

DIVISION(s): Burford and Carterton North East, Chipping Norton, Charlbury, Eynsham, Hanborough
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ITEM CMDT9

CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT – 6 OCTOBER 2006

DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACES – WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT

Report by Head of Transport

Introduction

1. This report considers the proposed provision of eight new Disabled Persons' Parking Places (DPPP) and the formalisation of two existing "advisory" DPPP in the West Oxfordshire District and follows the publication of the draft Order – the Oxfordshire County Council (West Oxfordshire) (Disabled Persons' Parking Places) (Amendment) Order 20**.

Background

2. The increasing demand for parking in Oxfordshire can lead to particular difficulties for disabled people who need to park close to their homes or places of work. The County Council may provide a DPPP on a public road where there is a need.
3. On 7 December 2004 the Executive agreed to rationalise policy with regard to disabled parking which included proposals to adopt a uniform approach to be implemented throughout the County. Previously, in Oxfordshire (as opposed to Oxford City) disabled parking was provided by the use of advisory bays. These bays are marked up on the ground but no disabled sign plate is provided and they do not appear in an Order so are therefore not enforceable. A review of these DPPPs is being carried out across Oxfordshire to ensure they are still required and those that are will be formalised. It will then be possible to enforce them.
4. A fact sheet listing the criteria required to qualify for a DPPP is available in the Members' Resource Centre. A primary condition for qualification is that the applicant has to be a Blue Badge holder. Applicants have to complete a detailed application form and provide a copy of their driving licence and vehicle registration documents to prove that both the driver and the vehicle are resident at the address where the DPPP is requested.
5. The site is then assessed by an Inspector to see if a DPPP is feasible. If it is, informal consultation is carried out with various authorities, such as the Emergency Services. If no comments are made, formal consultation is

commenced. This report considers comments received at the formal stage in respect of the DPPP's referred to in paragraph 1.

Formal Consultation

6. The Directorate sent a copy of the draft Amendment Order, a Statement of Reasons for the Order and a copy of the Public Notice appearing in the local press to formal Consultees on 28 June 2006. These documents, together with the Oxfordshire County Council (West Oxfordshire District) (Disabled Persons' Parking Places) Order 2006, and plans of all the DPPP's were deposited for public inspection at County Hall, the West Oxfordshire District Council Town Centre Shop in Witney and Burford, Charlbury, Chipping Norton and Eynsham Libraries. They are also available for inspection in the Members' Resource Centre.
7. Separately, the Directorate wrote to local residents in each area where the proposed DPPP would be sited asking for their comments. In all approximately 198 letters were sent.
8. Comments were received in respect of the proposed DPPP's in Witney Street, Burford; Church Street, Cornish Road, and Hailey Avenue, Chipping Norton; High Street, Eynsham and Churchill Way, Long Hanborough. Comments were also received in respect of the proposed formalisation of the advisory DPPP's in Diston's Lane, Chipping Norton and Pooles Lane, Charlbury. Plans showing the location of the bays are attached at Annex 1.
9. A synopsis of each comment and officer response is set out at Annex 2. Copies of the responses can be viewed in the Members' Resource Centre.
10. There were nine objections to the DPPP in Church Street, Chipping Norton, mostly on the grounds that parking is already difficult there and a DPPP would reduce the parking available. However, the disabled person lives (and parks) there already so parking will not be substantially reduced. Objectors request a residents' parking scheme which is outside the remit of this consultation but this needs to be subject to an assessment of priority compared to other demands on funds. Enforcement would also be a problem and, even if it were a high priority, would best be left until civil enforcement can be introduced which will not be before mid 2008.
11. There were 10 objections from households to the DPPP in Hailey Road, Chipping Norton, including a petition which is attached at Annex 3. Objections were mostly on the grounds that it is already difficult to park there. There was also one resident who agreed with the proposal.

Conclusion

12. Following consideration of the comments in detail, I am satisfied that these concerns should not prevent installation of any of the DPPP's and recommend that the other proposals should go ahead.

How the project supports LTP2 objectives

13. Provision of these DPPP's will help to deliver accessibility for disabled drivers by enabling them to park near to their homes.

Financial Implications (including Revenue)

14. There are no financial implications as the cost of installing the DPPP's, approximately £3,000, is funded through the revenue budget.

RECOMMENDATIONS

15. **The Cabinet Member for Transport is RECOMMENDED to authorise variations to the Oxfordshire County Council West Oxfordshire District) (Disabled Persons' Parking Places) (Amendment) Order 20** as published in order to provide for:**
 - (a) **eight new DPPP proposals at Park Close, Bladon; Witney Street, Burford; Church Street, Chipping Norton; Cornish Road, Chipping Norton; Hailey Avenue, Chipping Norton; Hailey Road, Chipping Norton; High Street, Eynsham and Churchill Way, Long Hanborough; and**
 - (b) **the formalisation of two existing advisory Disabled Persons' Parking Places at Diston's Lane, Chipping Norton, and Pooles Lane, Charlbury;**

as specified in this report.

STEVE HOWELL
Head of Transport

Background papers: Consultation documentation

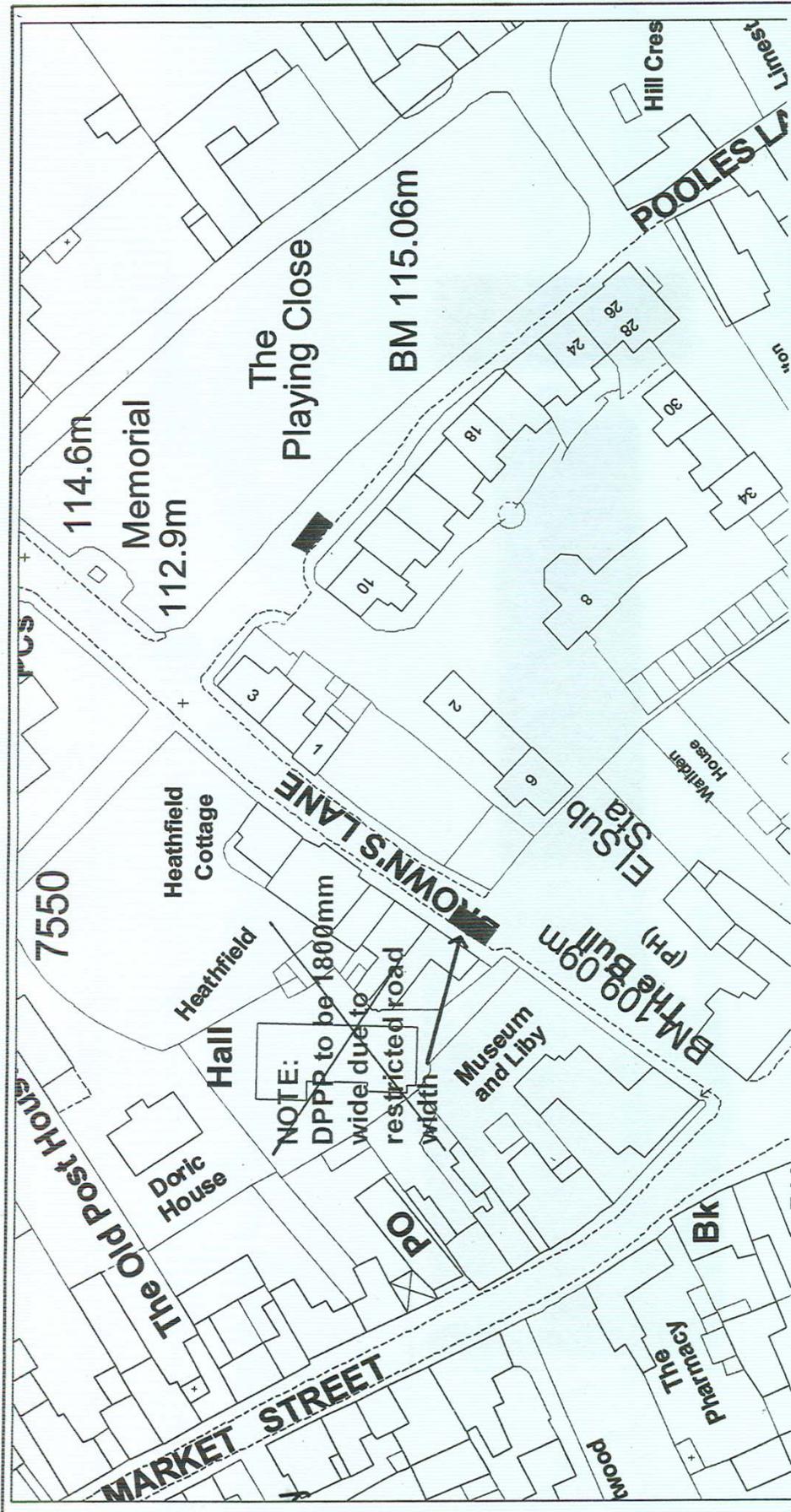
Contact Officer: Mike Ruse, Tel 01865 815978

September 2006

Annex 1



<p>OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL</p> 	<p>NOTES: FROM A POINT 15M SOUTH EAST OF THE BOUNDARY OF No.44 WITNEY STREET FOR A DISTANCE OF 6.6M SOUTH EAST</p>	<p>TITLE: BURFORD – No.48 WITNEY STREET PROPOSED DDDP</p>
<p>Date: 28.05.05 Scale: NTS Drg. No 149/RNB</p>	<p>Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright. Licence Number LA076805</p>	



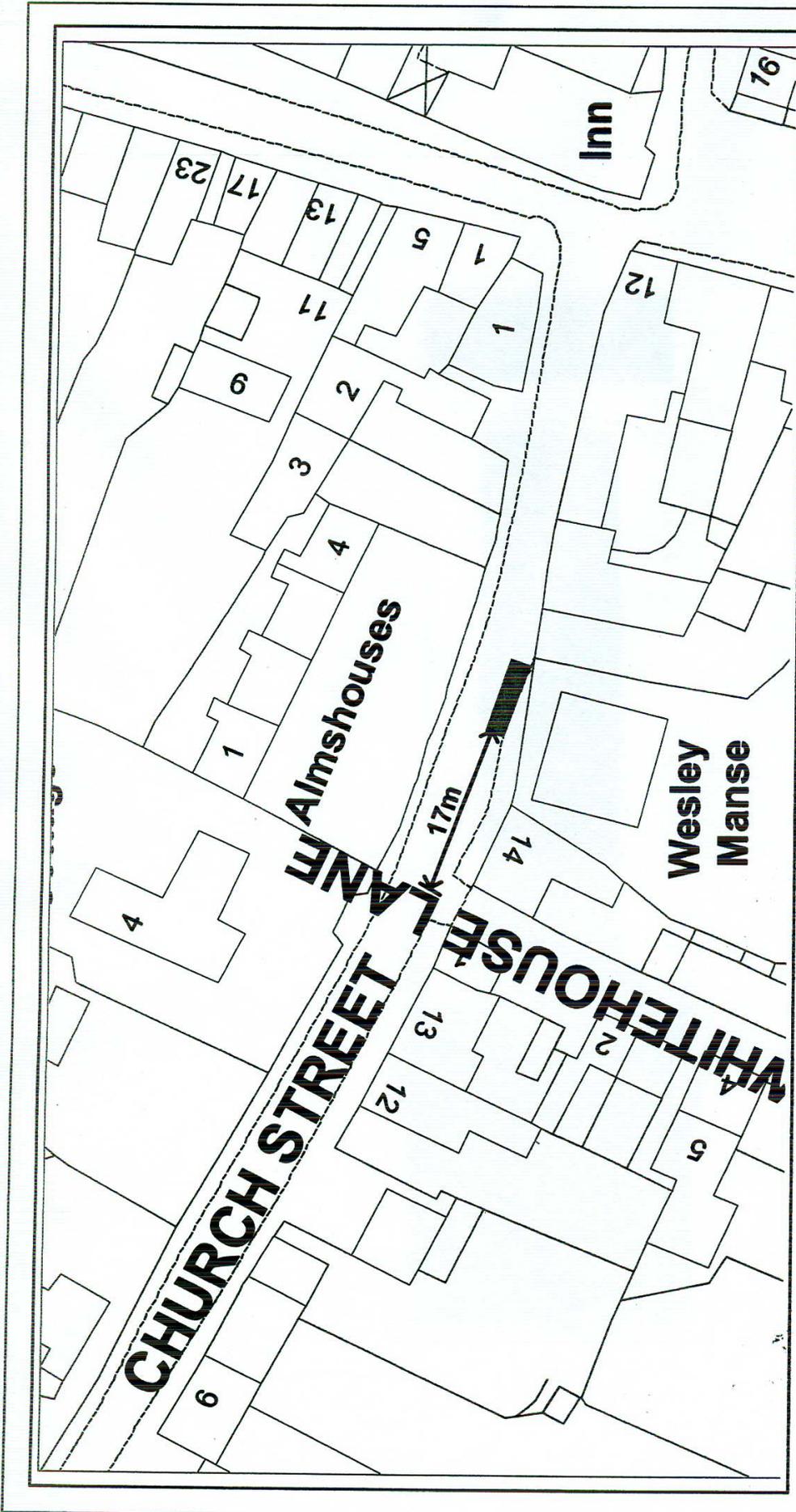
TITLE: CHARLBURY
 1. BROWN'S LANE - PROPOSED DP
 2. POOLES LANE - PROPOSED DP

NOTES:
 1. BROWN'S LANE FROM A POINT 45.5m FROM THE JUNCTION OF MARKET STREET FOR A DISTANCE OF 6.6m NORTH.
 2. POOLES LANE FROM A POINT 26m SOUTH EAST OF THE BROWN'S LANE JUNCTION FOR A DISTANCE OF 6.6m SOUTH EAST

Drg. No 156/RNB

Date: 27.07.05 **Scale:** NTS

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TITLE:

**CHIPPING NORTON – CHURCH STREET
PROPOSED DDDP**

NOTES:

**FROM A POINT 17M SOUTH EAST OF THE CENTRE
LINE OF WHITEHOUSE LANE FOR A DISTANCE OF
6.6M SOUTH EAST**

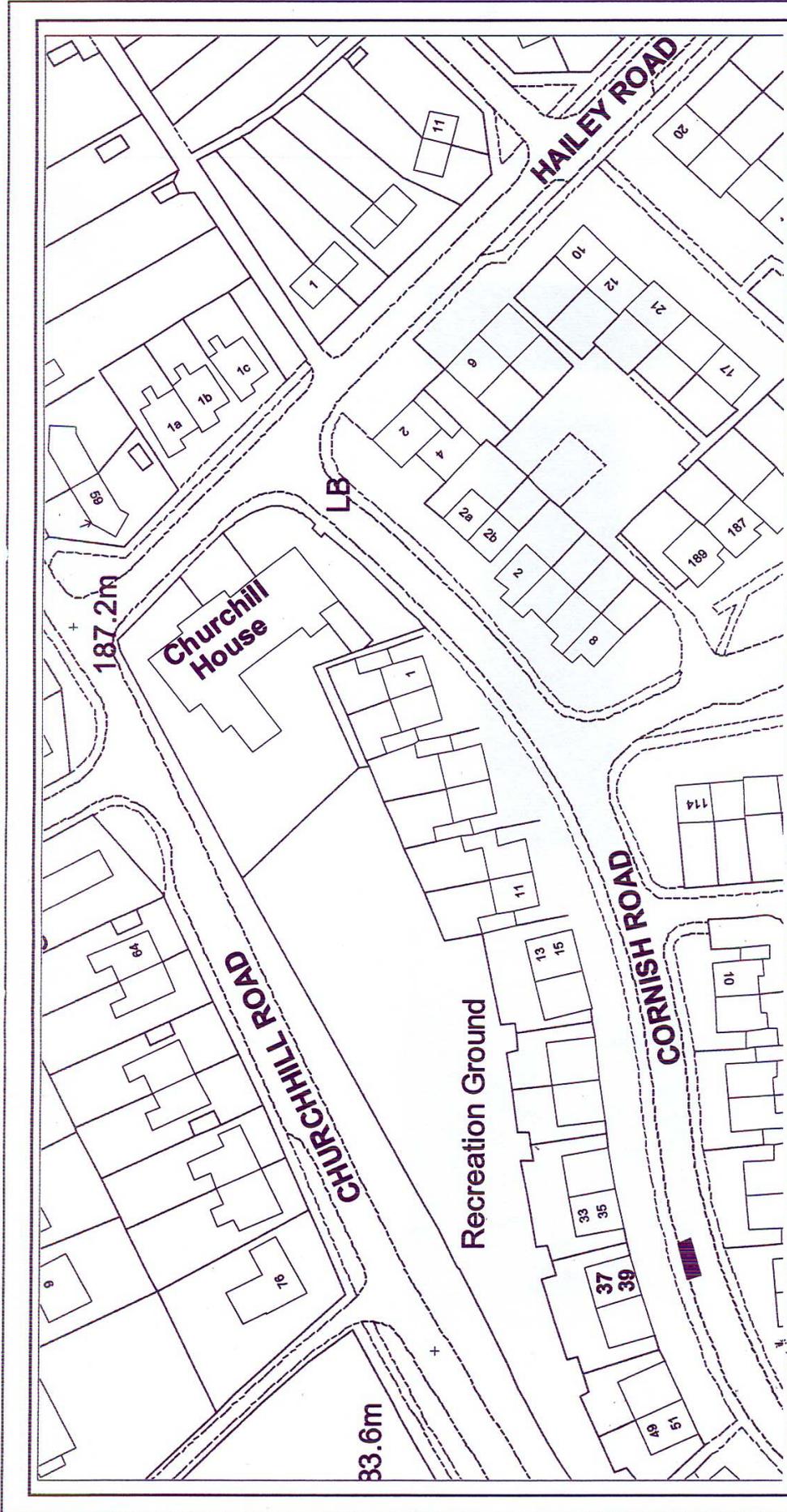
Date: 15.02.06

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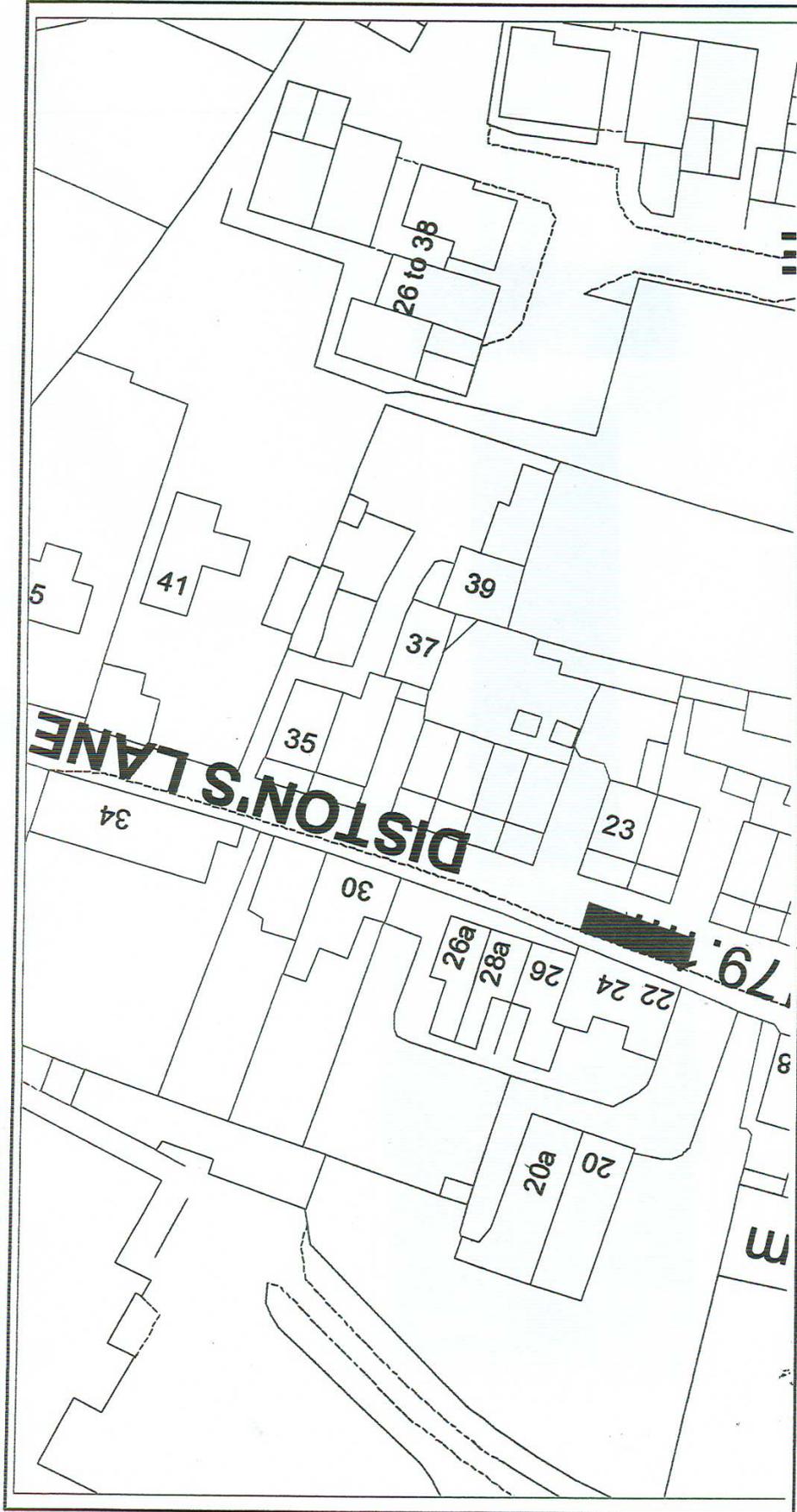


NOTES:
FROM A POINT 168M SOUTH WEST OF THE
JUNCTION WITH HAILEY ROAD FOR A DISTANCE
OF 6.6M SOUTH WEST

TITLE:
CHIPPING NORTON -- No.39
CORNISH ROAD
PROPOSED DDDP

Date: 4.01.06 **Scale:** NTS **Drg. No** 166/RNB

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TITLE:

**CHIPPING NORTON - DISTONS LANE
No.22 and No.24
PROPOSED DPPP**

NOTES:

**FROM THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF No.22
DISTONS LANE TO THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF
No.24 DISTONS LANE A DISTANCE OF 10.8meters**

Date: 214.07.05 Scale: NTS

Drg. No 166/RNB

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**OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL**



NOTES:
 FROM A POINT 27Metres NORTH EAST OF CENTRE
 LINE OF HILL CLOSE JUNCTION FOR A DISTANCE
 OF 6.6m NORTH EAST

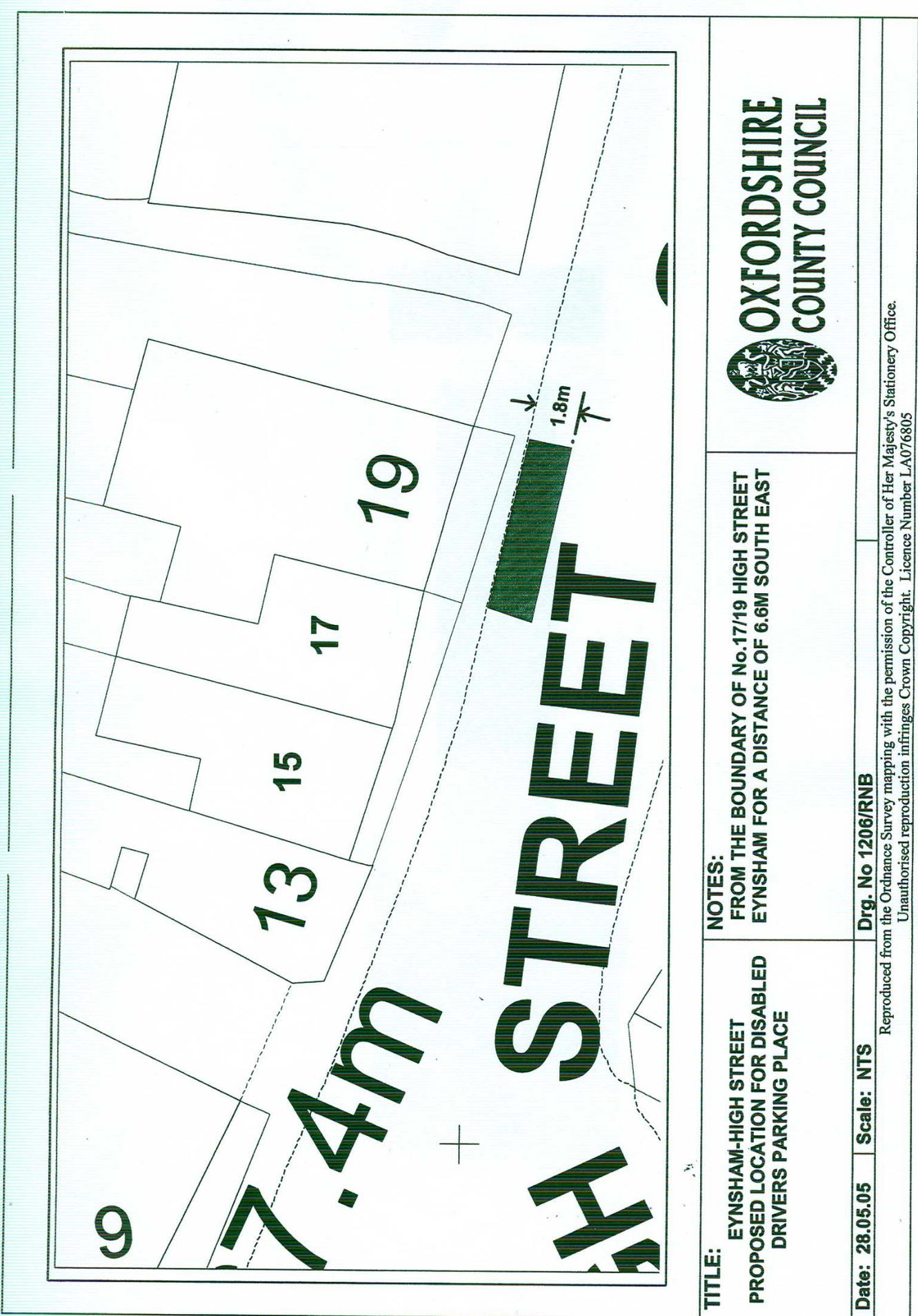
TITLE:
 CHIPPING NORTON- HAILEY
 AVENUE
 PROPOSED DDDP

Drg. No 166/RNB

Date: 5.04.06 Scale: NTS

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TITLE:

**EYNHAM-HIGH STREET
PROPOSED LOCATION FOR DISABLED
DRIVERS PARKING PLACE**

NOTES:

**FROM THE BOUNDARY OF No.17/19 HIGH STREET
EYNHAM FOR A DISTANCE OF 6.6M SOUTH EAST**

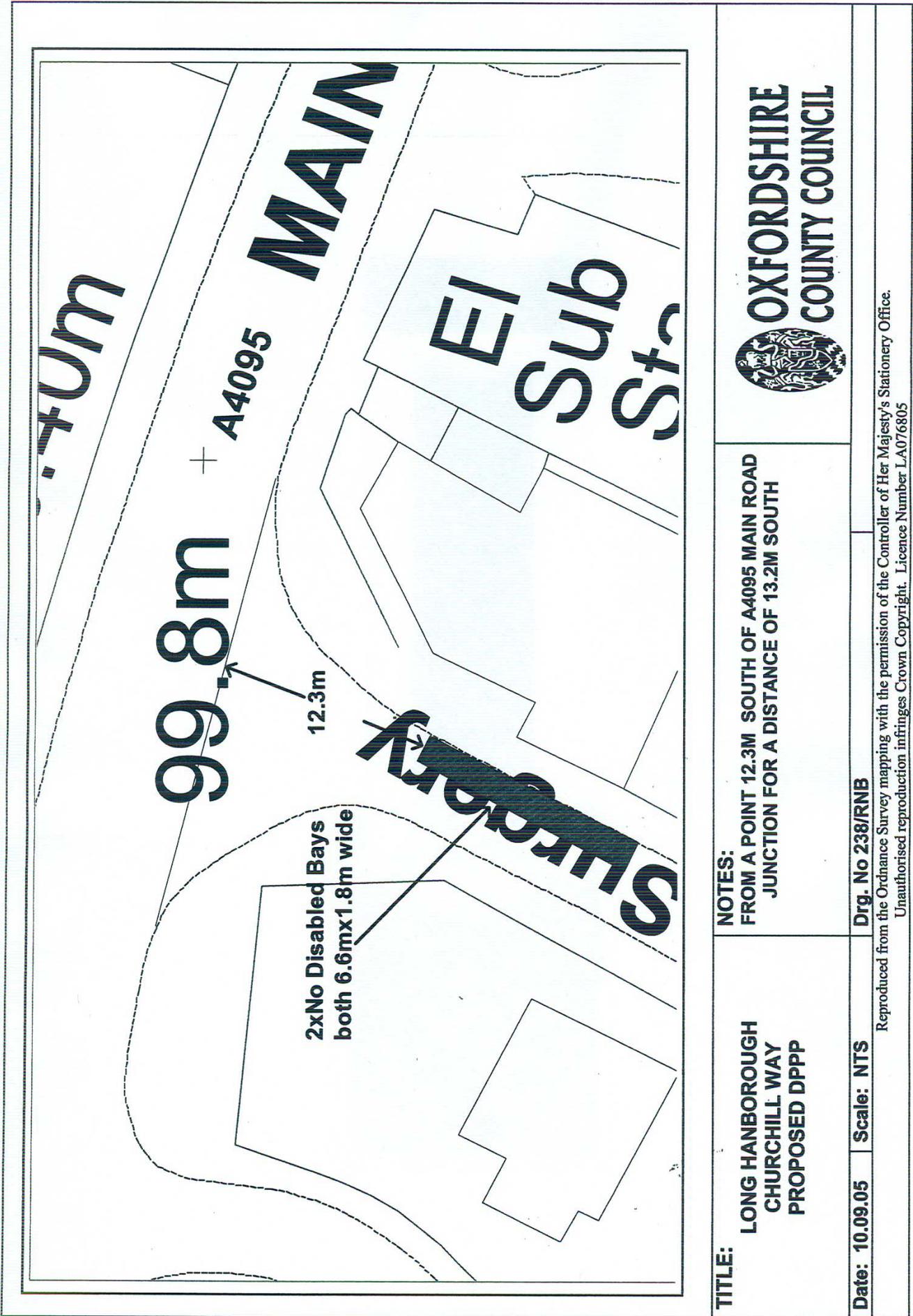


Date: 28.05.05

Scale: NTS

Drg. No 1206/RNB

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TITLE:

**LONG HANBOROUGH
CHURCHILL WAY
PROPOSED DPPP**

NOTES:

**FROM A POINT 12.3M SOUTH OF A4095 MAIN ROAD
JUNCTION FOR A DISTANCE OF 13.2M SOUTH**

Date: 10.09.05

Scale: NTS

Drg. No 238/RNB



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ANNEX 2

Comments on the Proposed Disabled Persons' Parking Places (DPPPs)

	Commentor	Comments	Response	Recommendation
DPPP at Witney Street, Burford				
1	Resident , Witney Street	Is disabled but doesn't drive. Could the DPPP be made larger so her visitors could use it?	Able bodied visitors could only use it & display her Blue Badge to pick up or set down the disabled resident. Not to visit only.	Proceed
2	Three Residents, Witney Street	Approve of the proposal but would like to apply for their own DPPP.	Being dealt with separately.	Proceed
DPPP at Pooles Lane, Charlbury				
3	Resident, The Playing Close	Agrees with the proposal and believes it will be helpful for disabled people in the Close.	Noted.	Proceed
4	Resident, Browns Lane	Objects to the proposal as a DPPP already exists and parking is difficult. An extra DPPP would make things worse. Says the current DPPP is not used and thinks its location is wrong.	Proposal is to formalise the existing DPPP, not add an extra one. Charlbury Town Council requested a DPPP in this location as it is adjacent to retirement homes. Existing DPPPs are reviewed every three years to ensure they are still required.	Proceed
DPPP at Church Street, Chipping Norton				
5	Resident, Church Street	Answering Machine message –no contact details given. Says “a certain lady” doesn't use her car as much as her son	The applicant confirmed that this was probably one of her neighbours responding to the fact that there was so little room to park that her visiting son had to re-park her car to get it nearer the kerb the previous day.	Proceed

6	Resident, Church Street	Objects to the proposal as it would make the parking situation worse. The applicant walks in her garden & to the town centre.	When parking is difficult for able-bodied drivers it is much worse for disabled drivers. The town centre is very close. The applicant has a current Blue Badge and already parks in the street so parking would not be reduced.	Proceed
7	Resident, Church Street	Objects to the proposal as it would take out two parking spaces. Wants a residents' parking scheme. What will happen if the applicant moves? What if another resident wants a DPPP? Is the CMD meeting open to the public? Why not put proposed DPPP on the new development in Spring Street, or outside the Theatre, or near the Chequers Public House?	When parking is at a premium the situation is worse for a disabled driver. The DfT regulation minimum length of a DPPP is 6.6 metres (approximately 1.5 car lengths). The applicant already parks in the street and the DPPP has been sited in the best position for the applicant. Residents' parking is outside the remit of this consultation. If the applicant moved the removal process would be implemented. A DPPP application from another resident would be judged on its merits. The other suggested sites for a DPPP would be too far away. The CMD meeting is open to the public.	Proceed
8	Resident, Church Street	Objects to the proposal as there is a shortage of parking. Suggests DPPP should replace double yellow lines outside the Theatre. Almshouses are for people who do not have cars and not suitable for a disabled driver.	When parking is at a premium the situation is worse for disabled drivers who are resident. The DPPP needs to be close to the applicant's home. A DPPP is not appropriate outside the Theatre because disabled drivers can already park on double	Proceed

			yellow lines for three hours providing they don't obstruct passing traffic. No known restrictions on disabled residents at the Almshouses from owning cars.	
9	Resident, Whitehouse Lane	Parking is difficult in Church Street. Vehicles also parking on the double yellow lines outside the Almshouses causing difficulties with refuse vehicles and emergency vehicles. Any new restrictions would make this worse. While creating DPPPs in Church Street is essential, a residents' parking scheme should be implemented, between 6pm & 8am.	A resident parking scheme is outside the remit of this consultation and parking enforcement is currently dealt with by Thames Valley Police. The proposal is to help a disabled resident park close to home however a DPPP would take up approximately 1.5 car spaces.	Proceed
10	Resident, Whitehouse Lane	Church Street is congested with cars, many from non-residents. The size of the proposed DPPP is large. The Almshouses were not designed for disabled access and it would be better for the disabled resident to relocate. Further restrictions would cause drivers to park on double yellow lines causing more access problems to the emergency services. Suggests a residents' parking scheme.	A residents' parking scheme is outside of the remit of this consultation. The disabled resident already parks in the road so this proposal would not take away parking space from other residents to a great extent. The DPPP conforms to the DfT minimum size regulations. The Inspector has confirmed that emergency vehicles will have room to pass the DPPP. Thames Valley Police are responsible for parking enforcement. OCC has consulted with the Emergency Services, the Town & District Councils among others	Proceed

			and no objections have emerged. OCC has no responsibility for the Almshouses or any facilities provided.	
11	Resident, Church Street	Parking is a problem for all residents in Church Street as non-residents also park there and a DPPP would make this worse. Anybody using a wheelchair would block the pavement adjacent to the proposed DPPP. Wants a residents' parking scheme.	The proposed DPPP confirms to DfT minimum dimensions. The Inspector believes that this is the best location for the DPPP. A residents' parking scheme is outside of the remit of this consultation. When parking is at a premium, disabled drivers are at a greater disadvantage.	Proceed
12	Resident, Church Street	Parking is already difficult due to non-residents parking here. When vehicles park on the double-yellow lines outside the Almshouses, refuse vehicles and Emergency Services cannot pass. Suggests that proposed DPPP for two vehicles should be located in the middle of town, and a residents' parking scheme introduced in Church Street.	A residents' parking scheme is outside the remit of this consultation which is about one proposed DPPP for a resident, who already parks in the road, and needs to be able to park close to the home. Parking enforcement is the responsibility of Thames Valley Police.	Proceed
13	Resident, Whitehouse Lane	Wonders why the residents had not been consulted. Such a large DPPP would adversely affect parking for other residents, since other people also park here. Believes that the Almshouses provide "subsidised accommodation" for needy people without vehicles, near to shops. Says two	OCC would normally write to near neighbours to consult, but because the street is small and narrow, more residents were included. Letters sent to all Whitehouse Lane residents. The applicant has a Blue Badge and a vehicle and is eligible for a DPPP and has difficulty parking in the Street. OCC is not	Proceed

		Almshouse residents now have cars and believes they should be re-located to another part of town and replaced by other more needy people without cars.	responsible for the Almshouses so cannot comment on who should or should not live there.	
DPPP at Cornish Road, Chipping Norton				
14	Resident, Cornish Road	Does not object to the proposal as doesn't drive. Says the road is very congested at night. Suggests putting the DPPP on the opposite side of the road on spare land.	The parking congestion adversely affects the disabled resident. The Inspector confirmed that the land adjacent to No 24 is not part of the public highway and is too far away to be of any use to the disabled resident.	Proceed
DPPP at Diston's Lane, Chipping Norton				
15	Resident, Diston's Lane	Would the proposed formalised DPPP be permanent? What would happen if either or both of the disabled residents ceased to require the DPPP?	If one or both residents no longer need the DPPP the removal process will be started. A 3 yearly review system is also in place to cover instances when applicants or neighbours don't advise OCC that DPPP no longer required.	Proceed
16	Resident, Diston's Lane	Asked what would happen if one of the disabled residents moved.	The process would begin for the DPPP length to be reduced to the DfT minimum length, suitable for 1 vehicle.	Proceed
17	Resident, Diston's Lane	Asked what formalisation of the DPPP meant. May qualify for a Blue Badge in the future – would that permit use of the bay?	Formalisation means the DPPP is enforceable by the Police. Any vehicle correctly displaying a Blue Badge can park in a DPPP.	Proceed
18	Resident, Diston's Lane	Is one of the two disabled residents who parks in the	Formalisation would not alter the DPPP dimensions – but just	

		DPPP. Does hope that the bay can remain.	make it enforceable.	
DPPP at Hailey Avenue, Chipping Norton				
19	Resident, Hailey Avenue	Objects to the proposed DPPP because it would be outside that resident's house and thinks it would affect the property value. May claim against OCC for compensation. The property was bought because parking was available outside. Suggests the DPPP is located on land adjacent to 14 Hailey Avenue in Hill Close.	The road is too narrow for residents to park both sides and the prevailing parking is on this resident's side. As parking is congested, it would be difficult to park outside any particular house, and that is not a right residents possess under highway legislation. Therefore any claim for loss of parking would fail. The disabled applicant lives on the opposite side. If a DPPP were provided there, there would have to be double yellow lines for probably three car lengths on the opposite side to allow vehicles to pass. The land in Hill Close is not adopted by OCC and is too far away from the disabled resident.	Proceed
20	Resident, Hailey Avenue	Is disabled and has a Blue Badge. Would this permit use of the bay?	Yes, provided the Blue Badge was correctly displayed. NB an application form has been sent to this resident for a separate application to be made.	Proceed
21	Resident, Hailey Avenue	Agrees with the proposal as it is so difficult for disabled people to park near their homes in the avenue.	Noted	Proceed
22	Resident, Hailey Avenue	Has provided a petition signed by residents objecting to the proposal. In the	The Applicant has a current Blue Badge and has acute walking difficulties, and is	Proceed

		evenings after 5pm it is difficult to park near their houses and they don't know any resident who is so disabled that they need a DPPP. A copy of the petition is attached at Annex 3.	eligible for a DPPP. A letter from the Occupational Therapist, supporting the proposal is also attached at Annex 3.	
DPPP in High Street, Eynsham				
23	Resident, High Street	Agrees to the proposal, but wants able-bodied people to be able to load and unload in the DPPP.	DPPPs are solely for the use of disabled badge holders. This suggestion would put them at a disadvantage.	Proceed
Two DPPPs in Churchill Way, Long Hanborough				
24	Several Residents, Churchill Way	Because of parking congestion on surgery days near the junction with the main road (A4095), proposes the first DPPP should be further away from the main road. Also suggests that double yellow lines be provided at the junction. The other DPPP should be placed in the surgery car park.	The consultation is only about the provision of two DPPPs. The car park is quite small and the surgery confirms that the old ramp here did not give good access for the disabled into the building. The DPPPs have been planned to give the best possible access to the new ramp into the building. There is also a barrier on the pavement outside the surgery near the road junction to prevent people getting out of cars here and onto the pavement.	Proceed
25	Resident, Churchill Way	Agrees with the proposal but wonders if the DPPPs will be enforced.	Parking enforcement is currently being carried out by Thames Valley Police.	Proceed
26	Resident, Churchill Way	Agrees with the proposal but suggests that junction area is double yellow lined to prevent cars parking there.	Double yellow line parking restrictions are outside of the remit of the consultation.	Proceed

30/6/06

Dear Mr Ruse, Annex 3

Please find enclosed a short list (so far) of residents objections for a disabled persons parking place in Hailey Avenue, Chipping Norton OX7 5JG

- Diana Green No 29
- Andy Watson No 37
- Joel Walsc " "
- Adam Scarsbrook 20 h
- Peter Smith 24.

Mr + Mrs Stonehouse 27

Janine Tompkins No. 2 Hill close

As White Horse no 16

S.M. Sandbrook 20.

S. Doherty no. 22

Rob Coore no. 26





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**OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL**

ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY

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Ms D Green
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Chipping Norton
Oxon, OX7 5JG

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Tel: 01865 815700
Fax: 01865 815085

07 July 2006

Direct line: 01865 815978

mike.ruse@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Please ask for: Mike Ruse

Dear Ms Green

Consultation – Proposed Disabled Persons' Parking Place (DPPP) in Hailey Avenue, Chipping Norton

Thank you for the list of residents who wish to object to the above proposal.

As this is a consultation, those people involved need to explain the reasons for the objections in order for the Cabinet Members decisions meeting to consider them objectively.

I would be grateful if you would write to me with the signatures of all the residents involved explaining the reasons before 28 July, and I will include this in the report to the Cabinet Members decisions meeting which will be held in October. The meeting will consider all the comments and suggestions put forward and I will let you know the outcome.

Yours sincerely

Mike Ruse
Technical Assistant (DPPP)
Transport Administration

Richard Dudding
Director for Environment & Economy

Steve Howell
Head of Transport

25.7.06

DIANA GREEN
29 HAILEY AVENUE
CHIPPING NORTON
OXON
OX7 5JG

Dear Mr Ruse

Re Disabled parking Space

In reply to your letter dated 7-7-06
As a resident of Hailey Avenue
for almost 20 years and after
speaking to a few of my neighbour
we fail to recognise any individual
living along Hailey Avenue with
such a serious disability that
they warrant a disabled parking
space.

During the day time it is fairly
easy to park but by 1700 it
is almost impossible to find a
space and some times having to
park on spots at the bottom
of Marshall Close and Hill Close
and thats not always possible.

We are all aware of vandals
and would like to be able to
park our cars as close to our
homes as we can

Please find enclosed a list of resident who have a strong objection to the proposed disabled persons parking place in Hailey Avenue, Chipping Norton

Diana Green No 29

Mr + Mrs Stonehouse No. 27.

1 Cox " 25

MR & MRS ASHLEY 16

S. Doherty 22

Mr + Mrs P Smith No 24

Saet Warsaw 37

Mr + Mrs Searsbrough 20.



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01 August 2006

Direct line: 01865 815978

mike.ruse@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Please ask for: Mike Ruse

Dear Ms Green

Thank you for your letter of 25 July, the contents of which I note.

I can reconfirm that there is a resident in the road that has acute walking difficulties and has a Blue Disabled Badge and is eligible for a Disabled Persons' Parking Place, and has difficulty parking near to home.

However, in view of your comments and the signatures of your neighbours, I will include these in the report to Cabinet Member Decisions meeting which will be held in October and I will let you know the outcome.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike Ruse".

Mike Ruse
Technical Assistant (DPPP)
Transport Administration

Richard Dudding
Director for Environment & Economy

Steve Howell
Head of Transport

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