Divisions affected: Jericho & Osney

DELEGATED DECISIONS BY CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT

27 FEBRUARY 2025

OXFORD: GREAT CLARENDON STREET – PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO PARKING PLACES

Report by Director of Environment and Highways

RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member is RECOMMENDED to:

a) Approve the extension of the existing 'Pay & Display' parking bay (8.00am - 10.00pm Monday to Saturday all day Sunday) on Great Clarendon Street in Oxford, as advertised.

Executive Summary

1. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation on proposals to Extend the existing 'Pay & Display' parking bay (8.00am - 10.00pm Monday to Saturday all day Sunday) on the northwest side Of Great Clarendon Street, adjacent to the 'Play Area' - for an additional 11 metres southwestwards, towards the junction with Hart Street, which replaces a historic 'Oxford Car Pool Club' bay which is no longer in use, and has not been appropriately signed for some time, as shown in **Annex 1**.

Financial Implications

2. Funding for consultation on the proposals (and implementation if approved) has been provided by the County Councils revenue budget.

Legal Implications

3. The consultation that has been undertaken complies with the consultation requirements for the various elements as required by law including under the Highways Act 1980, the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and any other relevant legislation.

4. The scheme has been promoted by Oxfordshire County Council as the Highway Authority and Traffic Authority under the Highways Act 1984.

Comments checked by: Jennifer Crouch (Head of Law - Environmental) Jennifer.Crouch @oxfordshire.gov.uk

Equality and Inclusion Implications

5. No implications in respect of equalities or inclusion have been identified in respect of the proposals.

Sustainability Implications

6. The proposals will provide additional parking capacity (effectively allow a further two vehicles to park legitimately) adjacent to a local green space, whilst also formally removing the redundant 'Car-pool Club' parking bay, which has not been utilised for its original intended use for a number of years.

Formal Consultation

- 7. Formal consultation was carried out between 25 April and 24 May 2024. A notice was published in the Oxford Times newspaper, and an email sent to statutory consultees & key-stakeholders, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Bus operators, countywide transport/access & disabled peoples user groups, Oxford City Council, local City Cllr's, and the local County Councillor representing the Jericho & Osney division. Public notices were also placed on site adjacent to the proposals.
- 8. Six responses were received during the public consultation, with Thames Valley Police & the 'GoAhead Group' (local transport operator) not objecting to the proposals.
- 9. The local County Councillor representing the Jericho & Osney division objected on the basis that since increases to on-street parking charges in Jericho the existing spaces were always empty, and as such would be a waste of money to add more spaces. The Cllr felt that Officers should contact local car-club operators to see if more car-club cars could be placed.
- 10. A local group representing Oxford pedestrians, whilst not specifically objecting, did feel that the site being next to a school and in the middle of a community would be much better suited to house pedal-cycle & E-scooter parking.
- 11. Finally, two local residents responded with one fully supporting the proposal, and the other partially supporting, stating that they felt the parking bay would better serve the local community by allowing for 'shared-use' parking i.e. resident permit holders and/or pay & display parking.

12. The full responses are shown in **Annex 2**, and copies of the original responses are available for inspection by County Councillors. Any comments received that contain personal abuse and/or other personal information will be redacted as appropriate.

Officer Response to Objections/Concerns

- 13. Following a report from the Parking Enforcement Team about their inability to enforce this bay due to an anomaly with the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) and road markings/signage, officers investigated the discrepancy
- 14. Several years ago, a TRO designated this two-space bay for 'Oxford Car Pool Club Vehicles.' However, whilst officers cannot determine the exact history of this restriction, it appears that the correct signage and road markings were never implemented to support the bay. As a result, this area has remained 'unrestricted and unenforceable' for many years.
- 15. To rectify this anomaly, a decision was made to extend the existing pay-and-display parking bay. This approach ensures consistency with the current restrictions in the area and allows for enforcement under an amended TRO.
- 16. Car club bays are typically requested by an operator and approved by the County Council with the car club spaces set by those commercial enterprises. For this particular bay, no operator has agreed to promote a pool vehicle, so an amendment to revert the space to pay-and-display has been proposed.
- 17. The County Council is adopting a new approach for car club vehicles by promoting a zonal-based car club. This provides greater flexibility for both the operator and the County Council when implementing a car club vehicle within a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) or area, eliminating the need for further TRO or line and sign amendments if an operator removes their vehicle from the area.

Paul Fermer Director of Environment and Highways

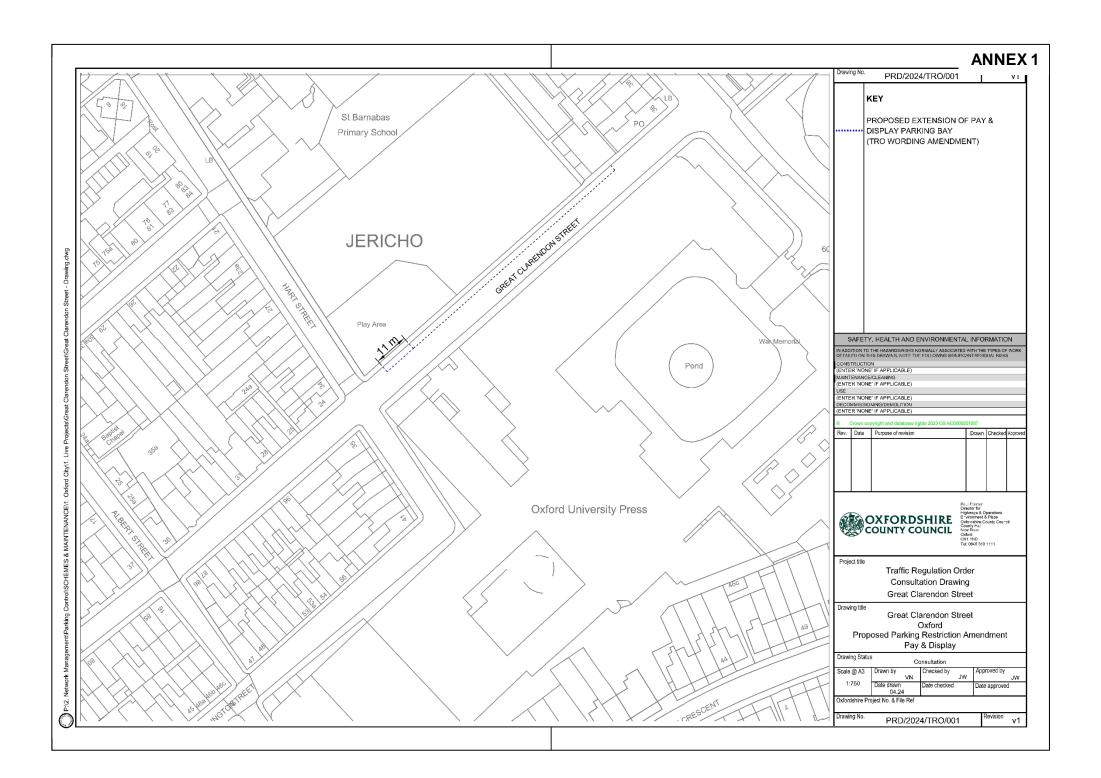
Annexes Annex 1: Consultation plan

Annex 2: Consultation responses

Contact Officers: Vicki Neville (Senior Officer – Civil Enforcement Schemes)

James Whiting (Team Leader – TRO & Schemes)

February 2025



Respondent	COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	No objection
(2) Managing Director, (GoAhead Group)	No objection – no issues from our side with this proposal.
(3) Local County Cllr, (Jericho & Osney division)	Object – I'm opposed to this proposal. Since the County Council massively increased the on-street parking charges in Jericho (as if it was part of the city centre!), the existing spaces are always empty. It would be a ridiculous waste of money to add more spaces. Please will officers contact Co-Wheels and arrange for more e-car club cars to be placed there? I know Co-Wheels are keen to expand in Oxford, including in Jericho. This is an obvious way to reduce the number of cars in the City, which is supposed to be our policy.
(4) Oxford Pedestrians Association	Object – This site is right next to a school and in the middle of a community - OxPA proposes that instead of the two car parking bays proposed that the spaces are used for bicycle and e scooter parking, meaning cycle and e scooter parking could be removed from the pavements on Walton Street.
(5) Local resident, (Oxford, Walton Street)	Partially support – I think it should be a space allocated to local permit, and/or pay and display. NOT, sole use as pay & display.
(6) Local resident, (Oxford, Cranham Street)	Support – Good thinking