

Division(s): Iffley Fields and St Mary's, Isis,
Jericho and Osney, St Margaret's, University
Parks

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 25 MAY 2017

PROPOSED ADDITIONAL CAR CLUB BAYS, OXFORD

Report by Director for Infrastructure Delivery

Introduction

1. This report presents objections and other comments received in the course of the statutory consultation on the proposals to introduce additional car club bays in Oxford.

Background

2. As part of the joint Oxfordshire County Council/Oxford City Council 'Go Ultra Low Oxford' project (a government funded project to trial electric car charging technologies on street) a number of existing Car Club bays are being converted to be used for electric vehicles. To compensate for this it has been agreed as part of the project to provide alternative Car Club bays for the displaced petrol/diesel vehicles.
3. Potential locations for these alternative bays have been identified in various streets in Oxford as shown at Annexes 1 to 12.

Consultation

4. Formal consultation on the proposed Car Club bays was carried out in March and April 2017. Public notices were placed in the Oxford Times, and also placed on site in the immediate vicinity of the each of the proposals. Emails were also sent to statutory consultees including; Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service and the relevant local County & City Councillors. Letters were sent to nearby properties. In total, 45 responses were received during the course of the consultations and these are summarised at Annex 12.
5. Councillor Pressel, the member for the Jericho and Osney division expressed support for the proposals. Thames Valley Police responded with no objections.
6. The responses from residents are summarised in the table below. This table excludes responses which were not related to specific sites, which comprised one objection and three expressions of support

Proposal	Objection	Support	Other comment
Stockmore Street (Annex 1)	0	1	0
Newton Road (Annex 2)	1	1	0
St Thomas Street (Annex 3)	0	1	0
East Street (Annex 4)	5	3	0
Nelson Street (Annex 5)	1	0	1
St John Street (Annex 6)	2	2	1
Observatory Street (Annex 7)	5	0	1
Alexandra Road (Annex 8)	2	4	0
Leckford Road (Annex 9)	3	0	0
Juxon Street (Annex 10)	0	0	0
Frenchay Road (Annex 11)	1	3	0

7. The objections primarily relate to the loss of parking for residents, and that the proposals would result in parking being transferred to other nearby roads which already have limited parking availability.

Response to objections and concerns

8. The principle of providing specific parking bays for Car Club vehicles was agreed at the meeting of the Transport Decisions Committee in November 2009. Car Clubs provide ready access to a vehicle, without the fixed costs of motoring. They are a cheaper option to owning a car for many people, especially those who use their car for short, relatively infrequent trips. They may also offer a cheaper alternative to owning a second car and have the potential to reduce car ownership.
9. LTP4 states that the County Council will “work with local research and development partners to scope, design, test, and implement a family of vehicle hire and ride sharing technologies focused on bike hire, car share, car clubs and other on-demand vehicle services” (paragraph 122; Volume 1: Policy & Overall Strategy) and there is therefore a presumption in favour of providing Car Club bays.
10. It is recognised that the proposed bays in Newton Road, East Street, Nelson Street, Alexandra Road and Leckford Road are in areas where there is significant parking pressure. However, national research has shown that up to 20 private cars may be replaced by one Car Club vehicle, and this has clear potential benefits in reducing parking congestion in this type of area.
11. The objections to the proposed bay in St John Street (Annex 6) are primarily about the location given the current layout of parking along the street. This is accepted and it is suggested that the proposed Car Club Bay be relocated so

it is at the northern end of the parking bay (rather than being part-way along it).

12. The objections to the proposed bay in Observatory Street (Annex 7) are mainly from the adjacent flats in Belsyre Court. The points made by the objectors have been reviewed and it is suggested that a Car Club bay is not located in this location but that an alternative site (most likely in Bevington Road) is explored.
13. The objection to the proposed bay on Frenchay Road (Annex 11) primarily concerns the relocation of parking to be partially on the footway. As the footway here is quite wide and does not provide a through route for pedestrians (as the bridge over the canal only has a footway on the southern side) it is not considered that this change will have any particular disadvantage.

How the Project supports LTP4 Objectives

14. The proposals would help support the transition to a low carbon future.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

15. Funding for the consultation and implementation of the bays has been made available through the Government's Office for Low Emissions Vehicles

RECOMMENDATION

16. **The Cabinet Member for Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve the implementation of the proposals as advertised and amended as set out in this report.**

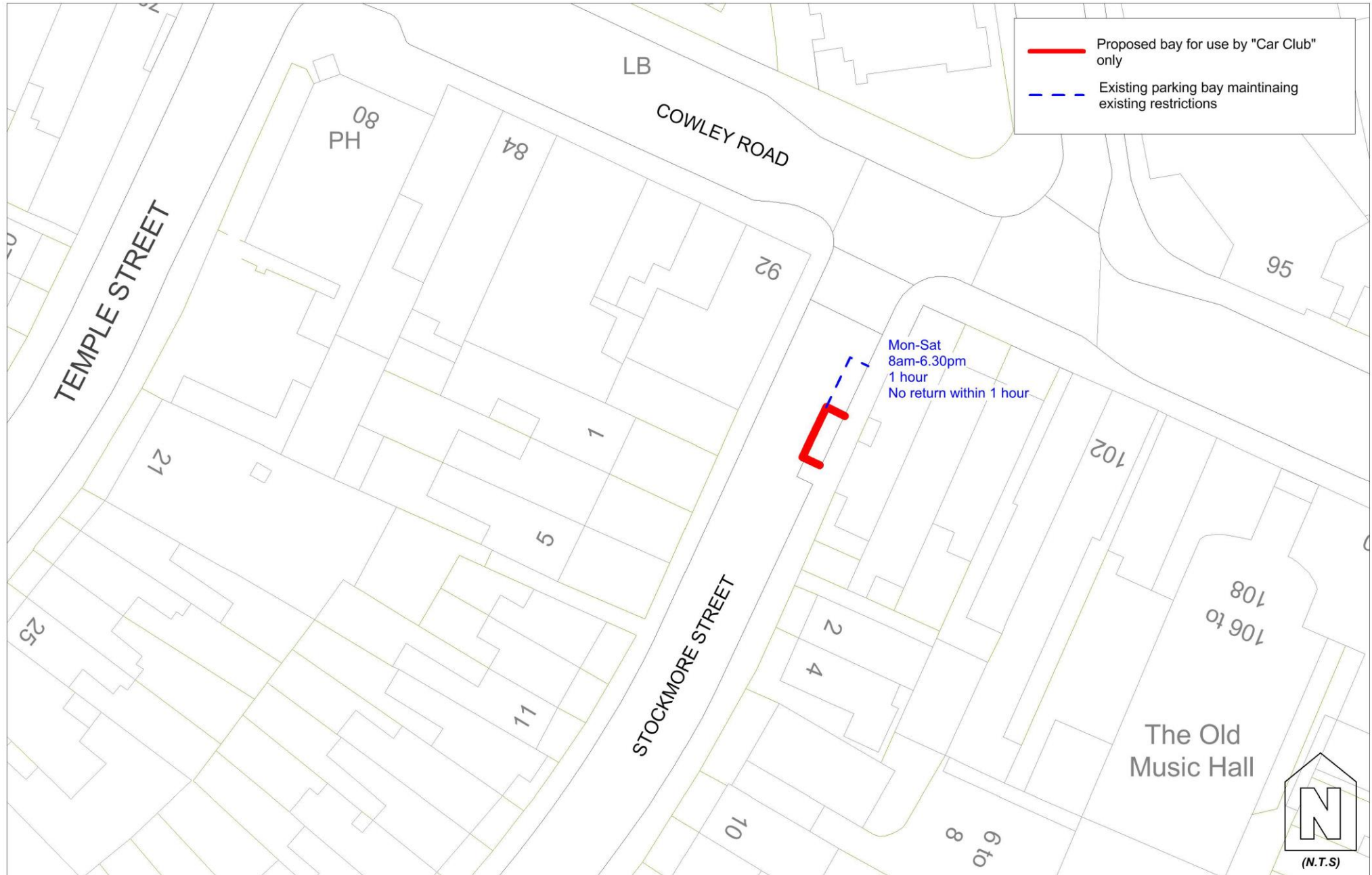
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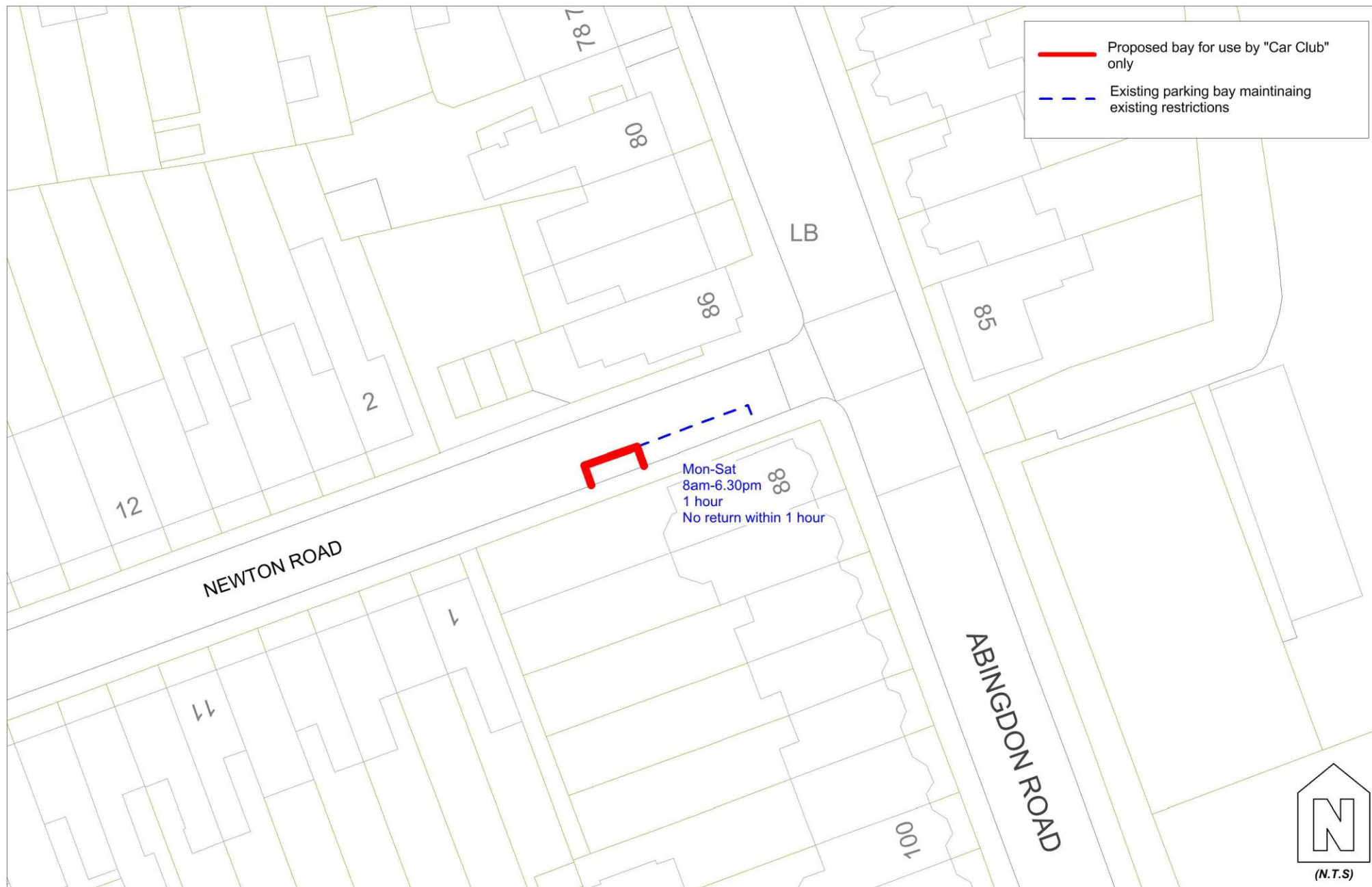
Director for Infrastructure Delivery

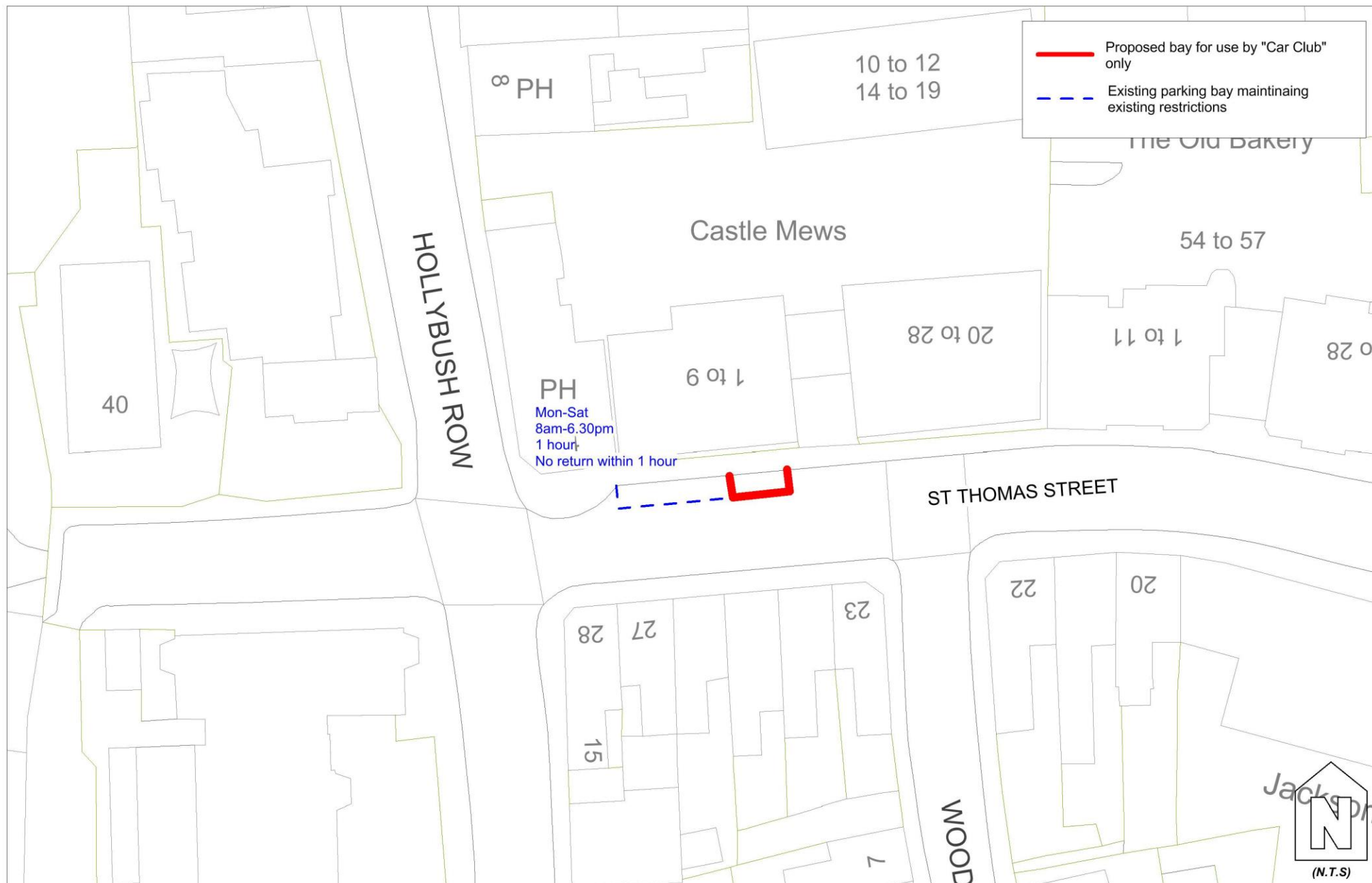
Background papers: Consultation responses

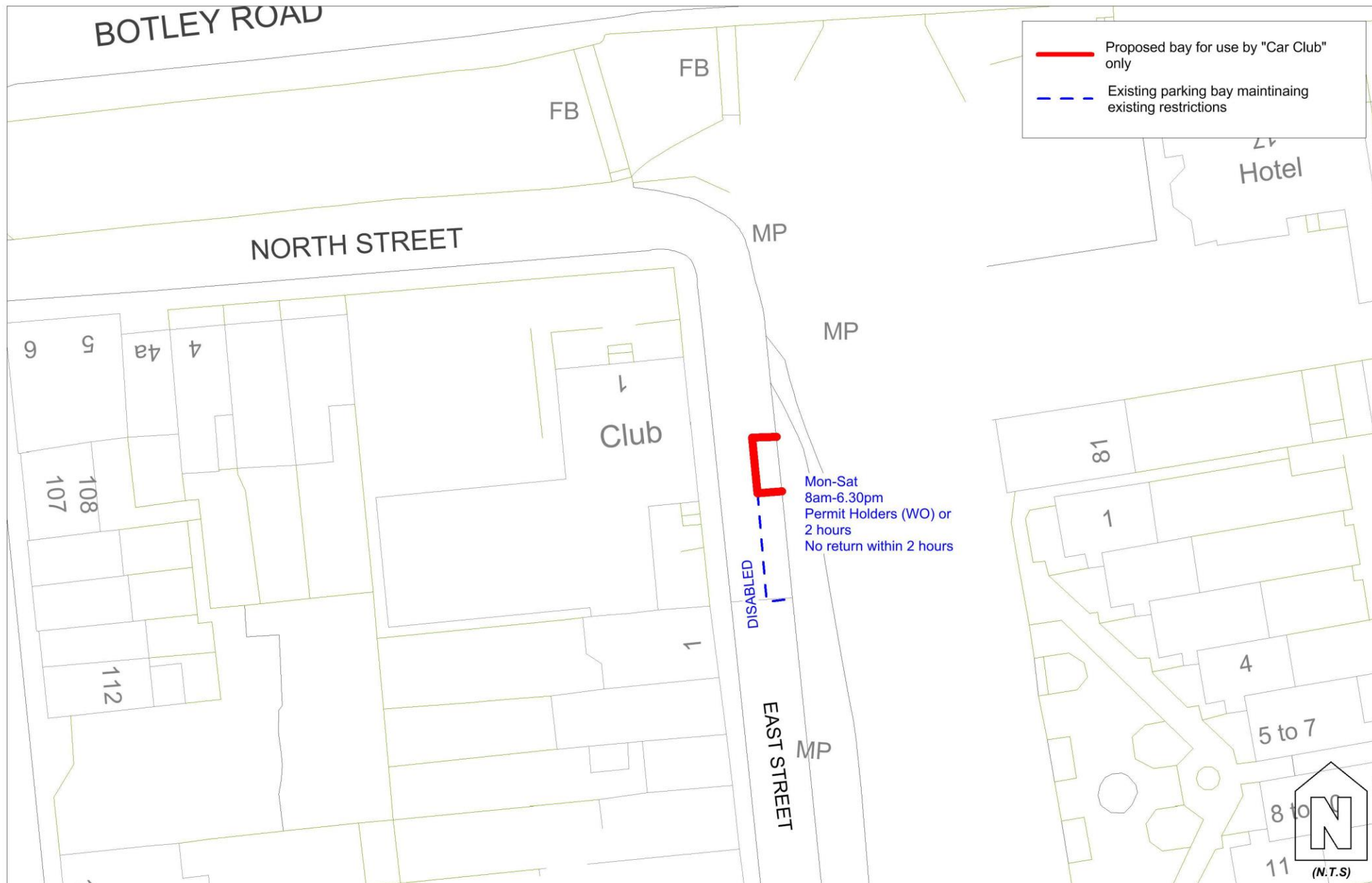
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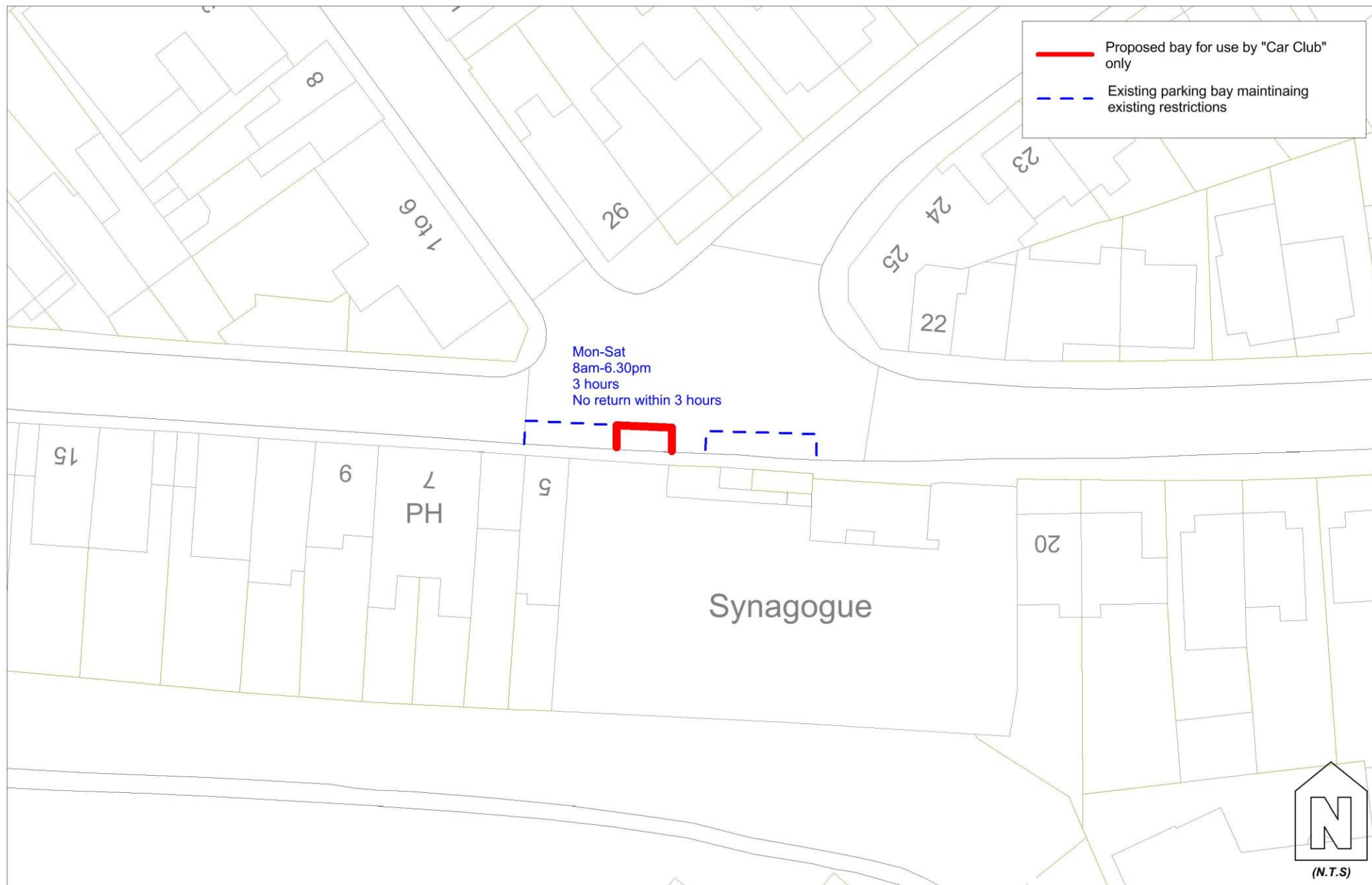
May 2017

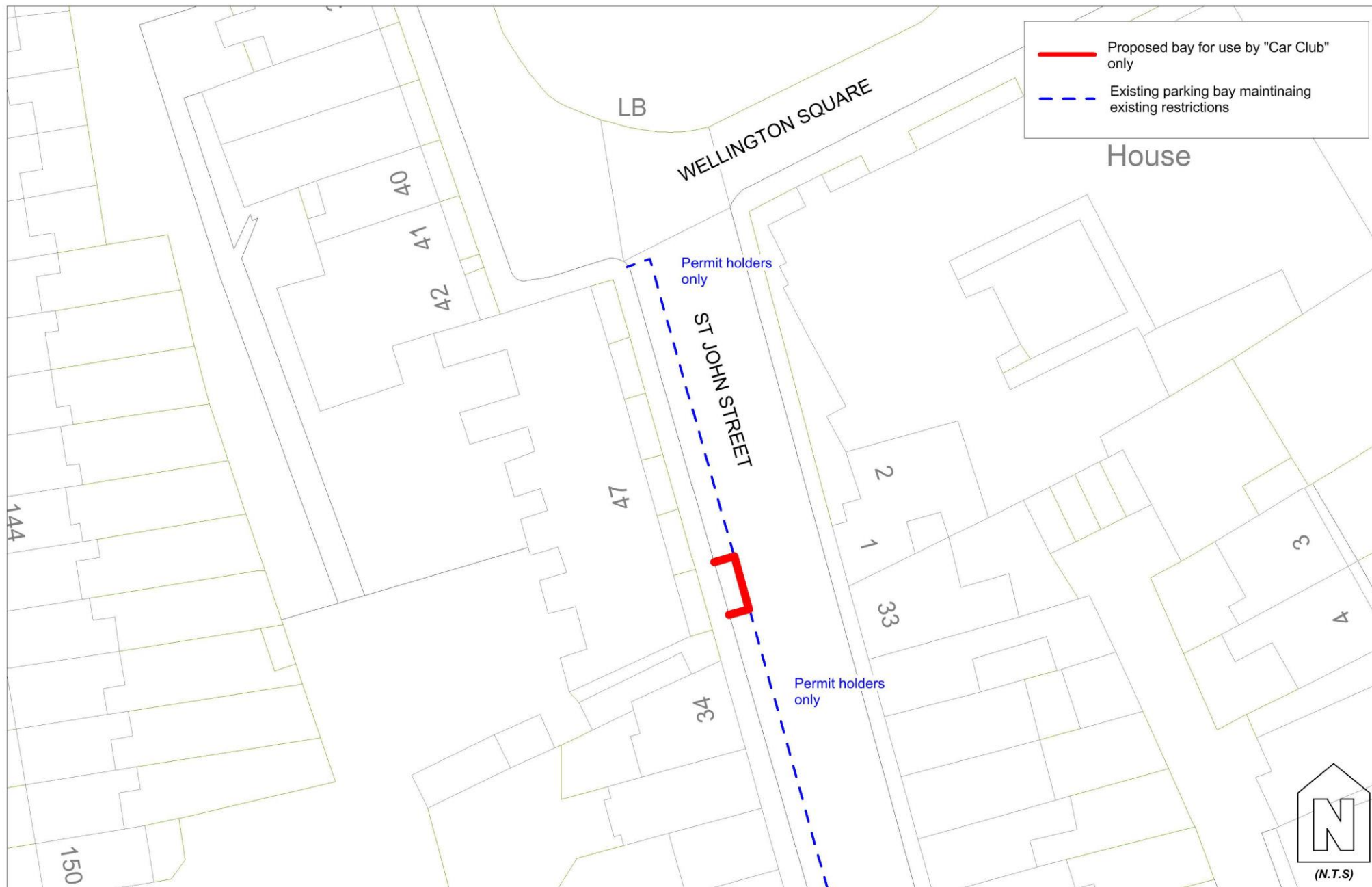




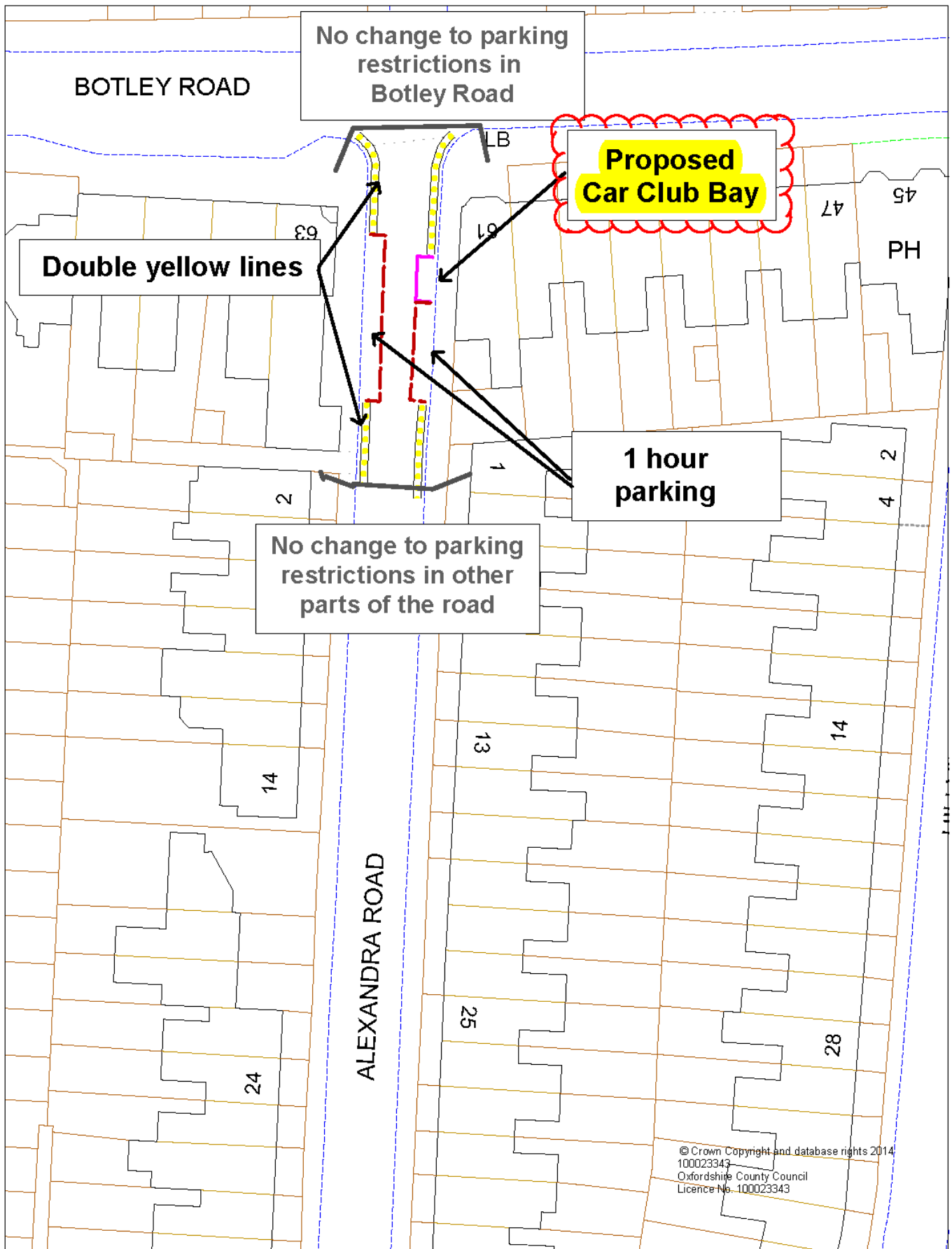










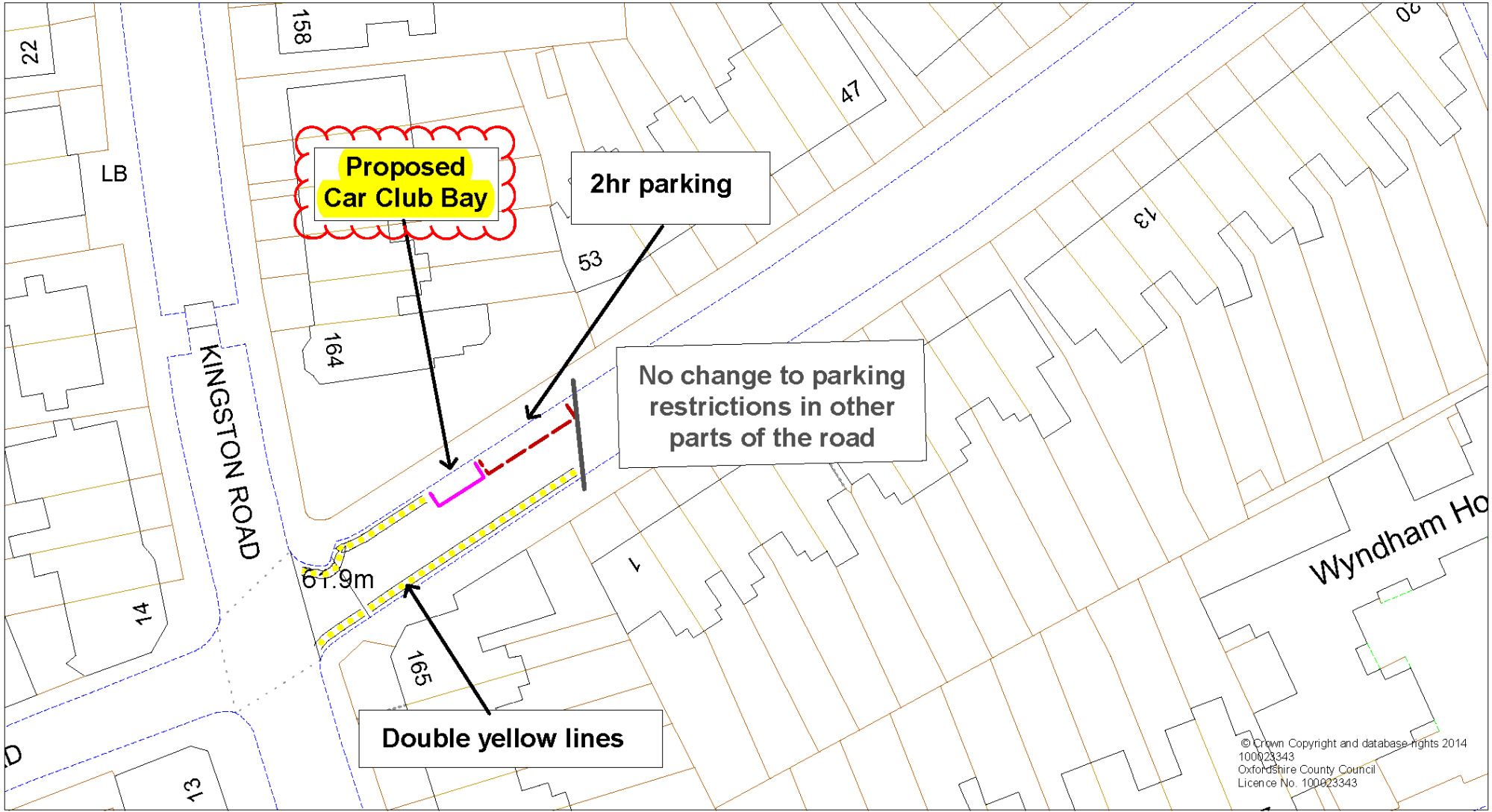


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**PROPOSED CAR CLUB BAY
 ALEXANDRA ROAD, OXFORD**

SCALE	1 : 500
DATE	04/2017
DRAWING No.	
DRAWN BY	



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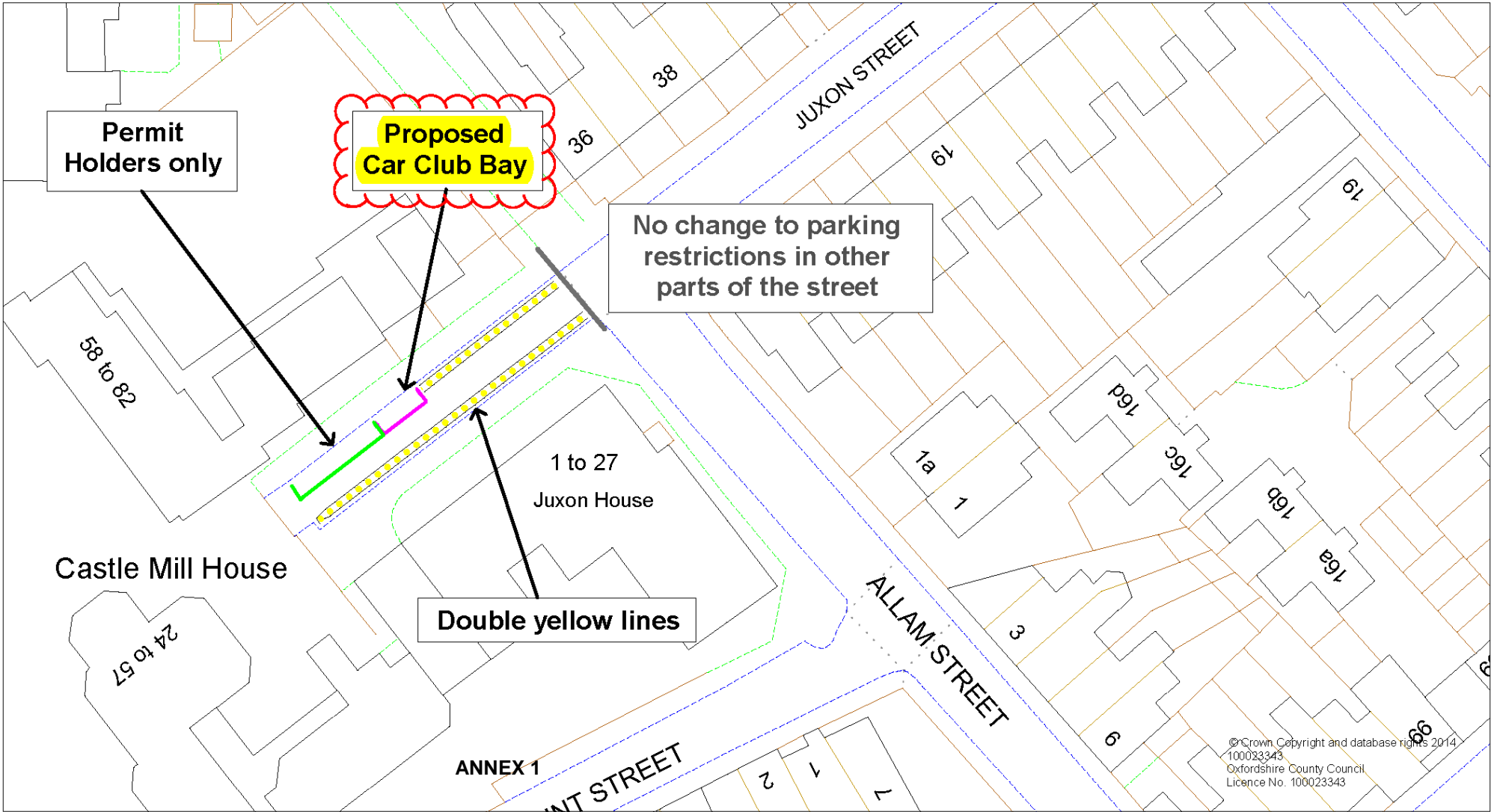


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**PROPOSED CAR CLUB BAY
 LECKFORD ROAD, OXFORD**

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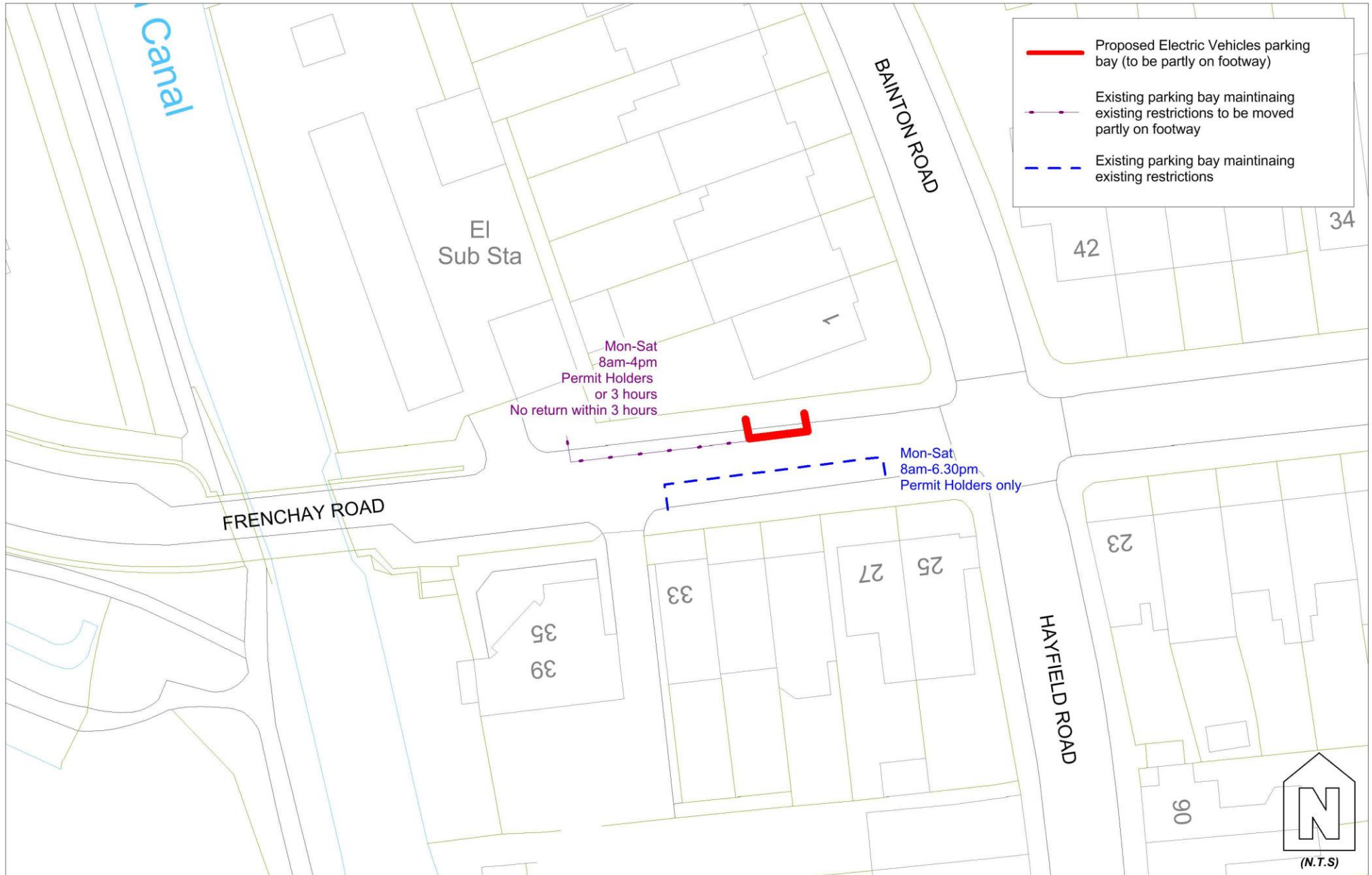


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**PROPOSED CAR CLUB BAY
 JUXON STREET, OXFORD**

SCALE	1 : 500
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- Proposed Electric Vehicles parking bay (to be partly on footway)
- Existing parking bay maintaining existing restrictions to be moved partly on footway
- Existing parking bay maintaining existing restrictions



RESPONDENT	PROPOSAL	FULL COMMENTS
Cllr Pressel (Local County & City Cllr)	All Locations	<p>Support - I am very much in favour of car clubs and so I support the principle of this application. The locations seem to be OK, though I will consult residents about the Osney and the St John St ones. Has the Synagogue been asked about the Nelson St one?</p> <p>I'm sorry that these new bays will not include electric charging points. They will surely be needed soon, so I hope the charging points can easily be added? Car clubs should be encouraged or incentivised to buy electric cars, please.</p>
Thames Valley Police	All Locations	No Objection.
Resident, (Stanley Road)	Stockmore Street (Annex 1)	<p>Support - Strongly support having move parking bays for car club only use - we need to do all we can to encourage people who need to use cars to use car clubs instead of private cars wherever possible, to help reduce congestion.</p> <p>Pleased to note that all of these bays are properly on the road (pavements are for people!). Does any consideration need to be given to having electric vehicle charging points for these new bays?</p>
Resident, (Abingdon Road)	Newton Road (Annex 2)	Object - We don't have enough parking place for residents, please make more parking place for residents not for any body else.
Resident, (Lake Street)	Newton Road (Annex 2)	Support - Excellent idea to encourage electric vehicle use and reduce air pollution and congestion.
Resident, (St Thomas Street Street)	St Thomas Street (Annex 3)	Support - I am a member of the Co-Wheels Car Club and a keen advocate of this type of scheme as it provides people with a really practical alternative to owning a car. Traffic congestion and air pollution are

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		<p>both significant issues in Oxford city centre so the fact that car clubs reduce the number of cars on the road benefits the city and all its residents.</p> <p>I do not own a car and neither do many of the residents at Castle Mews (judging by the largely empty car park). Furthermore, other residents of Castle Mews are also car club members as I regularly see both Co-Wheels and Zip Car vehicles in our car park. As a result, I believe the creation of a car club space in StThomas' Street will provide a valuable amenity for the local community.</p>
Resident, (Bridge Street)	East Street (Annex 4)	Support - Osney is more than ever an inner city location. We should all be looking to get rid of our cars which are (mostly) under-used and a truly local car club would be as convenient as your own car.
Resident, (Bridge Street)	East Street (Annex 4)	Object - Parking on Osney Island is becoming more and more difficult for permit holders. Often there are no spaces left in the evening, perhaps, the Democrats Club would agree to rent a space?
Resident, (South Street)	East Street (Annex 4)	Object - Parking is already very difficult for residents and their visitors, at various times of day. Loss of another space would exacerbate the problem further.
Resident, (Bridge Street)	East Street (Annex 4)	Support - Excellent idea - we can all benefit from the shared use of a car club, helping to reduce the need to own a car and the associated advantage of reduced congestion, improved air quality and more space on the street.
Resident, (East Street)	East Street (Annex 4)	Support - This seems to threaten parking in the short term but will benefit it in the longer term. I will personally use this car club within a year or two.
Resident 18/03/2017, (North Street)	East Street (Annex 4)	<p>Object - The parking situation on Osney Island for residents and their visitors is already very difficult and this will exacerbate the situation. It is not a proper function of the County Council to discourage private car ownership which is what this amounts to.</p> <p>I am also surprised that no option is provided for objecting via email. As email is much cheaper for the Council to process and store, I can only assume that this is an attempt to reduce the amount of feedback and to discourage objections.</p>

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Resident, (West Street)	East Street (Annex 4)	<p>Object - There is already a problem with parking on the Island. Many residents need their cars for work and family purposes. Besides, with visitors to the pub/Island during the week end (increased numbers in summer), the problem with parking becomes acute. Recycling Bin collection is a tricky business because the trucks have hardly any room to maneuverer.</p> <p>* Some newcomers to the Island (without children to take to and fro) or a dire need to have a car for practical day-to-day need, may find the idea attractive. I have lived on the Island for 30 years and parking has become a big problem.</p> <p>I live in West Street, I do not have a car and although I have acquired visitor parking permits, there have been many instances when no parking was available anywhere on the island.</p>
Resident (North Street)	East Street (Annex 4)	<p>Object - The parking situation on Osney Island for residents and their visitors is already very difficult and this will exacerbate the situation. It is not a proper function of the County Council to discourage private car ownership which is what this amounts to.</p> <p>I am also surprised that no option is provided for objecting via email. As email is much cheaper for the Council to process and store, I can only assume that this is an attempt to reduce the amount of feedback and to discourage objections.</p>
Hon Secretary, Oxford Synagogue, (Wytham Street)	Nelson Street (Annex 5)	<p>Object - The proposal for Nelson Street removes one of the few visitors' spaces in this area of Jericho. The purpose of a car club is surely to reduce car ownership in a particular area, rather than to make it harder for visitors to park, and therefore it would make much better sense to place the car club space in one of the residents' parking bays.</p> <p>The 3 hour parking bays are in constant use, and as soon as a space is vacated, it is filled again, whereas there are often vacant spaces in the residents' parking bays.</p> <p>I cannot support anything which would make visitor parking harder in this area. Obviously, our members take</p>

CMDE4

		<p>their chances in finding a visitor spot, but these spaces are extremely valuable for the older members of our community who cannot cycle, who find it difficult to walk, or for those who have to pick up or drop off heavy loads at the synagogue.</p>
<p>Resident, (Nelson Street)</p>	<p>Nelson Street (Annex 5)</p>	<p>No Objection - While my wife and I have no principled objection to the proposed bay, I am not sure the proposed bay is the best location. Since we moved to Jericho over 17 years ago, we have noticed two attempts to run a viable car club in Jericho, one of which we belonged to for a while, and neither of which succeeded in operating for long. For both clubs the chosen car parking bay was on Great Clarendon Street, beside the playground opposite the OUP. This seems to me a better location for the proposed bay, for the following reasons:</p> <p>From Hart Street to Walton Street, Great Clarendon Street has no resident parking and no three-hour waiting bays, only pay and display parking. Consequently, that part of the street is not congested as is the case with the whole resident area of Walton Crescent, Richmond Road, Albert Street and Nelson Street, full of residents and their cars and little availability for temporary parking for visitors to the Synagogue, Al-Shami Restaurant and resident properties. The three-hour bays outside the Synagogue are therefore precious, the only others being the few in Worcester Place. And they are nearly always fully occupied. To remove one for the sake of the car club exacerbates the whole parking conditions.</p> <p>I therefore feel the bay in Great Clarendon Street previously assigned to car clubs is much more practical and appropriate.</p>
<p>Resident, (Beaumont Buildings)</p>	<p>St John Street (Annex 6)</p>	<p>Support - I am fully in favour of proposed parking bays for car clubs..special reference St John's St</p>
<p>Resident, (St John Street)</p>	<p>St John Street (Annex 6)</p>	<p>Object - I welcome the idea. However, surely it would be better for both residents and car club members if the new bay was at the north end of the permit holders only stretch rather than in the middle.</p> <p>As the space for permit holders only is not marked out in bays, putting a fixed bay in the middle of it will tend to result in spaces that are not quite big enough to fit a car into arising at both ends of the bay whereas, if the bay were at the end, this could only happen once.</p> <p>I hope it will be possible for this alteration to be made.</p>

CMDE4

Resident, (St John Street)	St John Street (Annex 6)	<p>Object - I have no objection to a residents' parking space being used for a Car Club car, provided the space is specified as the base station for a car to be used by car club members resident in the area. I would be opposed to it being available for use by any car club car, in which case it would be used as a way for car club members from elsewhere in the city to park free of charge in the City Centre. Such use would be contrary to the policies of both the County and City Councils of limiting car use in the City Centre.</p> <p>However, I object to the proposal to site the space within a stretch of residents' parking. This would presumably require three signs with one indicating the end of the residents' parking, another the car club site and the third the start of residents' parking. These signs would be visually intrusive in the City Centre Conservation Area and unnecessarily expensive for the council to install. If the car club space was the last vehicle space in the stretch of residents' parking towards Wellington Square, all that would be required would be a sign to indicate the end of the residents' parking, which should be there anyway, and one for the car club car. Thus there would have to be only one extra sign. The end space is only a short distance from that proposed and would make no practical difference to car club members using the car.</p>
Resident, (St John Street)	St John Street (Annex 6)	<p>No Objection - Whilst I have no objection to the principle, I was slightly surprised by the proposed location. It would surely be preferable to locate it at the end of the permit holders' parking area rather than somewhere in the middle as is currently proposed. This would make for more efficient use of the available parking, would ensure that the club car is never blocked in, and would make it easier for users to find.</p>
Resident, (St John Street)	St John Street (Annex 6)	<p>Support - I welcome the idea. However, surely it would be better for both residents and car club members if the new bay was at the north end of the permit holders only stretch rather than in the middle ?</p> <p>As the space for permit holders only is not marked out in bays, putting a fixed bay in the middle of it will tend to result in spaces that are not quite big enough to fit a car into arising at both ends of the bay whereas, if</p>

CMDE4

		<p>the bay were at the end, this could only happen once.</p> <p>I hope it will be possible for this alteration to be made.</p>
Resident, (Belsyre Court)	Observatory Street (Annex 7)	<p>Object - It is difficult enough for visitors to find parking spaces as it is! I would also add that a certain number of Observatory St residents are elderly and/or disabled and depend on visiting carers and cleaners, etc. who need to park nearby. A couple of years ago, I needed to organize temporary assistance for an elderly relative, and was told by an agency that there were concerns about carers working in this particular street, because of the difficulties in finding parking space.</p>
Resident, (Belsyre Court)	Observatory Street (Annex 7)	<p>Object - residents at Belsyre Court have pointed out the current difficulties in getting parking for carers and for deliveries since our street offers so few spaces. These are essential services for some residents who have limited mobility.</p> <p>There is also a lot of building work going on in the street which increases the pressure on the remaining spaces. In fact, directly opposite Belsyre Court part of the road has been almost continuously occupied by a rubbish skip. Further along the street builders' vans regularly take up spaces from early morning.</p>
Resident, (Belsyre Court)	Observatory Street (Annex 7)	<p>Object - I would add that there are several shops whose customers use the two-hour bays throughout the day.</p> <p>At night-time, visitors to Belsyre Court often find it difficult to park because there are too many cars here. Losing a bay would cause huge problems.</p>
Resident, (Belsyre Court)	Observatory Street (Annex 7)	<p>Object - I would add that there are several shops whose customers use the two-hour bays throughout the day.</p> <p>At night-time, visitors to Belsyre Court often find it difficult to park because there are too many cars here. Losing a bay would cause huge problems.</p>

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<p>Resident, (Belsyre Court)</p>	<p>Observatory Street (Annex 7)</p>	<p>Object - parking spaces are already choked in the street and reducing available spaces will worsen the situation</p> <p>Residents rely on the 2hr spaces (where the Car Club space is proposed) for night time parking because of the lack of capacity of residents parking in the vicinity</p> <p>Observatory St is on the northern boundary of the Jericho Residents Parking Zone, so Belsyre Court residents and their neighbours do not have the luxury of parking in a near by street when Observatory Street is full, because the nearest street (St Bernards Road is in a different Residents Parking Zone</p> <p>Visitors to the extremely valuable pharmacy rely on Observatory St spaces for short term parking to pick up prescriptions etc and reducing the spaces available to them will make collecting prescriptions very difficult</p> <p>The nearest car club spaces are in any case very close by in the Woodstock Road, so a further space in such close proximity is inappropriate</p>
<p>Resident, (Observatory Street)</p>	<p>Observatory Street (Annex 7)</p>	<p>No Objection - This parking area is in great demand. There is hardly ever a space vacant during the day. So it seems to me a great pity that the space available to all should be reduced. I hope that, if this plan goes ahead consideration will be given (a) to extending the 2 hour area on the other end – i.e. to the west – even at the cost of reducing residents parking space; (b) to using for the car club, the space at the end of St Bernard’s Road formally allocated to the doctor attending the medical centre (now closed) in Belsyre Court.</p> <p>I should add that the parking problem of this area will be made worse for the next two years by the contractor traffic involved in the refurbishment of Belsyre Court, for which the Council gave permission.</p>
<p>Online Response</p>	<p>Unspecified location(s)</p>	<p>Object - It's hard enough to find parking in Oxford for residents. Why are we taking away more spaces from citizens to give to business? Car clubs don't need more spaces, citizens need more spaces. With the coming demographic change we should be increasing the number of disabled spaces, not turning spaces over to private companies for their profit.</p>

CMDE4

Online Response	Unspecified location(s)	Support - Electric cars in domestic areas form a key part of keeping air pollution down for the future. Such infrastructure is vital.
Resident, (Binsey Lane)	Alexandra Road (Annex 8)	Support – <i>no comment.</i>
Resident, (Alexandra Road)	Alexandra Road (Annex 8)	Support – <i>no comment.</i>
Resident, (Alexandra Road)	Alexandra Road (Annex 8)	<p>Object - Feel that the parking on our street is already very congested and there are often not enough permanent spaces for the residents' cars. This leads to residents using the 1-hour spaces available in the evenings, filling up the road completely. To take one of the these spaces away will make matters even worse.</p> <p>We only have a small car to give us a better chance of finding a space on our road, but we still often struggle and have to resort to parking the car on other streets in our parking permit catchment area. We have a new-born on its way and the thought of having to park further away from our house is extremely unappealing.</p>
Resident, (Botley Road)	Alexandra Road (Annex 8)	Object - These bays are usually full overnight with residentiaycars. If one space is allocated to the car club it will force another resident to park illegally.
Resident, (Riverside Road)	Alexandra Road (Annex 8)	Support - The availability of electric cars for hire via a car club in different parts of the city will be part of helping to lower are pollution.
Resident, (Hill View Road)	Alexandra Road (Annex 8)	Support – <i>no comment.</i>
Resident, (Kingston Road)	Leckford Road (Annex 9)	Object - I object to this proposal as it will disrupt business deliveries as well as the home care nurses that attend to the Residents in 164 Kingston Road as well as block off their main doorway. I do believe certain care should be made as they already feel disrupted by all the large coaches that travel through the road

CMDE4

		when they should be using the main roads.
Resident, (Leckford Road)	Leckford Road (Annex 9)	<p>Object - Presently, there are only three two hour parking places at the end of Leckford Road, and there are three commercial establishments on or near the the same corner: The Grog Shop, Oxflooring and Kingston Fruit and Vegetables (though not strictly retail...customers do come and go plus their own vans are frequently parked there between deliveries). Each of these establishments require short term parking as people nip in and out. This is especially true of The Grog Shop. In addition, there are numerous restaurants, shops, and take way food establishments within five minutes walk of the proposed parking bay. If we lose one of these spaces, people are more likely to park in the bus stop on Kingston Road, thereby blocking the space allocated to the bus service or to risk a ticket by parking in the residents' or disabled bays nearby (tickets in the disabled and residents' bays become less likely especially after 4 pm and very unlikely after 6 pm).</p> <p>In addition to this space being considered for the car club vehicle, there is another application for a St. Bernard's Road/Observatory Street car club bay, and there is already a Zip Car space at St. Antony's. Given that most people have a car in this area, do we need further spaces for car club vehicles? Some years ago, there was a space for a car club vehicle on Warnborough Road. Was there ever a car there? I could never identify which car was related to the space. Did anyone ever use it? Why was the space decommissioned?</p> <p>Given that residents of Walton Manor can have up to three cars associated with each house plus 50 visitors' permits per year, can we afford to lo lose another two hour space on this road? I think not.</p>
Resident, (Kingston Road)	Leckford Road (Annex 9)	<p>Objection – My business is on the opposite corner to Leckford Road. there are also three other businesses that have been trading here for many years.</p> <p>My customers park in these short term bays to load goods as we are surrounded by double-yeelow lines. I would have thought ot better to have Car Club bays at the Woodstock Road end of Leckford Road, as there no businesses at all. Also residents do get extra permits for visitors.</p>
Resident, (North Hinksey Lane)	All Locations	<p>Support - Car clubs provide their members with convenient access to cleaner vehicles without the hassles and expense of ownership. They are an important part of addressing air quality issues in Oxford.</p>

CMDE4

Online Response	Unspecified location(s)	Support - A great initiative that we should all be behind.
Resident, (Essex Street)	Frenchay Road (Annex 11)	Support - Air quality and climate change are two huge issues facing us and cities like Oxford with many old terraced houses and few off-street parking opportunities need solutions to how more people feel comfortable buying an EV. I live on a terraced street and have only just been willing to order a PHEV because of this trial and the signals it sends about EV infrastructure investment. Ideally I would be able to buy a full BEV in the future and these types of parking spaces are critical to this.
Resident, (Riverside Road)	Frenchay Road (Annex 11)	Support - This will give the opportunity of electric car users to charge their vehicles when visiting different parts of the city.
Resident, (Lake Street)	Frenchay Road (Annex 11)	Support - Excellent idea to encourage electric vehicle use and reduce air pollution and congestion.
Resident	Frenchay Road (Annex 11)	Object – while supporting the principle, object to proposed footway parking due to narrow width of footway (which for example is used for placing bins)