabled bay you would be taking away valuable “loading” area for Duke St. It’s bad enough when people park here illegally preventing delivery drivers from parking - but having a disabled bay will just make it worse. • What is to stop a disabled driver who works in town from parking here all day? Again taking up valuable space for delivery drivers throughout the day. • Having a disabled bay on the left side of a one way -street strikes me as being very dangerous. Someone driving with a disability getting out of the right side of a car does not seem right ! • Perhaps instead of spending time and money on ONE disabled bay – time could be better spent trying to sort out the real parking problems in Henley.