

Divisions affected: *Banbury Calthorpe; Banbury Ruscote; Bloxham & Easington; Charlbury & Wychwood; Chipping Norton; Eynsham; Kidlington South; Kirtlington and Kidlington South*

CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT – 27 APRIL 2023

CHERWELL & WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICTS - VARIOUS LOCATIONS: PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACES

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Cabinet Member for Highway Management is RECOMMENDED to approve:
 - a. The proposed provision of Disabled Persons Parking Places (DPPP) at: Beatrice Drive (Banbury), Sandford Rise (Charlbury), Nine Acres Lane (Charlbury), Hannis Road (Chipping Norton), John Lopes Road (Eynsham), Marlborough Avenue (Kidlington), Park Close (Yarnton),
 - b. the proposed removal of the DPPP at: Oxford Close (Kirtlington),
 - c. the proposed relocation of the DPPP at: High Street (Bloxham),
 - d. to defer approval of the proposals at the following location pending further investigations: Merton Close (Eynsham), and
 - e. to defer approval of the proposals to remove a DPPP at: Western Avenue (Banbury).

Executive summary

2. The provision of Disabled Persons Parking Places is reviewed when requested by members of the public, Councillors or following observations made by officers. Specific proposals are assessed applying national regulations and guidance on the suitability of providing new bays or amending or removing existing ones. Together with a view to make the most efficient use of space while reducing sign clutter

Financial Implications

3. Funding for the proposed changes has been provided from the County Council's revenue budget.

Equalities and Inclusion Implications

The provision of disabled persons parking places assists those with a mobility impairment.

Sustainability implications

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

Introduction

5. This report presents comments received in the course of the statutory consultation on the proposals to remove, amend and introduce disabled persons parking places (DPPP's) at various locations in the Cherwell and West districts of Oxfordshire.

Background

6. The above proposals have been put forward following requests from residents, including – where a new place has been requested - an assessment of eligibility, applying the national guidelines on the provision part of such parking places. **Annex 1** to **Annex 11** provide plans of the locations for which responses have been received or concerns raised.

Formal consultation

7. The formal consultation on the proposals for Cherwell and West Areas, was carried out between 8 February and 10 March 2023. A notice was placed in the local newspapers and emails sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Cherwell and West District Council and the local County Councillors. Notices were placed on site and letters sent directly to properties in the immediate vicinity, adjacent to the proposals.
8. Thames Valley Police, Cherwell District Council, West Oxfordshire District Council, Eynsham Parish Council and Bloxham Ex-Servicemen's Village Hall Committee responded expressing no objections. The local councillor for Kidlington and for Bloxham were in support of the disabled bay proposals.
9. Sixteen responses were received from members of the public during the course of the consultation, and these are summarised in the table below:

Town	Location	Support	Object	Concerns
Banbury	Beatrice Drive			1
	Western Crescent (Removal)		1	
Bloxham	High Street			1
Charlbury	Sandford Rise	2		
	Nine Acres Lane	1		
Chipping Norton	Hannis Road	1		
Eynsham	John Lopes Road	1		
	Merton Close		3	1
Kidlington	Marlborough Avenue	1		
Kirtlington	Oxford Close (Removal)	2		
Yarnton	Park Close	1		

10. The responses are recorded in **Annex 12**, and copies of the full responses are available for inspection by County Councillors

Officer response to objections/concerns

11. Comments and recommendations are provided in response to the concerns and objections as given in Annex 12 in respect of each of the proposed site in the following paragraphs.

Banbury – Beatrice Drive – proposed DPPP

12. One expression of concern was raised; parking in this road is very difficult due to a shortage of parking spaces and this proposal does not help: It is recommended that this proposal is approved, due to the applicant already parking in Beatrice Drive, there would not be a loss of parking spaces.

Banbury – Western Crescent – proposed removal of DPPP

13. One objection to the removal was raised; the disabled parking place is still in use. It is recommended to retain the DPPP.

Bloxham – High Street – proposed relocation of DPPP

14. One expression of concern was raised; with concerns over its location could be abused by non -blue badge holders: It is recommended that this proposal is approved.

Charlbury – Sandford Rise – proposed DPPP

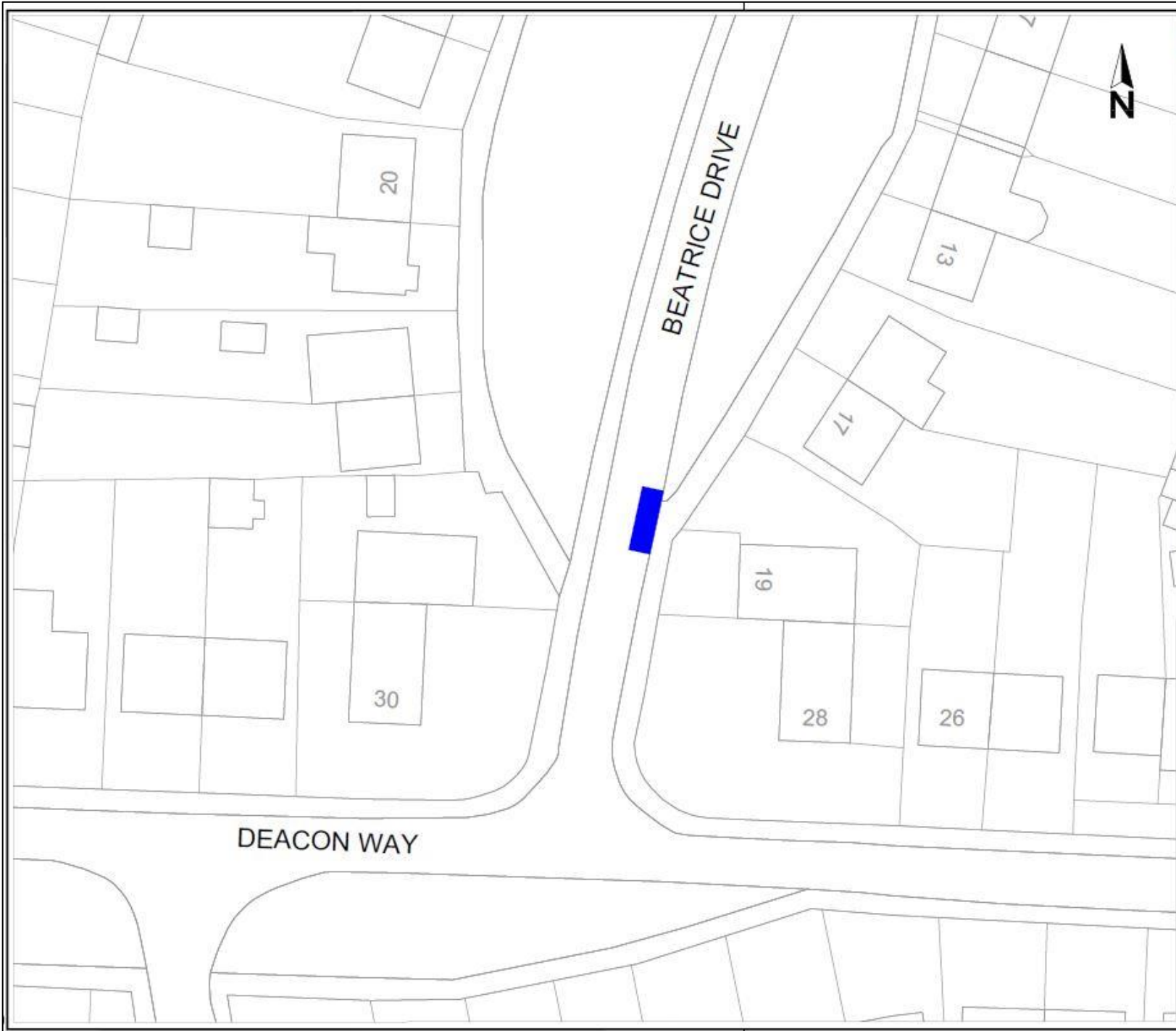
Annex 12: Consultation responses

Contact Officers:

Tim Shickle 07920 591545


Jane Clark 07718 657180

April 2023



Drawing No. **ANNEX 1**

Key

 Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Place

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Project title
PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACE

Drawing title
BANBURY BEATRICE DRIVE

Drawing Status

Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
N.T.S.	JaC		
	Date drawn 10/21	Date checked	Date approved


Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref

Drawing No. Revision **0**

Drawing No.

ANNEX 2

Key

 Proposed REMOVAL of Disabled Persons Parking Place



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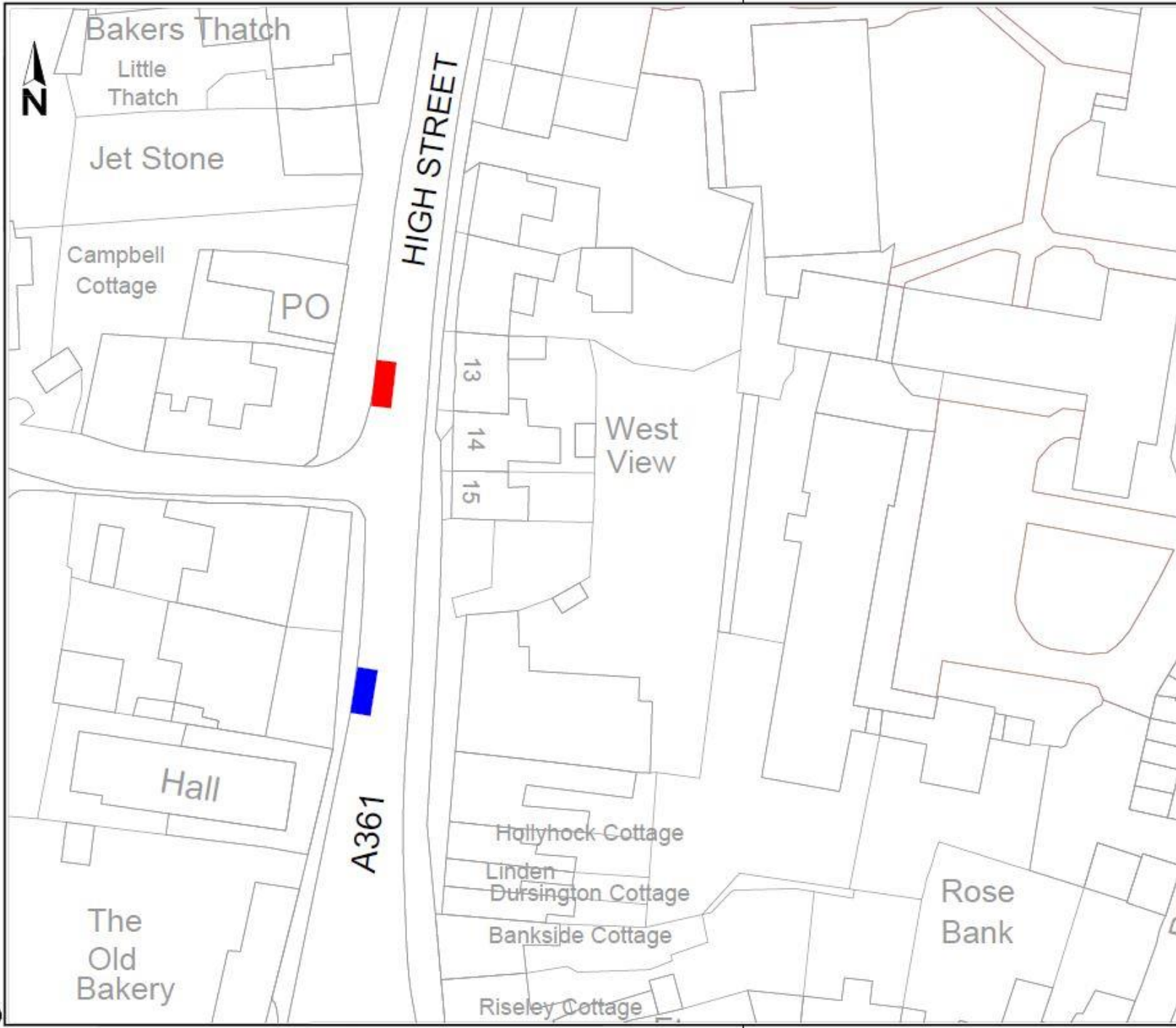
Project title
PROPOSED REMOVAL OF DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACE

Drawing title
BANBURY
WESTERN CRESCENT

Drawing Status

Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
N.T.S.	JaC		
	Date drawn 01/23	Date checked	Date approved

Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref.
Drawing No. Revision 0



Drawing No. _____ Revision _____

ANNEX 3

Key

- Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Place
- Proposed REMOVAL of Disabled Persons Parking Place

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Project title
DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACE PROPOSALS

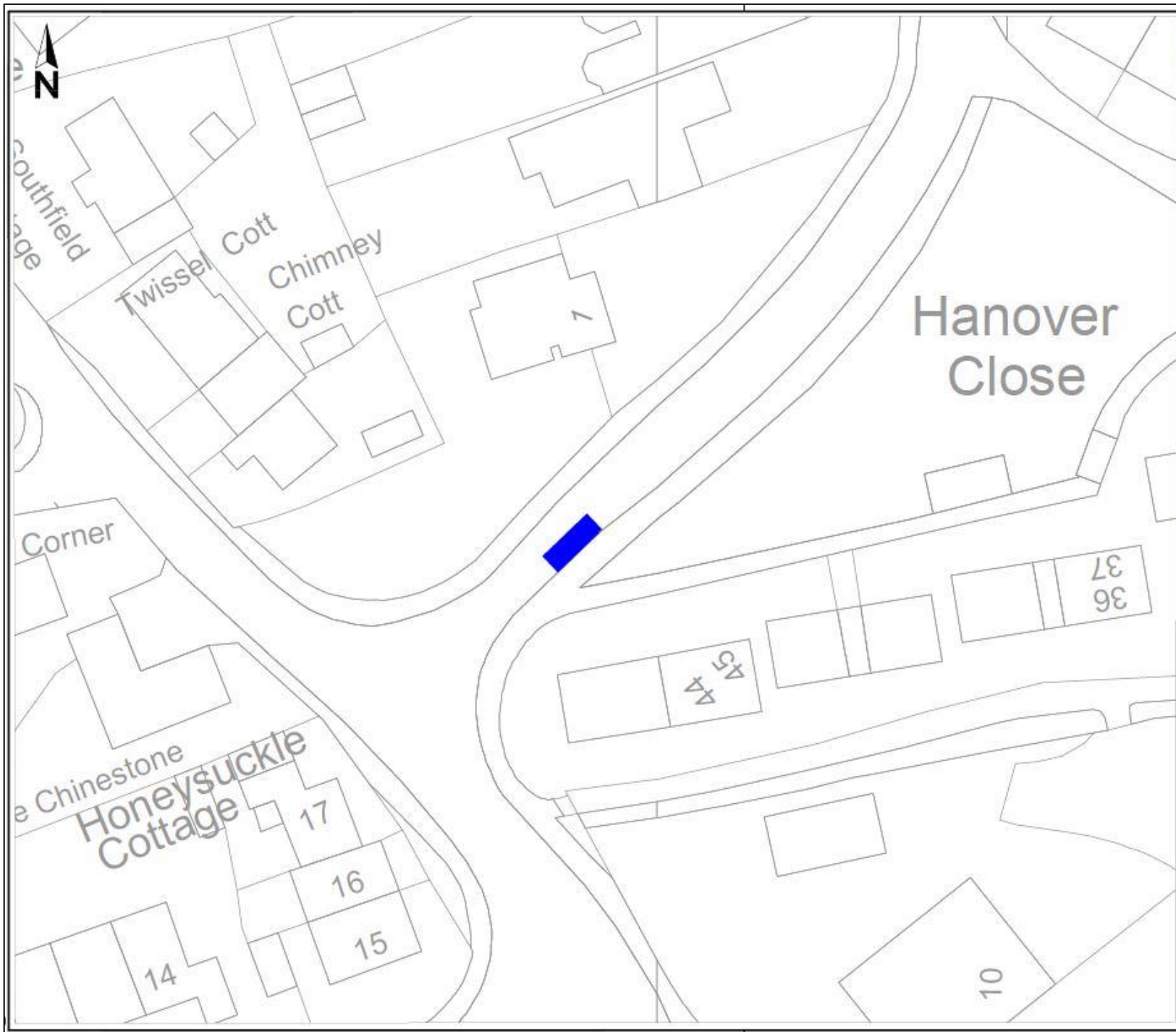
Drawing title
BLOXHAM HIGH STREET


Drawing Status

Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
N.T.S.	JaC		
	Date drawn 01/23	Date checked	Date approved

Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref


Drawing No. _____ Revision **0**



Drawing No. _____ **ANNEX 4**
Key
 Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Place

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Project title
 PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS
 PARKING PLACE

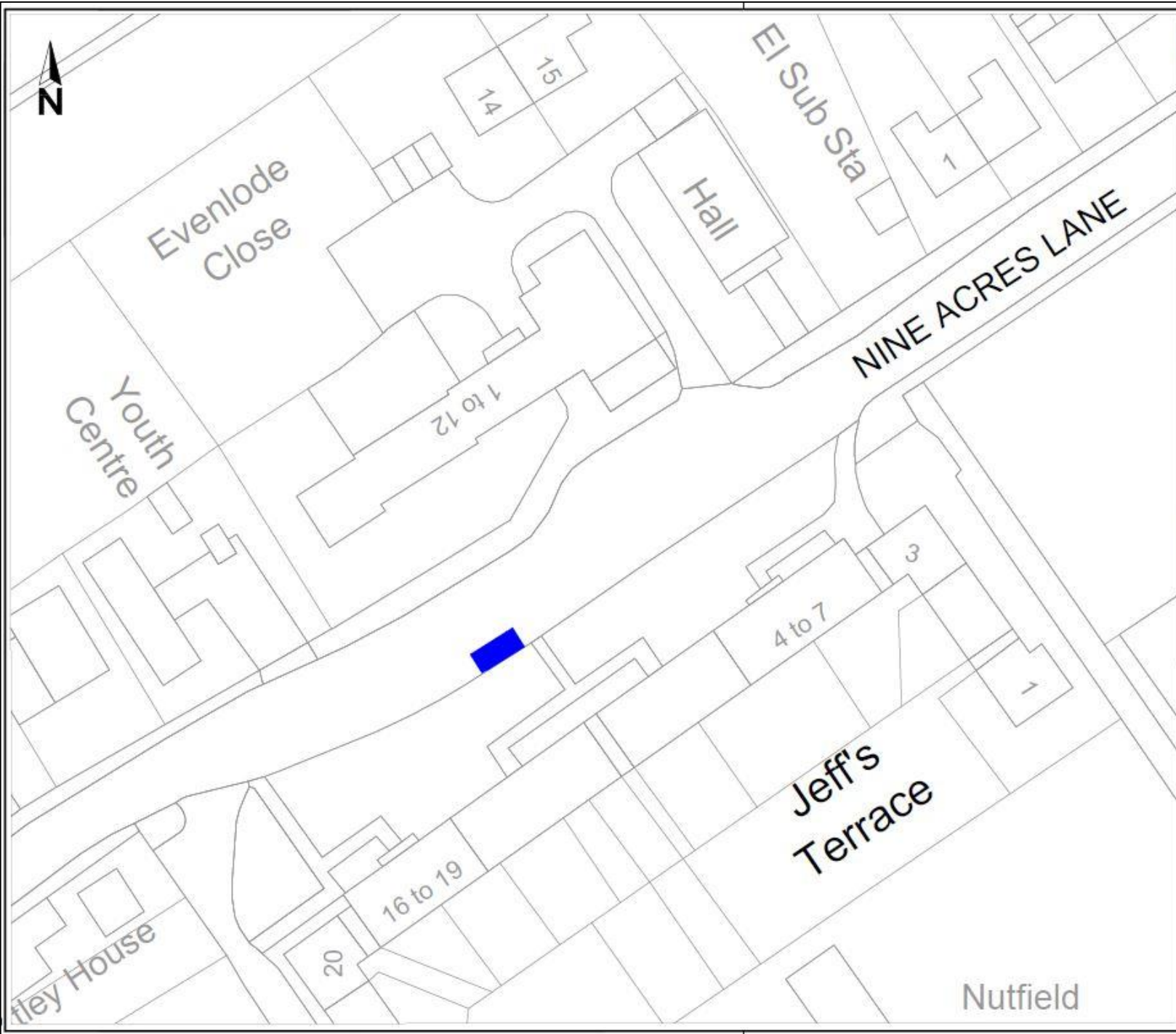
Drawing title
 CHARLBURY
 HANOVER CLOSE

Drawing Status

Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
N.T.S.	Jac		
	Date drawn 12/22	Date checked	Date approved

Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref. _____

Drawing No. _____ Revision **0**



Drawing No. **ANNEX 5**

Key

 Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Place

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Project title
**PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS
PARKING PLACE**

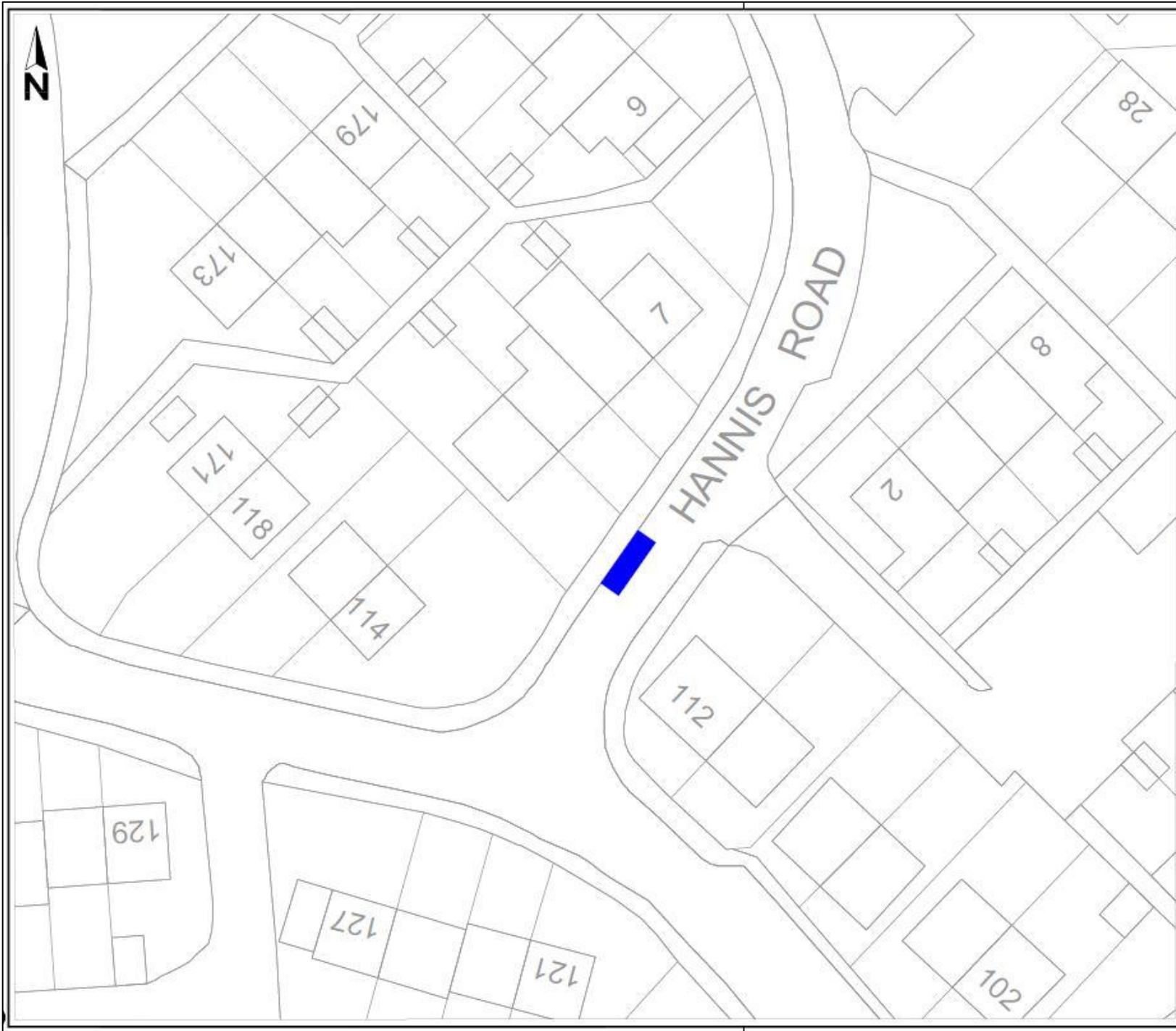
Drawing title
**CHARLBURY
JEFFS TERRACE**

Drawing Status

Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
N.T.S.	JaC		
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Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref

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Drawing No. **ANNEX 6**

Key

 Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Place

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Project title
PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACE

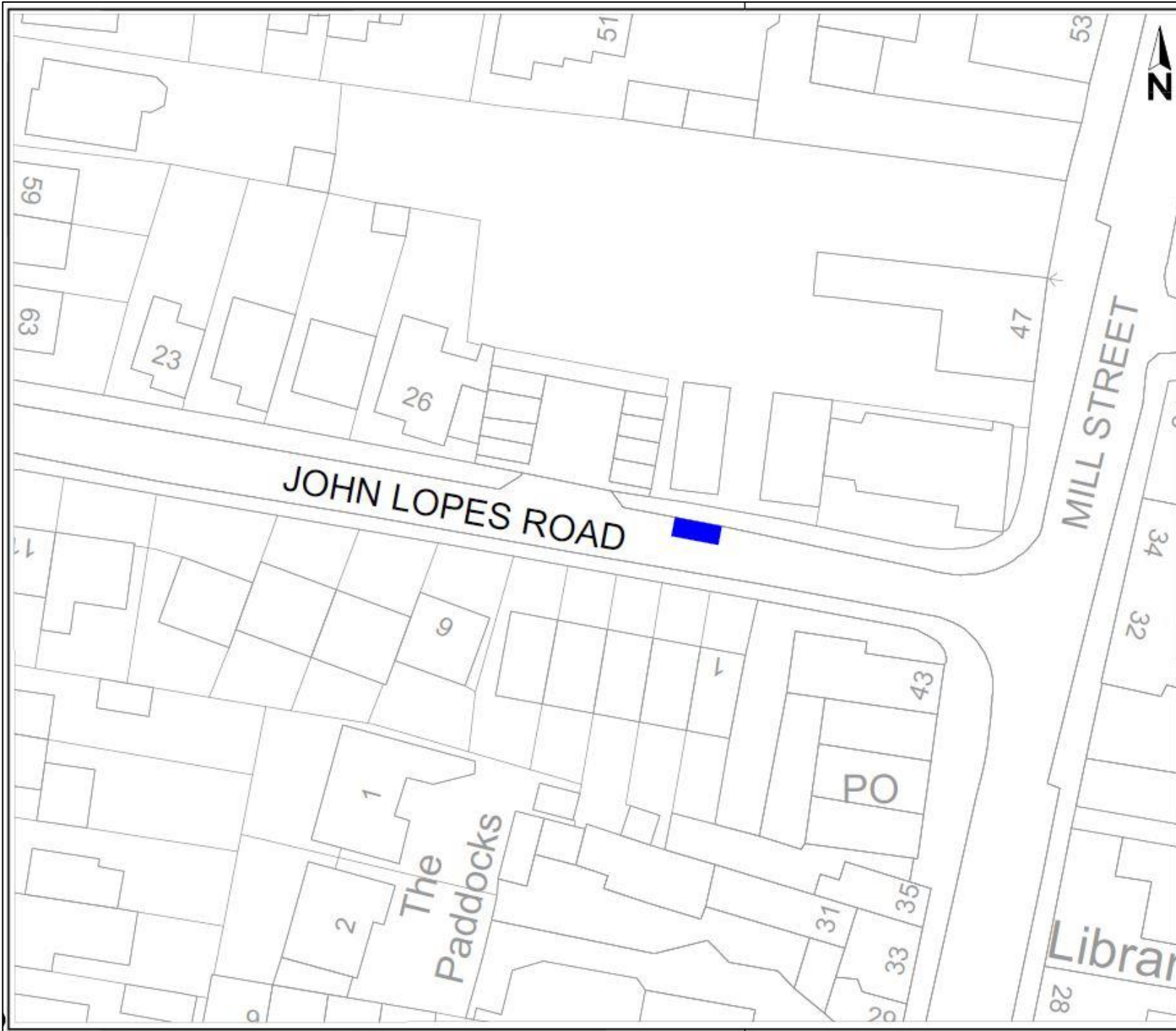
Drawing title
CHIPPING NORTON HANNIS ROAD

Drawing Status

Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
N.T.S.	Jac		
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Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref

Drawing No. Revision 0




Drawing No. _____ **ANNEX 7**

Key

 Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Place

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Project title

PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS
PARKING PLACE

Drawing title

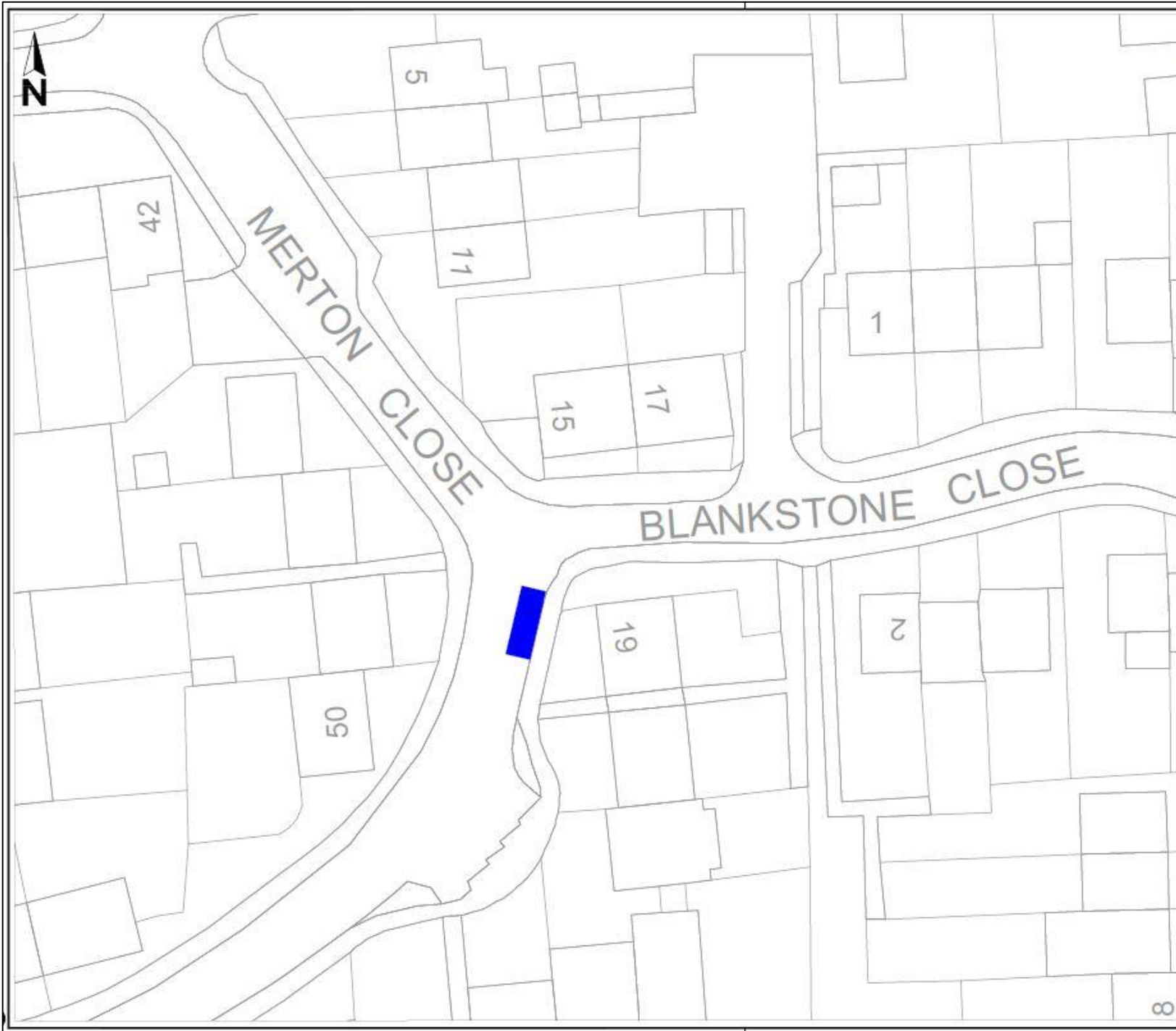
EYNSHAM
JOHN LOPES ROAD

Drawing Status

Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
N.T.S.	JaC	JaC	
	Date drawn 12/22	Date checked	Date approved


Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref. _____

Drawing No. _____ Revision **0**




Drawing No. **ANNEX 8**

Key

 Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Place

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Project title
**PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS
PARKING PLACE**

Drawing title
**EYNSHAM
MERTON CLOSE**

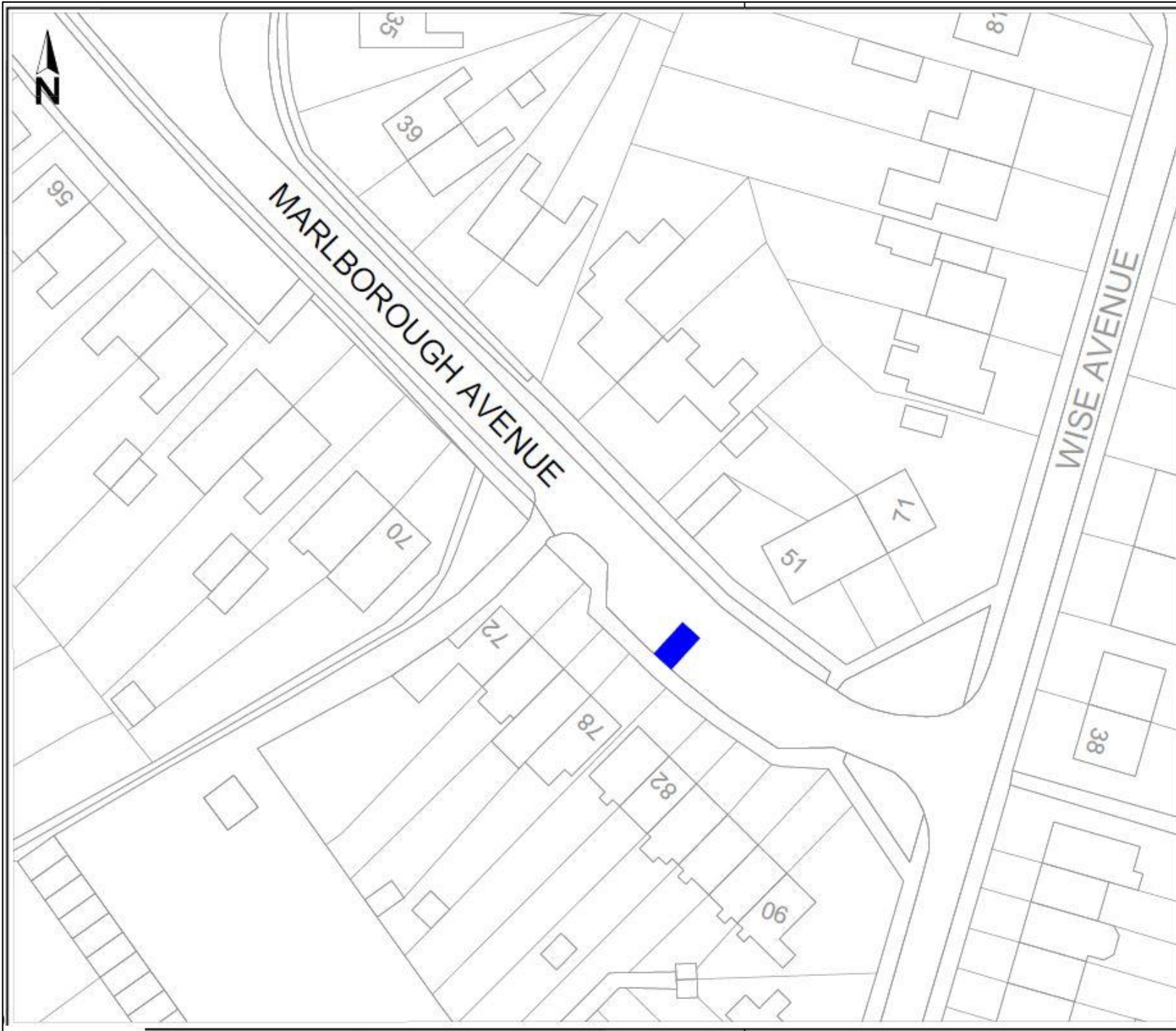
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N.T.S.	JaC		
	Date drawn 12/22	Date checked	Date approved

Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref.


Drawing No.	Revision
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Drawing No. **ANNEX 9**

Key

 Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Place

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Project title
PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACE

Drawing title
KIDLINGTON MARLBOROUGH AVENUE

Drawing Status


Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
N.T.S.	J&C		
	Date drawn 01/23	Date checked	Date approved

Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref

Drawing No. Revision 0



Drawing No. **ANNEX 10**

Key
 Proposed removal of Disabled Persons Parking Place

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Project title
PROPOSED REMOVAL OF DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACE

Drawing title
KIRTINGTON OXFORD CLOSE

Drawing Status

Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
N.T.S.	JaC		
	Date drawn 01/23	Date checked	Date approved



Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref

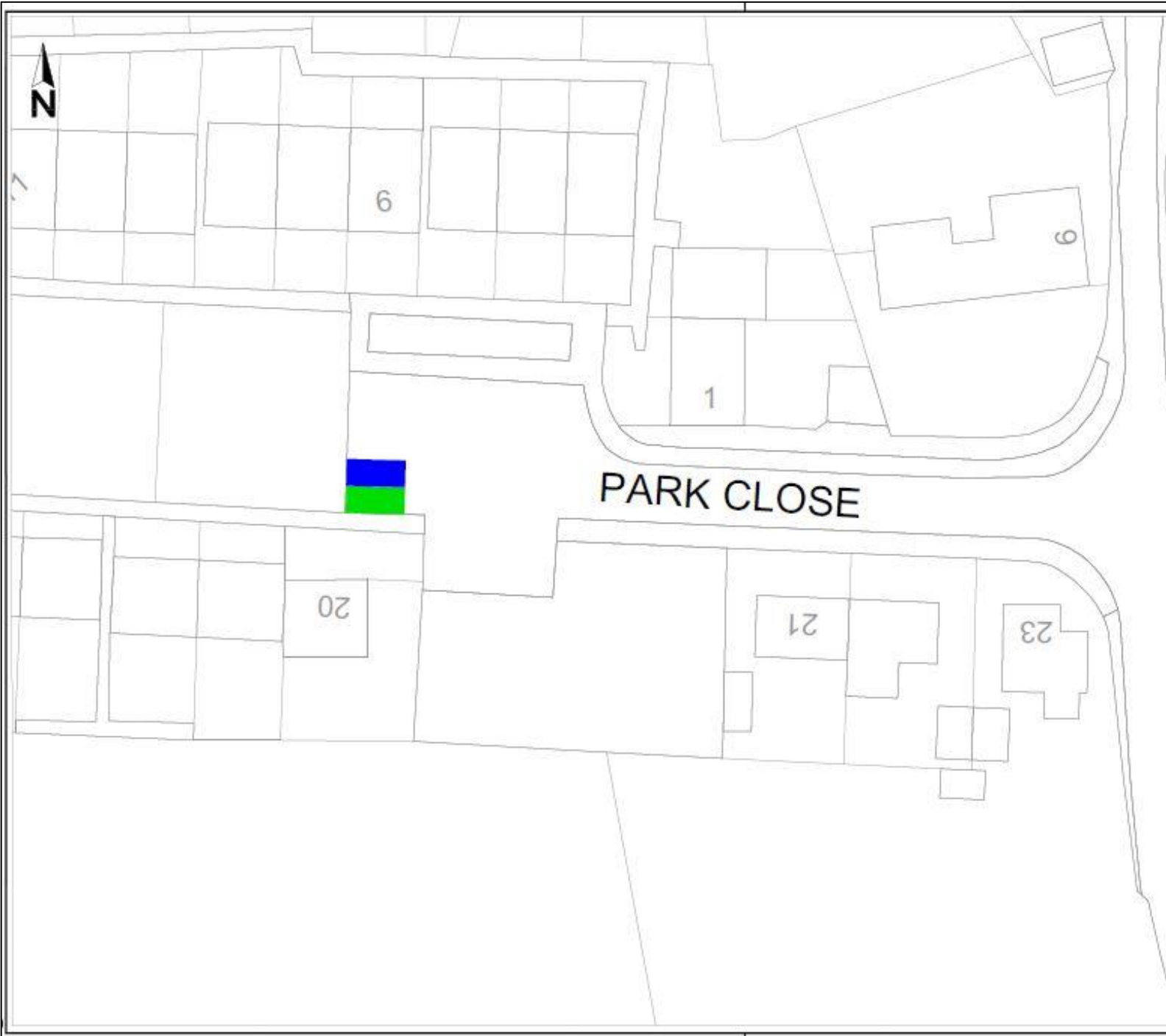
Drawing No.	Revision
	0

Drawing No.

ANNEX 11

Key

-  Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Place
-  Existing Disabled Persons Parking Place to remain



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Project title:
**PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS
 PARKING PLACE**

Drawing title:
**YARNTON
 PARK CLOSE**

Drawing Status

Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
N.T.S.	JwC	JwC	
	Date drawn	Date checked	Date approved
	12222		

Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref

Drawing No.	Revision
	0

RESPONDENT	SUMMARISED COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	No objection
(2) Cherwell District Council	No objection
(3) West Oxfordshire District Council	Supportive of the proposals to provide disabled persons parking places and that the places provide adequate and safe manoeuvrability around these parking places for disabled people to enter and exit their vehicles at ease. That any signage and associated works should be kept to a minimum and respect the qualities of the built-up environment particularly where these are located in historic areas.
(4) Eynsham Parish Council	No objection
(5) Cllr Ian Middleton	No objection
(6) Cllr Kieron Mallon	No objection
<i>Beatrice Drive (Banbury) - Proposed new DPPP</i>	
(1) Local Resident, (Banbury)	Concerns (Beatrice Drive) – I am writing to share my concerns about this proposal. I have been living on Beatrice Drive for many years and have always had difficulties finding parking on this street after finishing work due to the shortage of on street parking. I have to regularly park in other streets such as Gillet Road or Deacon Way due to this, however those streets are also beginning to get full because of other residents also doing the same. I have since been pushed to parking as far away as Woodgreen Avenue which is very frustrating.

	<p>When I am parked on Beatrice Drive, I fear if I drive out for a short journey such as trip to the local shop, upon my return I will lose my parking, which has been the case over the years, so this has affected my movement for many years. Parking is already a big issue on the street as mentioned above and this proposal does not help.</p> <p>I have no objections with disabled person parking but NOT on the street where you are proposing as there is already a real shortage of parking spaces. There is vast area with a lot of grass, which gets very muddy and it would be better to utilise that space to create the disabled persons parking. Thank you and I hope you will seriously take into account my concerns on this matter.</p>
<p><i>Western Crescent (Banbury) – Proposed removal of DPPP</i></p>	
<p>(2) Local Resident, (Banbury)</p>	<p>Object (Western Crescent) – I am registered disabled. I have received a letter stating that you have been advised that the disabled bay is no longer required. The disabled bay is still very much in use.</p>
<p><i>High Street (Bloxham) - Proposed relocation of DPPP</i></p>	
<p>(3) Local Resident, (Bloxham)</p>	<p>Concerns (High Street) - I presume that the motivation for the move is to allow a disabled person easier access to the main amenities in the village, something I'm keen to support. You will however realise just how sensitive an issue parking is in the centre of the village and the impact it has on thousands of vehicles passing through the village every day.</p> <p>The relevant authorities are happy to maintain parking rights on the main street, despite the delays it causes traffic heading in the Banbury direction. I personally have no problem with this artificial traffic calming measure. Numerous smashed wing mirrors would perhaps disagree!</p> <p>The current disabled bay is generally respected by other people looking to park. I fear that where you propose moving it to, among what is currently space for three vehicles, will mean that it is regularly abused. Given there is absolutely no</p>

	<p>policing of illegal parking in Bloxham, you may effectively deprive disabled people of any opportunity to park at all. "I was just popping in..." will be the excuse.</p> <p>My suggestion is to place the bay in the current parking space between the hall and the entrance to the chip shop. As it is only one space on its own, next to the bus stop, I think illegal parking is less likely.</p>
<p><i>Sandford Rise/Hanover Close (Charlbury) - Proposed new DPPP</i></p>	
<p>(4) Local Resident (Charlbury)</p>	<p>Support (Sandford Rise/Hanover Close) – I have no objection to the disabled parking space which is rather essential for some of the elderly and disabled residents here (which is an Anchor social housing estate for the elderly).</p> <p>However, consulting the placement of the parking space I would advise moving it slightly south. There is a dropped kerb which often gets parked across, making it difficult for residents with trolleys and walking aids. If the designated space began just beyond the top end of the dropped kerb going up the hill, and not interfering with it, it may then also discourage other cars parking across it.</p> <p>I must admit we elderly residents do have difficulty at times being able to park outside our flats in Sandford Rise as, of course, it is a public highway and is not designed for permit parking. Therefore, the disabled parking space will be very helpful for those living here unable to walk far.</p>
<p>(5) Local Resident (Charlbury)</p>	<p>Support (Sandford Rise/Hanover Close) – Close to disabled accommodation.</p>
<p><i>Nine Acres Lane (Jeff's Terrace) (Charlbury) – Proposed new DPPP</i></p>	
<p>(6) Local Resident (Charlbury)</p>	<p>Support (Nine Acres Lane) - Close to disabled accommodation.</p>
<p><i>Hannis Road (Chipping Norton) - Proposed new DPPP</i></p>	

<p>(7) Local Resident (Chipping Norton)</p>	<p>Support (Hannis Road) – Firstly please know that this is not an objection, and for the record I would not object to a disabled parking if for legitimate usage. I have a few questions should the proposal come to fruition. I have often witnessed the resident of the house, in which the location of the space is adjacent, park well away from the proposed location to allow family to park there. Once the space is marked who can park legit there? Can the space be used by the disabled persons relatives or guests? Is it to only be used by blue badge holders?</p> <p>I sceptically support this proposal as long as the requirement is genuine and not as a ploy to retain a parking area for personal use.</p> <p>For your further information, parking in Hannis Road is of a frustrating premium, which is not helped by the number of cars that get repaired by the local mechanic operating out of his home.</p>
<p><i>John Lopes Road (Eynsham) - Proposed new DPPP</i></p>	
<p>(8) Local Resident (Eynsham)</p>	<p>Support (John Lopes Road) - Would it be easier if the disabled space were opposite number 1, where there is a driveway that could provide space for the manoeuvre of the scooter into the vehicle? And would that then also still allow for another three cars in addition to the disabled space, so we don't lose a space for somebody else? Whatever is decided by OCC is, of course, completely fine. But I thought I'd just pass this by you. I don't want to complicate or slow things down, though! Thanks very much again, and I'll look forward to hearing what is decided in due course.</p>
<p><i>Merton Close (Eynsham) - Proposed new DPPP</i></p>	
<p>(9) Local Resident (Eynsham)</p>	<p>Concerns (Merton Close) - Whilst I do understand the need for such a provision it cannot be at the expense of all other road users. I am attaching photos of the extremely UNSAFE and hazardous situation currently existing with the proposed site due to the parking of a vehicle with a disabled badge. As you can see the vehicle completely blocks visibility in all three road directions (as indicated by the blue exclamation mark).</p> <p>I would urge you to visit the sight and see for yourself the danger this vehicle already creates, due to its size and position relative to the road and road layout. Myself and local residents are keen to share our concerns over this proposal which has the potential to indefinitely legitimise a situation that already disadvantages road users and putting them at serious risk.</p>

<p>(10) Local Resident (Eynsham)</p>	<p>Object (Merton Close) - Are you aware it's a main thoroughfare for Merton Court, also the children's home between the close and court? The applicant goes out most mornings in his Sprinter Van with his son's partner who lives with him. He walks unaided and climbs up into his van with no problem. We have witnessed him going to hospital after dialling 999. When later on he's returned via hospital transport, again we have witnessed him walking out to his van and climbing in within an hour!</p> <p>Allocated to him at the side of his bungalow is a parking space. It's been there ever since we moved here 40 years ago. It has a path leading to his back gate and into his garden. Why put a disabled parking space out the front of his bungalow when it's safer to exit his van in the provided space.</p> <p>A surveyor came before to assess this and watched the applicant go into his bungalow, but wouldn't answer the door to him, or even come to the window.</p> <p>In time the fields adjacent to Merton Court are being built on as they are owned by the county council. It's always been in the plans, so consequently you are going to have even more through traffic as the only access road is Merton Close. So, no we don't agree with the application for a disabled parking space on the main road.</p>
<p>(11) Local Resident (Eynsham)</p>	<p>Object (Merton Close) - At this point I am assuming that this has come about due to a specific request by a neighbour for a space to be allocated for his minibus - do correct me if I am wrong in this assumption.</p> <p>There are a number of parking / road safety issues that we have raised concerns about to the Eynsham Parish council and Cottsway Housing in the past about regulations regarding parking on this stretch of Merton Close. These concerns relate to the nature of the vehicles being parked at this 'pinch point' in the close; concerns which have in the past led to actual collisions or dangerous situations arising for pedestrians and road users.</p> <p>To clarify the safety issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The size of the vehicle currently being parked in the space you indicate is a high sided van with blacked out windows. This blocks visibility for those exiting Blankstone Close, including those on mobility scooters, children on bicycles and cars. It also blocks visibility for anyone trying to pull out of the parking spaces allocated for 23, 25, 27 etc. This combined with a restricted view of vehicles approaching from the entrance to the Close (due to vehicles, bushes etc at the front of properties across the street) combines to create a number of hazards. 2) Due to the nature of the vehicle being parked, delivery trucks, refuse vehicles and other larger vehicles such as firefighting trucks mount the pavement on the opposite side of the road in order to navigate the bend. This not only has damaged the kerbstones but presents an additional hazard to pedestrians.

	<p>In additional to this, we have also pointed out a number of times to all concerned that there is a parking bay which is available but never used by the residents in question at the rear of their property. To request an additional designated space seems totally unnecessary, given that one is already provided.</p> <p>We feel strongly that these issues need careful consideration by those in Cottsway and County Council prior to any further action.</p>
<p>(12) Local Resident (Eynsham)</p>	<p>Object (Merton Close) - I'm writing in regard the application for a disabled space at 19, Merton Close. Firstly, the applicant lives at 21!</p> <p>Secondly, he has an allocated parking space built in off the road that follows the path to his back garden. This has been known to the applicant since he moved here. The parking space has always been for the bungalows of 19/21. It is just at the side of number 19.</p> <p>Your applicant has a sprinter van which he has no trouble walking to or climbing up into daily.</p> <p>The designated parking space he wants is on the main thoroughfare for Merton Close, Merton Court and the children's home. At best it is a busy road, and not all drivers adhere to the 20 MPH limit.</p> <p>The designated parking space the applicant wants is right on the corner of Blankstone Close, this inhibits the view of drivers coming and going.</p> <p>Also, once the field owned by the county council is built on the dead ends on Merton Court it will be the through roads, so even more traffic down a congested road.</p> <p>I would appreciate the parish council take note of my safety concerns and objections.</p>
<p><i>Marlborough Avenue (Kidlington) - Proposed new DPPP</i></p>	
<p>(13) Local Resident (Kidlington)</p>	<p>Support (Marlborough Avenue) - I am sure the designated bay will help the couple who have applied enormously.</p> <p>Having looked at the plan on the reverse side of your letter, I notice that the suggested positioning of the bay is in the centre of the area outside house number 78. There is in fact sufficient room outside each of the terraced houses in this end of Marlborough Avenue for two cars to park "nose - in", and this is how cars have been parking for over forty years</p>

	<p>along this section. I know because I have lived in one of the houses for many years. Almost all of the households have two cars that nicely fit in front of the houses. I am emailing to ask if the proposed Disabled Bay could be marked out, still allowing a second car to be parked next to it outside number 78, and not in the centre of the space?</p> <p>I'm sure you appreciate parking is at a premium, but there is sufficient space to allow for this. It will also allow the couple at number 78 to still have their second car adjacent to their first car as well as close to their house. I would be grateful if you could take my thoughts and suggestion into consideration during the consultation process.</p>
<p><i>Oxford Close (Kirtlington) - Proposed removal of DPPP</i></p>	
(14) Local Resident (Kirtlington)	<p>Support (Oxford Close) - I am more than happy for this to be removed as is no longer required for that purpose and would go a long way in relieving the ever-increasing problem of parking. Perhaps a residential parking only sign would be more beneficial to the residents of Oxford Close as this would stop non-residents from using these valuable spaces.</p>
(15) Local Resident (Kirtlington)	<p>Support (Oxford Close) - The bay is not needed for any resident living on Oxford Close OX5 3HH.</p>
<p><i>Park Close (Yarnton) - Proposed new DPPP</i></p>	
(16) Local Resident (Yarnton)	<p>Support (Park Close) - The disabled parking proposal is not a bad thing, however after living here nearly 4 years I haven't noticed the people who use the existing disabled parking lot do not in my eyes look disabled in fact there's no evidence of walking sticks or any other means of aid.</p> <p>However, living at number 1 and number 2 Park Close are two ladies that have difficulty in walking and both ladies do drive but there's no disabled parking for them, myself obviously have noted this problem for them.</p> <p>On another note, there's a big issue with visitors using the car park. There are 3 signposts displayed saying resident parking only, however this is completely ignored and they park regardless and even parking on occasions behind residents vehicles, not to mention the way some of the visitors park taking up 2 parking spaces.</p> <p>Can I suggest that white parking bay lines to be introduced so there is maximum parking for residents!!</p>

As older people move from Park Close and new younger residents move in there is now obviously more vehicles, and in my mind the car park needs extending because eventually there will not be enough parking for all residents given the fact that there's 20 properties and only enough parking for 13 vehicles.

My proposal is to use the land between number 20 the bungalow and number 21 the private house freeing this piece of land would provide adequate parking space for all residents or use it as visitors parking. It would also cut down the maintenance with the mowing as it is cut roughly 14 times per year.