

Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Environment (including Transport) Thursday, 9 January 2014

ADDENDA

3. Petitions and Public Address

The Cabinet Member for Environment (including Transport) has agreed the following requests to speak:

Agenda Item	Speaker	Time Allowed
4	Councillor Michael Waine, local member	5 mins
5	Mr Swartz, local resident	5 mins
8	Mr Alistair Grainger, local resident of Enstone;	3 mins
8	Mr Steven Willoughby, local resident of Enstone;	3 mins
8	Ms Lisa Thompson, local resident of Enstone;	3 mins
8	Mr Kempson, local resident of Enstone	3 mins
8	Mr Holmes, local resident of Enstone;	3 mins
8	Mr Adrian Pallett, local resident of Enstone;	3 mins
8	Mr Langford, local resident of Enstone;	3 mins
8	Mr William Paget, local resident of Enstone;	3 mins
8	Ms Jennifer Blakemore, local resident of Enstone.	3 mins
8	Mr Andrew Hay, local resident of Enstone	3mins
8	Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles, local member	5 mins

* further statements by Dr Honey Lucas, Mr Asher Minns and Charmian Beckett are also attached for consideration (see Item 8).

8. Proposed Parking Restrictions, Enstone

Dr Honey Lucas

I strongly object to the proposals, and would like to raise the following points:

1. The 4 parking spaces at The Green which are not to be restricted under these proposals are insufficient to meet the needs of those local residents who have no other available parking (including, but not restricted to, residents of The Mount). The balance of restricted and unrestricted parking spaces, as proposed, is therefore incorrect: more spaces need to be available to residents and fewer to shop customers.
2. The 4 unrestricted spaces will not be reserved for local residents. Instead, shop customers, deliveries and indeed employees of Adams Stores will all be able to park here. This will remove any available parking from local residents, and in effect reserve all the parking at The Green for Adams Stores. This would act against the stated aims of this proposal to provide parking for both local residents and for shop customers.
3. The proposed 4 unrestricted spaces are adjacent to Adams Stores. At present, this area is often used by the shopkeepers to display signs, place retail stands, and for cafe tables and chairs. If the proposal goes ahead, will the County Council ensure that no such obstruction of the unreserved spaces takes place? If time-limited parking is felt to be necessary, it would make more sense to provide this adjacent to the businesses on The Green, where most people would naturally wish to park when visiting the shop.
4. Finally, these proposals will restrict parking at The Green without protecting the rights of local residents to park safely near their homes. Balancing timed-restrictions with residents' parking would be a fairer and more balanced solution.

Thank you
Honey Lucas
2 The Mount
Enstone

Mr Asher Minns

Proposed Parking Restriction at Enstone Green

- 1) There is no alternative parking for residents of The Mount anywhere in Enstone except The Green. I have lived at 3 The Mount since 2002. I now have a young son and more recent residents of the Mount have children, which makes safe parking, and multiple journeys (ie. school, clubs, friends etc) a daily necessity. I work at home during the working day on Thursdays and Fridays, and occasional other days. Residents of The Green and our visitors need to park during the day and during the night, regardless of whether the parking is limited to 30 minutes or 2 hours.
- 2) The proposal is wholly unnecessary. Yes, there is congestion at peak times – because of Enstone Primary School and on Saturday mornings – which is to be expected outside every school on weekdays and every cluster of shops at weekends. Enforcing private parking for Adams Stores will have no effect on these peak times. There is no data or evidence-base to show that enforcement of a parking ban for residents will work to the benefit of Adams Stores, a lucrative business in a rapidly expanding village. At minimum, traffic monitoring should take place before any decision is made about this disruptive proposal to residents and users of The Green.
- 3) Regulating the parking will worsen parking. With this ban on residents, the side of the road that becomes private parking for Adams Stores between 10:00-16:00 will be mostly or completely empty of cars, while the unrestricted ‘residents and visitors’ side could still have cars parked in it – belonging to combined shop customers, residents, and visitors. For this proposal to be equitable, residents require parking permits to prevent shop customers from parking on the ‘residents’ side of the road (I’m informed that West Oxfordshire does not have resident-only parking). Legislating for everything, instead of people’s common sense that works well at The Green, will unbalance a currently workable system.
- 4) The proposal is costly and unworkable. What is the cost of enforcing the ban on residents’ parking and what is the cost of the enforcement? In addition to installation, new road signs etc, a traffic warden or community police officer will need to be patrolling or visiting Enstone every few hours to ensure enforcement. The same proposal was turned down previously because it is unworkable, unenforceable and unnecessary. Nothing has changed since the last discredited proposal except new shop owners and more children living along The Mount.
- 5) The proposal will have no impact on trade. As a regular customer to Adam’s Stores for the past 11 years I believe that that the majority of shops customers are local, supplemented by some passing trade (and supported by the shop owners and their staff knowing most customers’ names). Enstone is rapidly expanding with multiple and ongoing new-builds. A parking ban on residents will likely encourage local people to drive incredibly short distances but have no effect on passing trade, because passers-by can anyway park during the

daytime.

- 6) The further urbanisation of Enstone. There are 22 road signs on the one mile A44 stretch of Enstone. Enstone's urban clutter should be reduced, not increased at Enstone Green. [For example, Chipping Norton Area Transport Strategy 20.32 aims to reduce A44 signage clutter; 20.29 encourage a greater number of non-car trips; CN7 work with organisations and businesses to reduce the need to travel and inefficient car use; CN8 OCC will ensure that best use is made of road space.] A comprehensive and holistic parking/highway and traffic strategy is required for Enstone, not piecemeal additions.
- 7) Compulsory purchase. I am though willing to negotiate compulsory purchase at market value if OCC decides to remove the parking from my one-bedroom home making it unsellable (said with slight humour – but I will consider any serious offer).

Thank you for your attention. I am hope that private parking is not enforced at the cost of the tax payer for Adams Stores, to reduce the quality of life and lifestyle and safety of Enstone residents who have the Green as their only parking.

Charmian Beckett

ENSTONE OXFORD ROAD – SERVICE ROAD

Further to our conversation this morning I understand there is no room for me to air my views at your forthcoming meeting tomorrow.

I therefore refer to my last letter dated 10th November. My feelings regarding the above proposal remain the same.

First and foremost I see no reason to impose parking restrictions at all. The present arrangement suits most of us, residents and shoppers alike. Very occasionally there are the odd hiccups as you would expect. However, they have never been insurmountable in my thirteen years of living in the village and we should all take a flexible view of the parking facilities available.

As a pensioner, I would be seriously affected by your proposal. Nor have I been included in any previous discussions which I resent.

I am a regular customer at the shop but to my mind you are now putting trade over the local residents. You are potentially allowing fewer spaces for the residents than those that exist at present. I know of at least six residents who need to park by the shop and /or the green. I also am aware of at least three of us who need to park at irregular hours, sometimes for longer than two hours, during the day. Say nothing of family and friends who visit and traders which we all engage from time to time.

Your proposed implementation will leave residents vying for a parking space. This will cause unnecessary bad feeling and will become a bone of contention.

Selling my cottage will also be very difficult. You would be devaluing the price of it

quite considerably.

I regret that I cannot give my opinions at the meeting. Please also bear in mind there are some residents who are unable to attend the meeting to give their views, due to work commitments.

So many of us are vehemently against the proposals.

Finally, please listen to those of us who live by the shop and have nowhere else to park. We can see the problems where others can't.

Yours sincerely