Divisions affected: N/A

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 25 MARCH 2021

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

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member for Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve the proposed provision of Disabled Persons Parking Places (DPPP) at: Gassons Mead, Alvescot (x2); New Road, Bampton; Bretch Hill, Banbury; Sandford Green, Banbury; Withycombe Drive, Banbury; Lerwick Croft, Bicester; Ashcombe Close, Witney; Woodgreen, Witney and Queen Street, Eynsham.

But defer approval of the proposals at the following locations pending further investigations: Edmunds Road, Banbury; Queens Road, Banbury; Dunkins Close, Bicester; Walterbush Road, Chipping Norton and The Crofts, Witney.

Executive summary

 Provision of Disabled Persons Parking Places is reviewed when requested by members of the public. Specific proposals are assessed applying national regulations and guidance on the suitability of providing new bays or amending or removing existing ones.

Introduction

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

Background

3. 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 objections have been received or concerns raised.

Consultation

4. Formal consultation on the proposals was carried out between 7 January and 5 February 2021. A notice was placed in relevant local newspapers and emails

sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Cherwell and West District Council and local County Councillors. Notices were placed on site and letters sent directly to properties in the immediate vicinity, adjacent to the proposals.

- 5. Thames Valley Police, West Oxfordshire District Council, Witney Town Council, Bicester Town Council and Alvescot Parish Council responded with no objections. An expression of concern was raised by Eynsham Parish Council.
- 6. Twenty-eight responses were received from members of the public during the course of the consultation. These are summarised in the table below:

Town	Location	Support	Object	Concerns
Alvescot	3 & 4 Gassons Mead	1		1
Bampton	New Road	1		1
	53 Bretch Hill			1
	Edmunds Road		1	
Banbury	Queens Road		1	1
	Sandford Green			2
	Withycombe Drive			1
Disaster	Dunkins Close		2	
Bicester	Lerwick Croft		2	
Chipping Norton	Walterbush Road		7	1
	Ashcombe Close			1
Witney	The Crofts		1	
	Woodgreen	3		

7. The responses are recorded at Annex 12 with copies of the full responses available for inspection by County Councillors

Response to objections and other comments

8. Comments and recommendations are provided in response to the concerns and objections as given in Annex12 in respect of each of the proposed site in the following paragraphs.

Alvescot – Gassons Mead – proposed DPPP (x2)

9. One expression of support and one concern was raised about the impact two disabled spaces would have on the problematic parking situation. It is recommended to approve both DPPP's.

10. One expression of support and one of concern was raised. Both had commented on the positioning of the disabled place saying that it should not impinge on any access ways or obstruct the Fire Station. It is recommended to approve this proposal but take into consideration when locating the disabled place not to cause any obstruction.

Banbury - Bretch Hill - proposed DPPP

11. One expression of concern was received commenting that more parking spaces are needed for residents. It is recommended that this proposal is approved.

Banbury - Edmunds Road - proposed DPPP

12. One objection was received over the telephone, expressively objecting on the location of the proposed bay and informing that the applicant is able to walk quite far. It is recommended to defer a decision on this application.

Banbury - Queens Road - proposed formalisation of DPPP

13. One objection and one expression of concern was raised stating that the applicant is not a resident as well as information that the applicant had passed away with concerns also raised that if the informal bay was to become formal it would take up valuable parking in the road. Therefore, it is recommended to carry out an informal consultation on the removal of the bay.

Banbury - Sandford Green - proposed DPPP

14. Two expressions of concern were received. The existing disabled bay is not enforced so it is likely another disabled bay would be abused with a query as well on location. It is recommended that this proposal is approved.

Banbury – Withycombe Drive – proposed DPPP

15. One expression of concern was received citing access to driveway concerns. It is recommended to approve this proposal but take into consideration the location of the bay so as not to inhibit other driveways.

Bicester - Dunkins Close - proposed DPPP

16. Two objections were received. All residents have special needs and struggle to park as the parking situation is a constant problem with commuter parking. It is recommended to defer this proposal and further investigation on 'residents only' parking needs to be considered.

Bicester - Lerwick Croft - proposed DPPP

17. Two objections were received; The location of the disabled bay should be re considered. It is recommended to approve this disabled bay but take into consideration the location of the bay so as not to restrict access to the road.

Chipping Norton – Walterbush Road - proposed DPPP

18. Seven objections and one concern was received. It is on a main bus route and could be problematic for buses; it would obscure vision from the adjacent side road and there is parking available in the car park to the rear of the property. It is recommended to defer this disabled bay but further investigations considered for a disabled bay in the parking area owned by Cottsway Housing.

Witney – Ashcombe Close - proposed DPPP

19. One expression of concern was received. This part of the road acts as a turning area, could double yellow lines be considered along with the disabled bay. It is recommended to approve this disabled bay.

Witney - The Crofts - proposed informal DPPP

20. One objection was received as the placement of the disabled bay would be right outside their property and could have significant detrimental impact on the value and saleability of the property. It is, therefore, recommended to defer this DPPP pending further investigations on a more suitable location.

Witney - Woodgreen - proposed DPPP

21. Two expressions of support were received. It is recommended that this proposal is approved.

Sustainability implications

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

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

23. Funding for the proposed waiting restrictions has been provided from the County Council's revenue budget.

Equalities and Inclusion Implications

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

Corporate Director, Environment and Place

Annexes: Plans of proposed disabled persons parking places to be

removed or provided where an objection or concern on

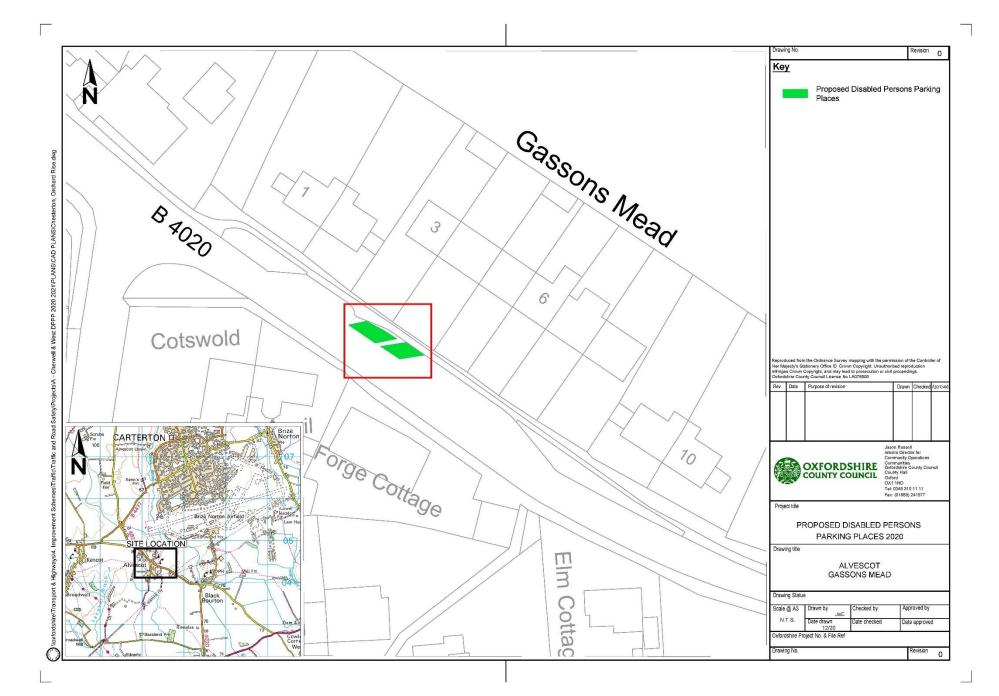
the proposal has been received.

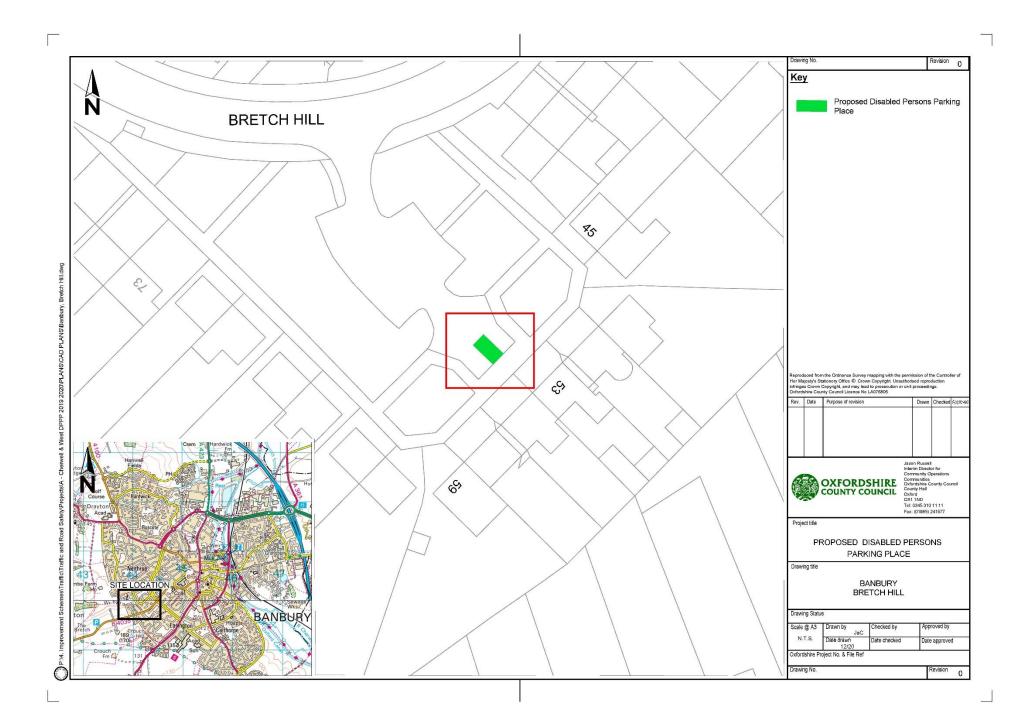
Consultation responses

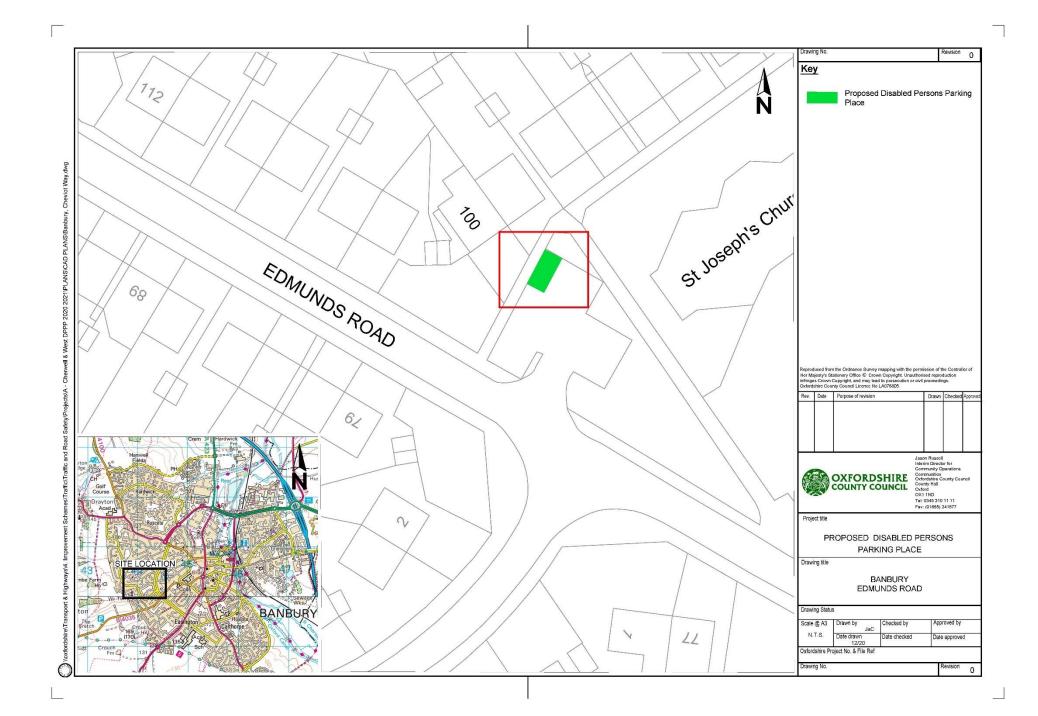
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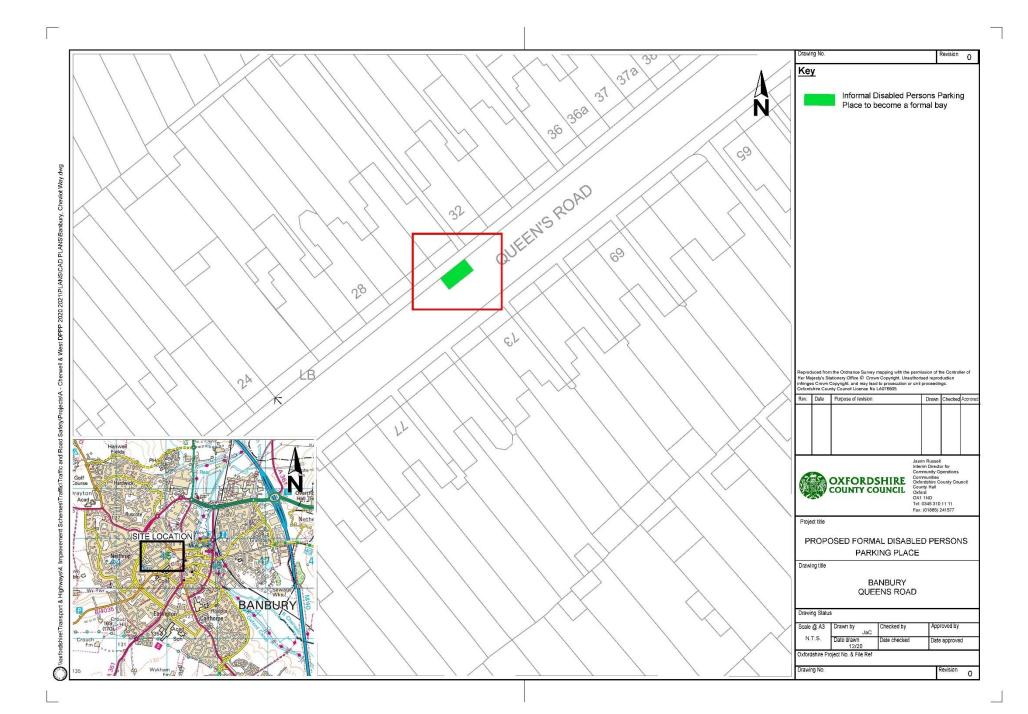
Jane Clark 07545 459107

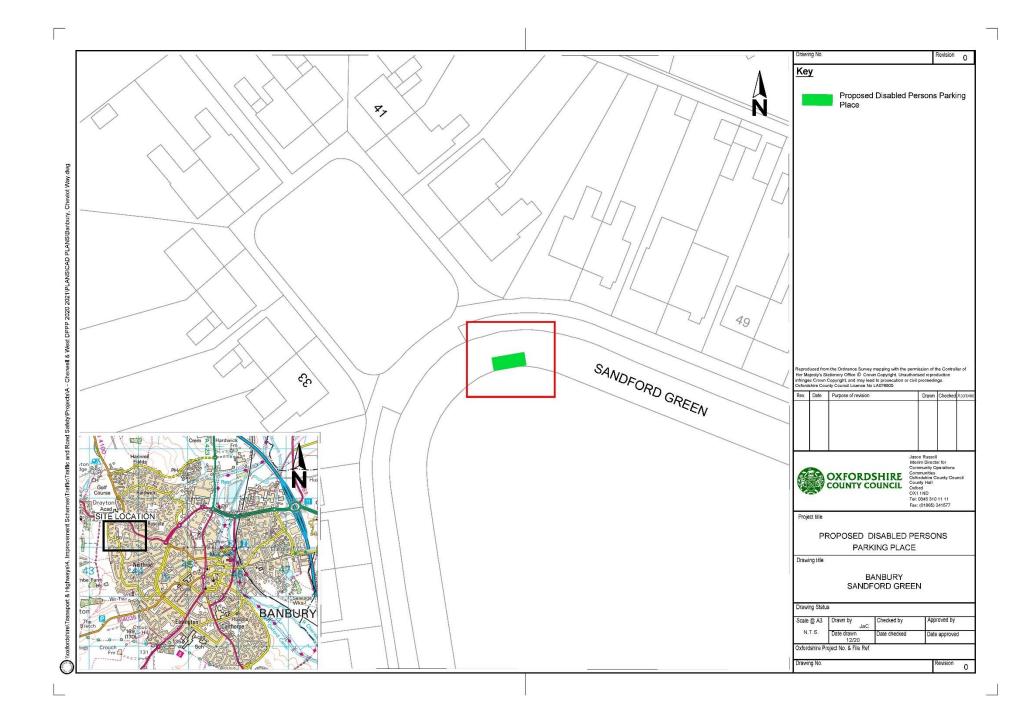
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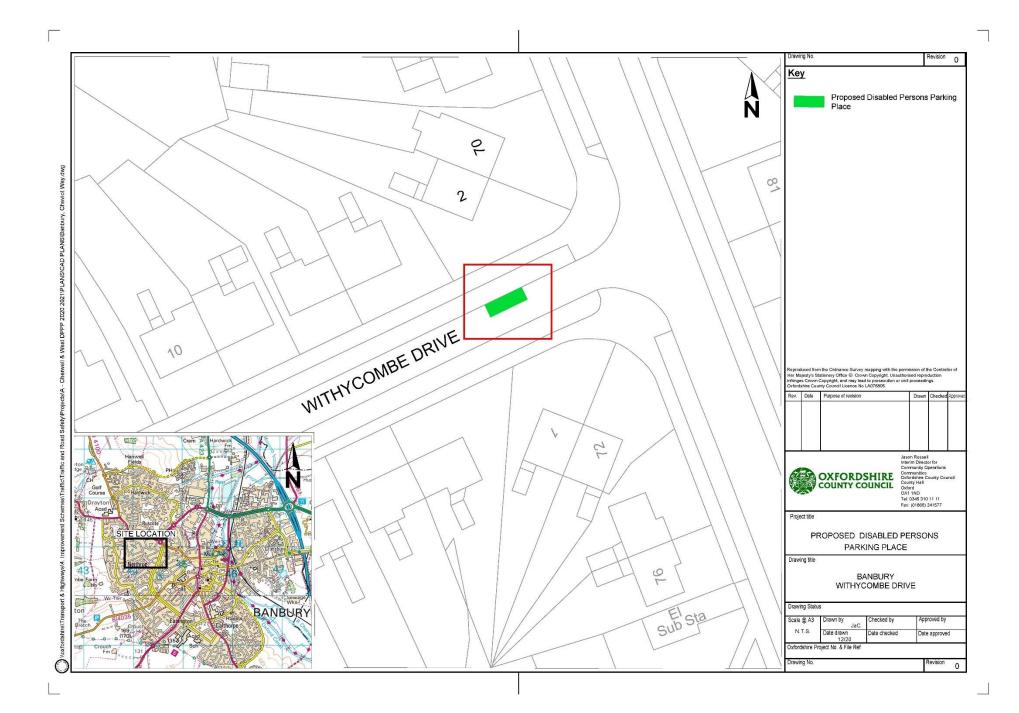


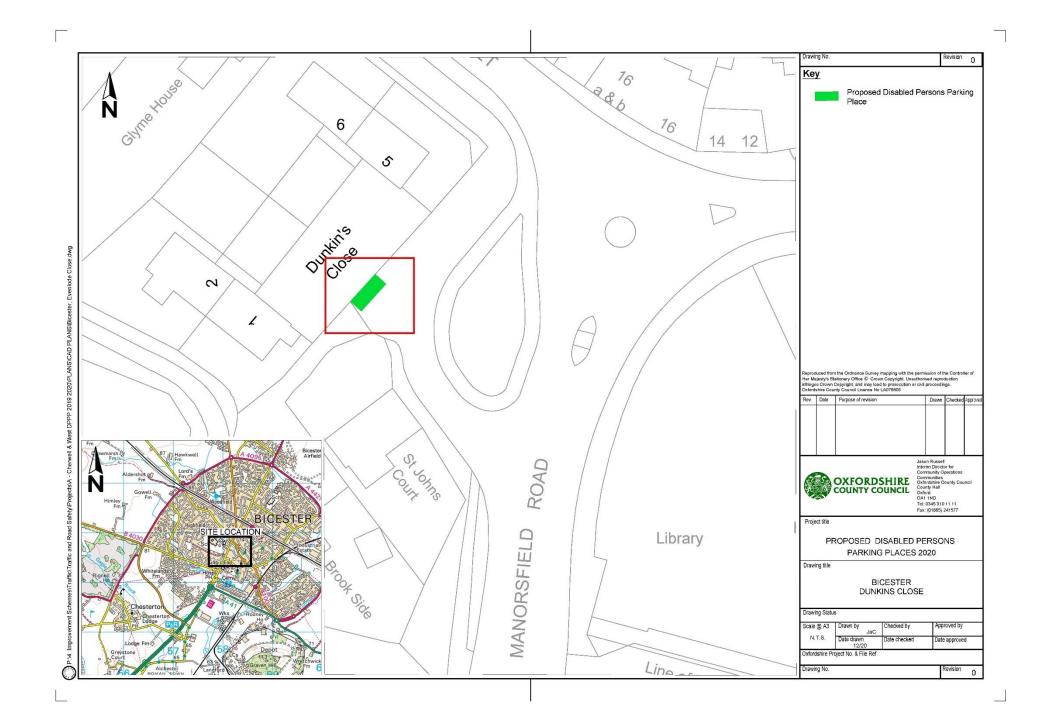


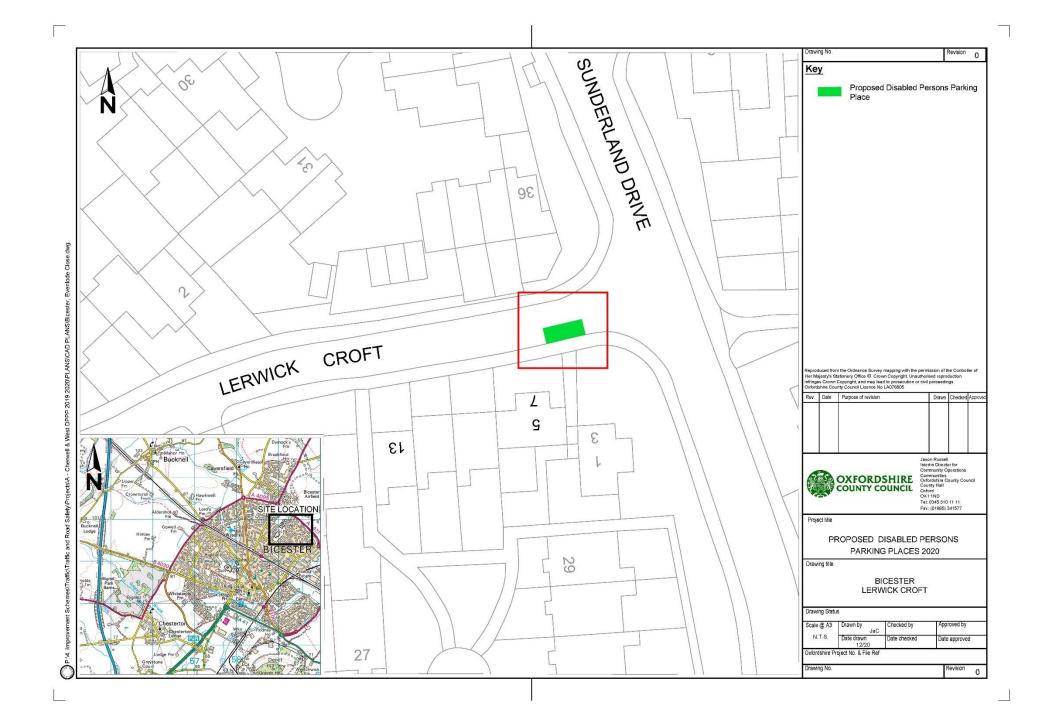


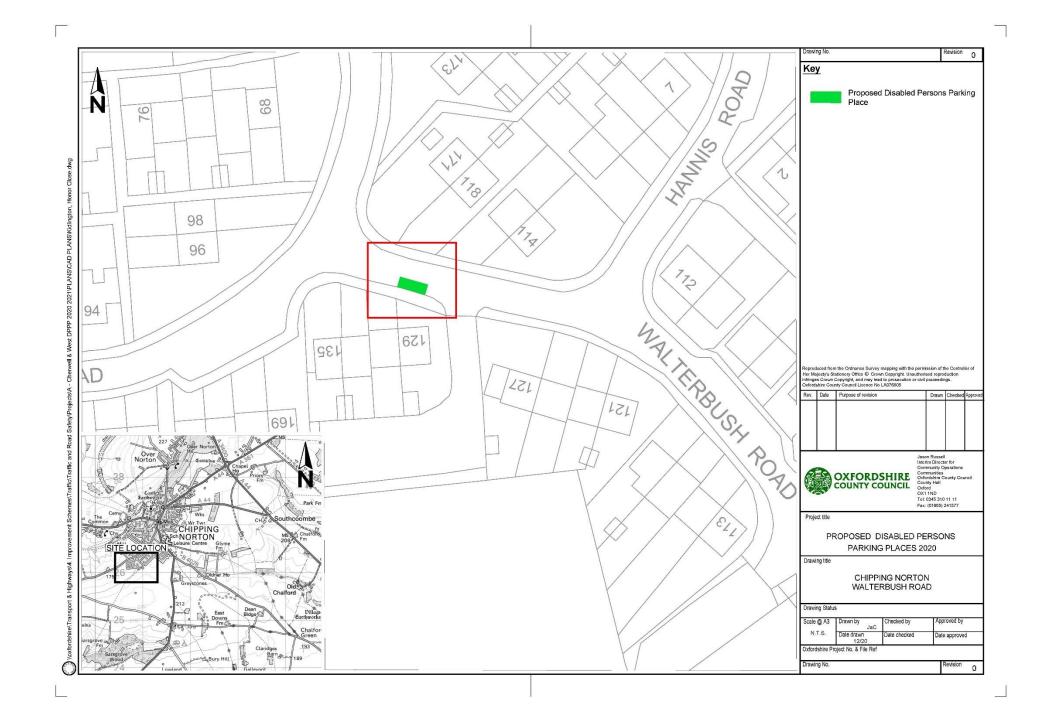


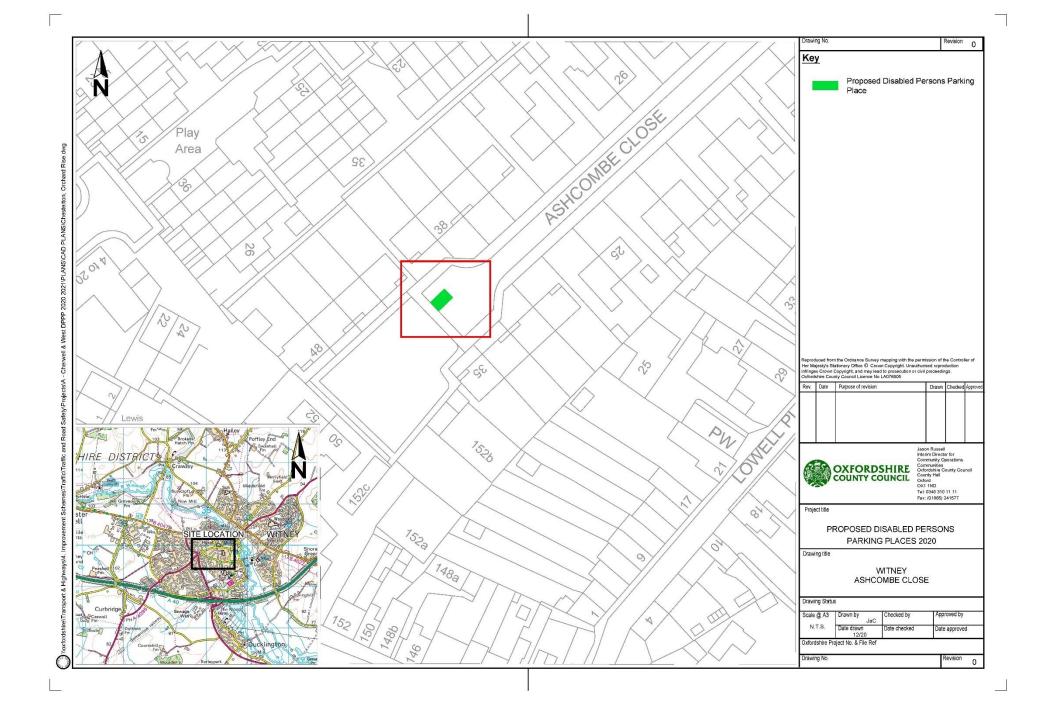














ANNEX 12

RESPONDENT	SUMMARISED COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	No objection
(2) West Oxfordshire District Council	No objection
(3) Witney Town Council	No objection
(4) Bicester Town Council	No objection
(5) Eynsham Parish Council	No objection – but concerns were expressed that the remaining space in between Queens Lane 'keep clear' and number 11 allows for a car to be parked.
(6) Alvescot Parish Council	No objection
Gassons Mead (Alvescot) -	Two proposed new DPPP's
(1) Local Resident, (Alvescot)	Concerns (Gassons Mead) – I am very concerned about the impact this will have on the residents on Gassons Mead. Over the last year, we have had problems with other people parking outside our houses, often leaving residents with nowhere to park. If 2 of these spaces are taken away, the problem will get worse.

	Whilst I understand that there might be someone who would use a disabled bay, I think other things need to be taken into consideration. Where the proposed spaces are to be, there are 2 cars who park across 2-3 spaces and have always done.
	There is a girl who lives opposite in a house with a driveway who always takes up a space, causing real problems. Before she did this, there were no problems. I imagine these spaces have been requested so that the end houses can have guaranteed parking, however I believe that 'residents only' parking would alleviate all problems and make this a much nicer place to live (if this were to be done then 1 disabled space would be fair too).
	I don't wish to be petty, but we all have reasons to be parking outside of our houses and would appreciate the option of residents only parking being considered alongside the disabled spaces.
(2) Local Resident, (Alvescot)	Support (Gassons Mead) - The parking is very difficult along this row, more so for someone who is less a led.
New Road (Bampton) –	· Proposed new DPPP
(3) Local Resident, (Bampton)	Support (Bampton Road) – We support the application; however, it would appear to impinge on the yellow zigzag lines outside the fire station. A resident is intending to apply for access to their property for parking. This may influence the exact positioning of the space.
(4) Local Resident, (Bampton)	Concerns (Bampton Road) – I have no objections but as long as the disabled bay does not block my driveway.
53 Bretch Hill (Banbury)) - Proposed new DPPP
(5) Local Resident, (Banbury)	Concerns (53 Bretch Hill) - If you are going to put more disabled parking in could you please add more parking for normal residents as there are not enough parking spaces as is. If you are not willing to add more spaces, please leave well enough alone as there is not enough space.

(6) Local Resident (Banbury)	Object (Edmunds Road) – I Object to the location of the proposed disabled bay. There are many disabled residents in this road, they would all like disabled parking and it should be (house) numbered, so we all have an allocated parking space. The applicant of the bay can walk to the shops and back. The green, which is adjacent to the parking area could be made into a disabled bay and then it would not affect all the other people that park in the car park. I would like to purchase the area of verge next to my property to turn this into off road parking for our car.
Queens Road (Banbury	v) - <mark>Proposed informal DPPP to be made formal</mark>
(7) Local Resident (Banbury)	Object (Queens Road) - I live in Queens road and I have to raise an objection, because the person this is related to is not a Queens road resident but a visitor though on a regular basis, also this person is not wheelchair bound and is able to walk freely, though with an impediment. I just feel that with parking in Queens road at such a premium, it's grossly unfair on other residents like myself, currently a keyworker doing late shifts and struggling to find a parking space after 10 at night. I strongly object to this proposal, this might be different if the person was to become a permanent resident.
(8) Local Resident (Banbury)	Concerns (Queens Road) - George Thomas (the applicant) died before Christmas, the space is now not used as the son keeps his car in a garage in Gillett Road. His lady friend sometimes uses it to unload when she visits from Lincolnshire (she is not resident here) but other than that it stands empty. This is a street of Victorian terraced houses, with on-street parking, and as it stands there are nowhere near enough spaces in Queen's Road for the number of car which are resident here; this results in us needing to park in neighbouring roads. It seems unkind to the other residents - many of whom have small children and would prefer to be able to park in the same postcode - to keep the space as i isn't being used for disabled parking.
Sandford Green (Banbu	ury) - Proposed new DPPP
(9) Local Resident (Banbury)	Concerns (Sandford Green) – It would be better if you enforced the current illegal parking in the disabled bay. We have phoned the council several times as I have a blue badge and can never get in the disabled bay. Two cars that do not have a blue badge park in them. I struggle to walk back home since I have to park somewhere else and sometime it's a struggle to even get back. I can never get in the disabled bay please enforce this illegal parking

(10) Local Resident (Banbury)	Concerns (Sandford Green) I am not a person that drives and don't have a driveway I was firstly wondering if that's why opposite my house has been chosen. Secondly, I have no qualms about this it's just that at weekends it's very busy with vehicles and hard for anybody including my family have a job to park. On the opposite side of the green to me is a caravan, been parked there for some years on the road which to my way of thinking it's taking up a parking space. The grass verge outside my house is a mess where cars have been parking since I've lived here nine years ago now and it's just a mess because there's no parking spaces on the road although I do not own the house I still have to look at the mess of mud and water.
Withycombe Drive (Ban	bury) - Proposed new DPPP
(11) Local Resident (Banbury)	Concerns (Withycombe Drive) - I am just concerned re access to our driveway. We get cars parked here that do not belong to anyone living on Withycombe Drive. Also, the people who live opposite no longer have a car or is it for relatives to park when visiting. I am not for or against
Dunkins Close (Biceste	r) - Proposed new DPPP
(12) Local Resident (Bicester)	Objects (Dunkins Close) - I am replying to your letter with regard to the above with my rejection to this matter Dunkins Close has 6 houses for the over 50s and they all have someone with a special need and have a constant daily problem parking at our home as we have to compete with the whole town. As Dunkins Close is used like a free carpark by the public, the Travelodge, a 24hour gym and other local businesses. I would like to invite you to come to Dunkins close and see the reality for yourself the daily problem we face. I myself work sometimes 16 hour shifts and have come home to find that I cannot park at my home and have had to park in a carpark away from my home sometime late at night.
(13) Local Resident (Bicester)	Objects (Dunkins Close) - Thank you for your email in response to the issue of parking. Apologies, I didn't realise that one resident had requested a designated parking space; wasn't aware you could do that. Although I do not think it is the resident himself raising the issue, more likely the care agency who send in a variety of staff to look after him. And although I have every empathy for him, his carers have no more difficulty finding a parking space than the rest of us

Lerwick Croft (Bicester)	- Proposed new DPPP
(14) Local Resident (Bicester)	Object (Lerwick Croft) - Whilst I am empathetic to the needs of the disabled residents I must object to this parking. We are a four adult, four car household. We park at least 2 of our cars, sometimes, 3 in the communal parking. I know the spaces on the road are communal, so no one owns them. I make no claim over the one outside my house. Currently the parking works amicably between neighbours. I feel this would also damage those relationships. I work from home at said window and watch as large vehicles attempt to get into our road. There is not sufficient turning space to get them in without mounting the pavement. The turn is not big enough, I witness several near misses each week. Again, if you block these spaces, which are partially in the way already, people will park on the corner. Someone has today. The poor binmen have the devil's own job getting to the bins. Heaven forbid we should need an ambulance or fire engine! It's so dangerous. Perhaps you could consider putting the spaces out the back and giving access to these individuals to their homes from the rear of their properties? Please let me know the progress of this as I may need to take legal advice. Please do not just plonk them there without any further notice. I have now seen the plans. It is not outside my house directly, however, I still think this is dangerous. Has anyone asked the waste refuse people? The lorries are mounting the kerb to enter the road, several each day. Can the space not be put on the main road? This would not be on obstruction and would allow people to see?
(15) Local Resident (Bicester)	Object (Lerwick Croft) - The disabled plan showing the new disabled space is placed where I normally would park as this is the first available space on that road and closest to my flat. Is it possible to move the new disabled parking spot one space forward so that it's in front of the house needing it (5&7) so that I am still able to park at the beginning of the road entrance?
Walterbush Road (Chipp	ping Norton) - Proposed new DPPP
(16) Local Resident (Chipping Norton)	Objects (Walterbush Road) - I am writing to objected to the disabled person parking place on Walterbush Road, Chipping Norton, the road is on a main bus route and due to existing residents parking it would make it very difficult for the bus. The person in question has existing parking to the rear of the house, which is no further walk than the proposed plan. There are two driveways opposite were the disabled parking would go, so it would make it difficult for the two residents to enter their driveways. The person in question has a nice safe parking place in the car park at the back of her house.

(17) Local Resident (Chipping Norton)	Objects (Walterbush Road) - I won't be able to see what is coming up the road when pulling out of the car park by the side of the house, it's a bus route and they have trouble getting through a lot of the time with the cars parked on the opposite side of the road, the persons who have applied for this proposal parks their car out the back of their home in a small car park and the car hardly ever moves! Also, there is hardly any difference walking to the car if it was parked out the front than where it sits now out the back of the houses right opposite their back gates.
(18) Local Resident (Chipping Norton)	Objects (Walterbush Road) - Looking at the plan it appears that the proposed space is to be at the front of the property and therefore on the road. It is adjacent to an entrance to off road parking, used by residents from 129, 131, 133, and 135 Walterbush and others and may impede access and vision. It is a main bus route and already has issues for larger vehicles due to a number of cars parking on both sides of the road. Whilst I understand the need for people to be able to access their property by the safest means, in my opinion it may be a hazard to create this space on the road. Continuing to park at the back of the property might be safest option with appropriate rails etc. to support access if necessary. In my role as a Manager for Age Concern I fully understand the needs of others and would be happy to be contacted if it's appropriate.
(19) Local Resident (Chipping Norton)	Objects (Walterbush Road) – This parking space will obstruct the line of sight for many vehicles leaving the existing car parking area on the other side of these addresses. It is also on a Bus route at a very narrow part of Walterbush road, the S3 route to Oxford, every Hour. This Bus route is an essential for other people in this area of Chipping Norton who use it to go to the town and Medical Centre. There is an existing car parking area here already.
(20) Local Resident (Chipping Norton)	Objects (Walterbush Road) - The proposed parking is on a main bus route and will cause an obstruction with the vehicles that park outside their houses opposite. Also, the applicant parks her car in a carpark to the rear of the property. if planning is granted it will be an obstruction of vision when leaving the car park that is behind the property.
(21) Local Resident (Chipping Norton)	Objects (Walterbush Road) - There are many vehicles that use the opposite side of the road to the proposed disabled parking space which would lead to much congestion. There are already not enough car spaces in this area. Problems already occur for the buses that try to get through, I feel this would lead to much more. I think it would be a Good idea if you were to view this road and see for yourselves just how busy it gets.
(22) Local Resident (Chipping Norton)	Objects (Walterbush Road) - There is a carpark behind the address. The person at the address is able to walk up the hill (50meters) to the bus stop and she is also able to walk from her back door (the door she uses to access her house as she does not use her front door) to her car currently parked behind her house. The road is also a bus route and with the cars that park on the road at the moment allow the bus to pass but the proposed spot for the parking would disrupt the bus and other people who need to park on the road too.
(23) Local Resident (Chipping Norton)	Objects (Walterbush Road) - I object to the above proposal because the proposed area is on a main bus route, parking on that road is already very tight meaning the bus often can't pass parked cars. The occupant has parking to the rear of the house, more than one space and it is opposite a dropped kerb driveway.

Ashcombe Close (Witney) - Proposed new DPPP

(24) Local Resident (Witney)

Concerns (Ashcombe Close) - I am assuming this is for the use of the resident at 44, and can see that such a place will be beneficial. That end of the road (nearest to Corn St.) functions as a turning space as well as parking. The pavement on either side curves into that parking space (for 5 vehicles) but is often used for parking as well. This practice can make turning very difficult, if not impossible especially for large service vehicles, such as ambulances, or fire engines. So, my suggestion is that at the same time as marking the disabled parking space, yellow lines be put on those end curves to forbid parking. I would be interested to know if that can be considered.

The Crofts (Witney) - Proposed new DPPP

Objects (The

Objects (The Crofts) - We would like to raise an objection to the proposed placement for the informal disabled person parking place outside our property. This section of The Crofts, where the parking place has been proposed, has no driveways and is only wide enough to accommodate parking on one side. As a result, parking places are extremely limited for all residents who live on this section of the street.

(25) Local Resident (Witney)

We are understanding of and sympathetic to the request for the disabled persons parking place, however we are concerned that placing it directly and solely outside our property would have significant detrimental impact on the value of our property. While we recognise that this is an informal space and unenforceable, we are concerned that any prospective buyers might feel they could never park immediately outside the house, on a street where parking is already extremely challenging. We feel that being unable to park close to the property would create difficulties for any young and growing family.

We would therefore suggest that the informal disabled persons parking space be placed immediately opposite 47 The Crofts, whose residents will benefit most directly from this parking space.

Could we also take this opportunity to make further suggestions for this section of The Crofts - That you implement a residents-only parking scheme. The street is often used by commuters to workplaces on Corn Street (more noticeable pre-Covid 19) and we believe the upcoming changes on Corn Street will exacerbate this situation. That you put in place traffic calming measures for this section of the road. As you will be aware residents from 45-51 open their front doors directly onto the road (with no pavement), and several cars drive extremely fast past these houses. This makes both the residents and us as their neighbours feel very unsafe and we are concerned that it is only a matter of time

	before there is an accident on this section of the road.
Woodgreen (Witney) - F	Proposed new DPPP
(26) Local Resident (Witney)	Support (Woodgreen) - I fully support the proposal for a disabled parking bay outside the gates of Holy Trinity thus enabling people easier access to the church, both for regular services and weddings and funerals.
(27) Local Resident (Witney)	Support (Woodgreen) - A Disabled parking space is essential outside Holy Trinity Church Woodgreen, as we usually have a number of people with physical impairments or disabilities attend services and other events. There is currently no appropriate parking to enable close proximity to the church, so this parking space is absolutely essential.
(28) Local Resident (Witney)	Support (Woodgreen) - The disabled parking space outside Holy Trinity is needed because the church has an aging congregation, several of whom are registered disabled. At the moment they often have to park on yellow lines, as residents are using the available spaces. This is clearly not desirable as the yellow lines are primarily there to stop vehicles parking usually because of safety concerns and visibility. A dedicated disabled space by the church gates will make it easier for both the disabled members and safer for all.