

I realise it is very close to tomorrow's delegated decision meeting on Item 9/26: Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Place (DPPP), Coulings Close, East Hendred (South and Vale 2025 programme), and I sincerely apologise for the short notice. As one of the objectors (Objection 35, submitted during consultation), alongside four other objections and one concern from Coulings Close residents, I respectfully urge you to refuse this proposal at the specified location or defer the decision until the issues below are addressed. I would be grateful if these points could be raised with the Cabinet Member ahead of or during the meeting.

1. Disproportionate Impact on Limited Parking and Property Rights

Coulings Close is a short residential cul-de-sac where four properties currently share four on-street spaces under a stable, informal arrangement that has worked for years without conflict. The proposed DPPP - with its required markings and 1.2m clearance zones - would reduce usable capacity to three spaces, displacing vehicles further down the road and exacerbating pressure for multi-car households. Furthermore, **several residents in the cul-de-sac are Blue Badge holders, and introducing a single DPPP that reduces the number of available spaces would in practice impair, rather than improve, their ability to park close to their homes.**

Critically, the bay sits directly outside our freehold property (the only one in the immediate area), blocking our pending dropped-kerb application (submitted to highways, and now approved by the local council). This frustrates our efforts to create off-street parking, penalising us severely while effectively gifting a dedicated space to one household. Several nearby homes have unused driveways yet park on-street, compounding the unfairness.

2. Questionable Policy Fit and Limited Public Benefit

Oxfordshire's DPPP policy requires evidence of "genuine difficulty" parking near home, with no suitable off-street alternative, and bays must serve all Blue Badge holders as public infrastructure, not function as de facto reserved spaces. Here, the **applicant has no apparent access barriers** (e.g., easy vehicle entry/exit). Coulings Close has no shops, services, or through-traffic, so demand is negligible beyond immediate residents. This proposal delivers no wider public benefit, risks perceptions of bias (one household gains at others' expense), and undermines the council's equality duties under the Equalities Act 2010.

3. Wasteful Use of Resources and Community Harm

Installing signage, markings, and road works (amid needed full resurfacing) represents poor value for taxpayers when alternatives exist. **Formalising the bay would disrupt our cooperative community**, risking unrest in an area with existing disabled residents who manage without dedicated bays.

We fully support accessibility but request:

- Refusal at this location, or
- Deferral pending an officer review of alternative sites nearby that spread impact fairly.

Thank you for raising these points despite the timing. I am available to provide photos, plans, or further detail.