Division: All	
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DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL- 21 MARCH 2013

PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACES – SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE, WEST OXFORDSHIRE AND THE VALE DISTRICTS

Report by Deputy Director for Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Introduction

1. This report considers objections to a formal consultation on proposals to introduce new Disabled Persons' Parking Places (DPPP) in South Oxfordshire. West Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse Districts.

Background

- 2. The report considers the proposed provision of new disabled persons' parking places (DPPP) in the following locations:
 - Cuddesdon location as shown at Annex 1;
 - Didcot location as shown at Annex 2;
 - Henley location as shown at Annex 3;
 - Wheatley location as shown at Annex 4;
 - Woodstock location as shown at Annex 5 and
 - Marcham location as shown at Annex 6.

This follows the publication of the draft Oxfordshire County Council - (South Oxfordshire District) (Disabled Persons Parking Places) (Amendment No. 8) Order 20**, (West Oxfordshire District) (Disabled Parking Places) (Amendment No.7*) Order 20**, and (The Vale of White Horse District) (Disabled Persons' Parking Places) (Amendment No.7) Order 20**.

- During 2012 a request was made by Cuddesdon Parish Council, for a DPPP in the High Street outside Cuddesdon Village Hall. Requests were also made by disabled residents in Blake's Field, Didcot; The Close, Henley; Bell Lane, Wheatley; Cockpit Close, Woodstock and Duffield Place, Marcham for DPPPs near their homes. Site visits were made and plans and schedules drawn up.
- 4. This report considers the outcome of a formal consultation held on the proposals. All other DPPP proposals advertised at the same time were unopposed and have therefore, been dealt with under my delegated authority to avoid unnecessary delays to applicants.

Formal Consultation

- 5. Oxfordshire County Council sent a copy of the draft amendment orders, statement of reasons and a copy of the public notice appearing in the local press, containing all the proposed DPPP changes to formal consultees on January 2013. These documents, together with documentation as required and plans of all the DPPPs, were deposited for public inspection at County Hall, South Oxfordshire District Council offices at Crowmarsh Gifford, West Oxfordshire District Council Town Centre Shop Witney, Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council Offices in Abbey Close. Abingdon, and Abingdon, Didcot, Henley, Thame, Watlington, Wheatley, Witney and Woodstock libraries. They are also available for inspection in the Members' Resource Centre.
- 6. At the same time, the Council wrote to local residents, affected by the proposed restrictions, asking for their comments. Finally, public notices were displayed at each site and in the Oxford Times.
- 7. A total of 27 responses were received. 6 in response to the proposal in The Close, Henley and 6 to the proposal at Cockpit Close, Woodstock. Other parking bay proposals received only one or two responses each. All responses received are summarised at Annex 7.
- 8. Six residents have objected to the proposed DPPP in The Close. Henley and have advised that there is no parking problem in the road. The DPPP is planned to be a short distance away from the applicant's house, which is on a bend. The DPPP would be between two access ways on the opposite side of the road. The objectors believe the applicant would continue to park opposite the house and the DPPP would remain empty. Currently, a parking survey is being carried out and the results will be reported at the meeting.
- 9. Some residents in Cockpit Close who objected to the proposal felt that the DPPP would be abused by the applicant's family and could cause problems for residents nearby. They would prefer the provision of marked out parking bays along the length of the road and a sign saying "Residents Only" at the entrance. They would prefer any DPPP to be at one end of the road or the other and not outside the applicant's home. A Residents Only sign is not in the Signs and Lines regulations and could not be installed legally on adopted public land. Caroline Court is private and the rules don't apply here. In view of their cost, parking schemes can only be considered with outside funding. A DPPP at either end of the Close would defeat the purpose of helping the applicant.
- 10. Responses to the other proposed DPPPs were either in support or raised questions about the precise location of the bays or the level of disability of the applicant, or were requesting action be taken on matters beyond the responsibility of the County Council. These responses are included at

Annex 7. In all cases it is considered that the proposed DPPP should be installed as proposed.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

11. The cost of all the proposed work under consultation, including that described in this report, will be met from the fund set up for this purpose and Section 106 money.

RECOMMENDATION

12. The Deputy Leader of the Council is RECOMMENDED to approve the proposed DPPPs as set out in this report.

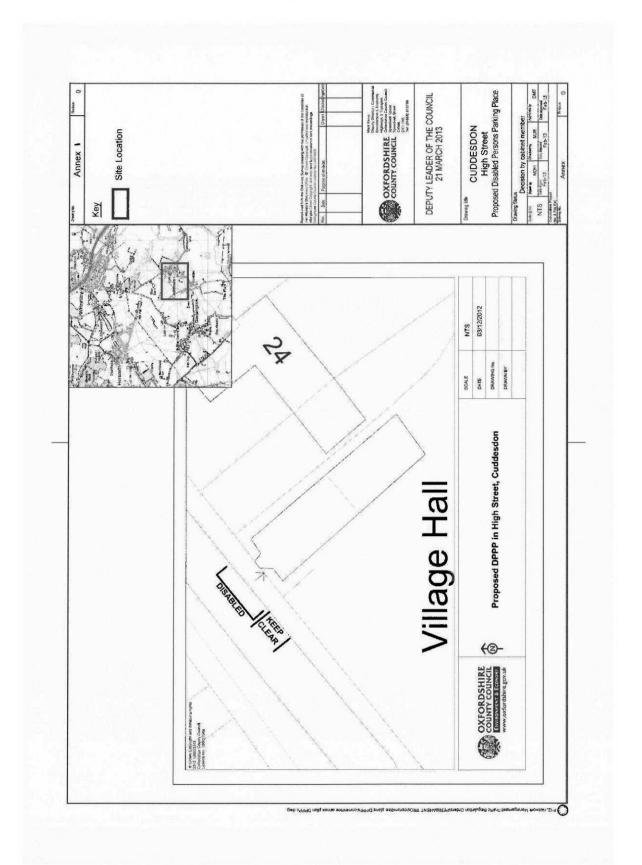
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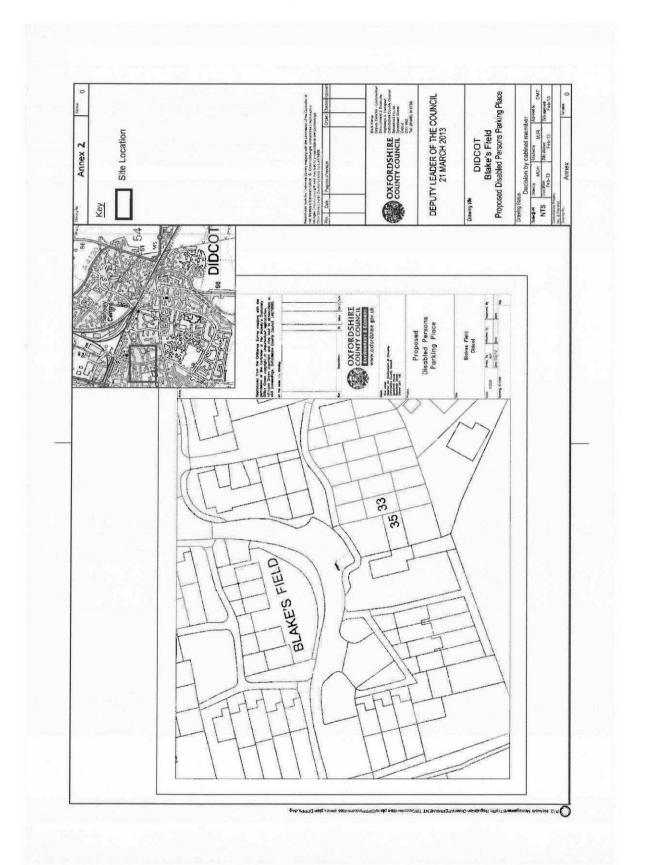
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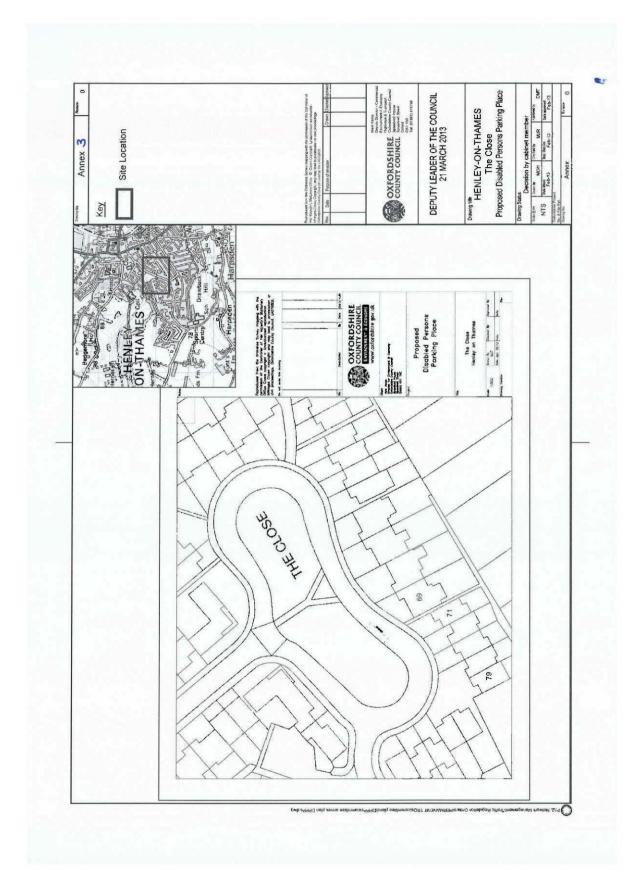
Background papers: Consultation documentation

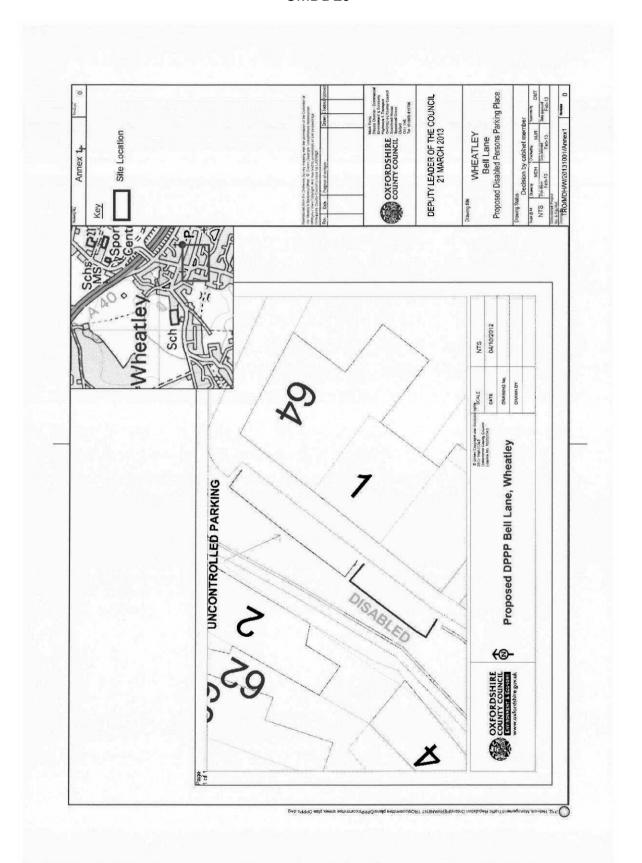
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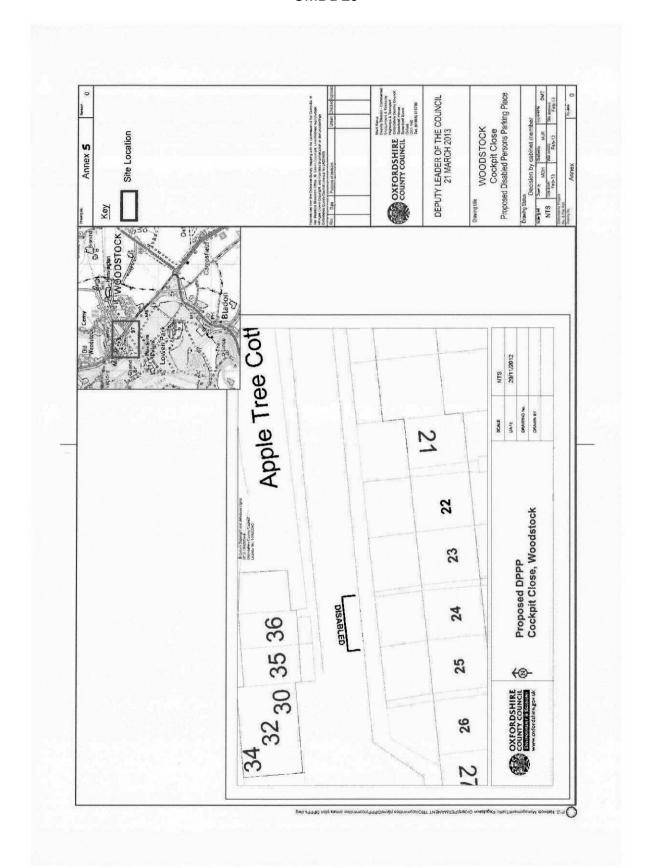
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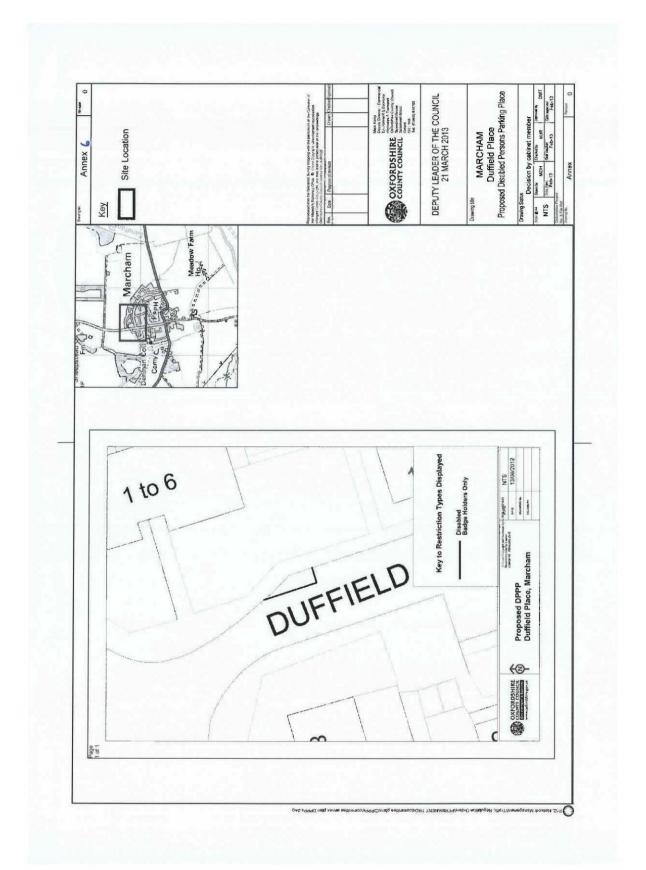












RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION

RESPONDENT	COMMENT	RESPONSE
A resident of	The available parking in the area is already over over-used with	OCC has no power to provide parking areas on
High Street,	vehicles parking over the KEEP CLEAR marking. The proposed	non-adopted land. The DPPP is intended for
Cuddesdon	DPPP would take up more than 1 car space and would be	disabled users of the village hall.
	under-used. If an off-street car park was installed for residents	
	the DPPP would not be a problem.	
A resident of	Lives near to village hall and parks in his drive/garage. The	There should be room for 2 vehicles but if the
High Street,	space between his dropped kerb and the proposed DPPP will	proposal goes ahead a PAPM will be installed at
Cuddesdon	be a bit tight for 2 cars. Is concerned that parked vehicles will	the same time.
	overlap his drive and make it difficult for access. Requests a	
	Private Access Protection Marking (PAPM) if DPPP goes	
A	ahead.	
A resident of	Applicant is not disabled and is away on holiday for a good part	Applicant holds a current Blue Badge and is
Blake's Field,	of the year. There is not enough parking here for the residents	eligible for a DPPP. When parking is congested it
Didcot	as it is.	affects the disabled more.
6 residents of	Most residents have off-street parking so never a parking	A parking survey is currently being carried out.
The Close,	problem on the road. Applicant parks opposite No 75 without	
Henley	difficulty so it is likely that the DPPP will be unused. The	
	residents are considerate to other residents in their parking	
A manifold of Dall	practices so a DPPP is neither needed nor cost effective.	Natad
A resident of Bell	Is "strongly" in favour of the proposal.	Noted.
Lane, Wheatley	Doubles is consisted as the last of marginly 0 modifies and	The group and DDDD would made a closest of
A resident of Bell	Parking is congested so the loss of possibly 2 parking spots	The proposed DPPP would replace a length of
Lane, Wheatley	here would make it difficult for the residents as a whole. As the	Double Yellow Lines so no current parking spaces
	applicant's home is rented they may move leaving an unusable	would be lost. If the disabled tenant moves the
	space which may be difficult to remove.	DPPP would be removed.

A resident of Bell Lane, Wheatley	As above. Would like the Double Yellow Lines outside his house replaced with a parking bay.	As above. If no reported problems with passing traffic may be able to do this.
Relation of a resident of Holloway Road, Witney	Would also like a DPPP here for his mother, or an off-street parking place.	Mother does not drive so not eligible. OCC does not have jurisdiction over non adopted land. They will approach Cottsway Housing Association.
A resident of Cockpit Close, Woodstock	Parking in the Close is very limited, is worried that the proposed DPPP will be abused by the applicant's family members. Doesn't consider that the applicant is disabled. Would prefer a DPPP at the bottom end nearer to town centre, or in the car park in Rectory Lane, nearer to the Post Office etc.	Badge misuse is always a possibility but it can only be used in a DPPP for the purpose of conveying the Badge holder – not just to visit. The applicant has a current Badge and drives and it is OCC policy to provide bays near Badge holders' homes to help with access.
6 residents of Cockpit Close, Woodstock (including the above resident)	They believe that the applicant has no mobility problems, and they believe there may be a case for a "general" bay to help those residents with disabilities park in the Close. There is currently no car at the address and thus the space would be abused by family members visiting. 85% of the time parking is not an issue and residents can park outside their homes. The rest of the time parking is congested and they would prefer the Close as a whole was marked out with parking bays with a DPPP at one end or the other, for any Badge Holder to use, and a residents' only sign.	As above. There is a car permanently at the property but it is currently away being repaired. Resident's Permit Parking bays are a possibility but the cost would have to be provided externally in the present financial climate. The type of "Residents Only" sign in Caroline Court is on private land and would not be possible on the public highway.

A resident of Duffield Place, Marcham	Believes the DPPP will cover the whole lay-by. Would prefer residents' parking here, or provide parking on the grass area in front of the bungalows.	• •