

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT TO DORDON PARISH COUNCIL

DATE: JULY 20th, 2021

1. Public consultations and surveys – Off Street parking, School parking [WCC]
2. LOCAL PLAN - Inspectors report just received
3. Polesworth Leisure Centre
4. COVID update

1 Public consultations and surveys

Off street parking– The Borough Council is proposing to introduce variable charges and waiting times for the car parks which it owns and operates. They hope to raise around £166000 income and offset some of the costs of maintaining these car parks.

They are consulting for 3 weeks [closing date 5 pm 29th July] on the **revised schedule for individual car parks – not on the principle of charging** - the decision to introduce a revised Parking Order and Schedule was taken at the June Resources Board. The Council states that they will be working with the County Council on Civil Parking Enforcement “to manage displacement of cars into residential areas”

- 1 https://www.northwarks.gov.uk/download/meetings/id/2399/download_the_agenda_reports_and_appendices

Details of the schedules for Long Street and Derek Avenue car parks can be found on these links: -

https://www.northwarks.gov.uk/downloads/file/8751/notice_of_proposal_-_plans_-_2021

https://www.northwarks.gov.uk/info/20172/parking/1571/parking_places_order

No parking charges are proposed- but the **maximum waiting times permitted are different** – max stay proposed is 14 hours for Long Street and 24 hours for Derek Avenue

We are preparing our response to this consultation and would welcome the views of Parish Councillors on whether or not:-

- a) Long Street car park should also have a maximum stay of 24 hours because residents of Long Street use this car park to park their cars
- b) Derek Avenue car park should become a “permit only “car park for residents of Derek Avenue and Long Street. [Residents have complained to us that they do not have space to park their cars because others are using it]
- c) The Parish Council intends to send in a response?

Finally, we are concerned that

- the charging schedules proposed for Atherstone – in particular the proposal to charge families who use Atherstone Leisure Centre and Memorial Hall £ 1 .00 after the first free hour,
- the needs of people who commute from Atherstone station appear to have been ignored
- all car park users will be expected to get a ticket even if they are only using the car park for one hour.

2. School Parking survey WCC is undertaking a review of parking outside Warwickshire s schools – and inviting parents and residents to reply.

Robert Beggs NWBC has asked for this survey to be promoted – see message and press release below.

Dear Councillors please see below information about a road safety survey regarding school parking. Please cascade as appropriate through your networks.

Survey closes 30 July 2021.

Thanks Robert Beggs

PRESS RELEASE

Have your say on school parking in Warwickshire

Inconsiderate, unsafe and illegal parking around schools is an ongoing concern for Headteachers, parents/carers and residents and puts the safety of children, and others, at risk. Partners and organisations are working together to review parking issues outside schools to greater understand and address the problems schools, parents, and the wider community experience.

Partners would like to invite you as a parent or carer, school or local resident to participate in a (5 minute) school parking survey. All responses, which will remain anonymous, will be analysed, and used by partners to identify the specific issues and safety concerns that arise from it. Feedback will help focus efforts, and shape future initiatives to address unsafe and inconsiderate school parking, helping to make the roads outside and around Warwickshire schools safer.

Cllr Wallace Redford, Warwickshire County Council's portfolio holder for Transport and Planning, said: "We recognise that there can be a variety of different problems with parking at our schools across Warwickshire. We are very keen to hear from Headteachers, parents, carers and residents about the problems that they are experiencing in their areas to help us better prioritise our resources to make things better."

Rugby Safer Neighbourhood team Inspector Sally Bunyard-Spiers said "School parking is a challenge around the county, with schools having a range of different problems. Inviting schools, residents, parents and carers to share their views on school parking will allow partners to understand the problem in more detail and target initiatives to where there is a need."

This is your opportunity to share your thoughts, ideas, and concerns about inconsiderate, unsafe and illegal parking, outside and around local Warwickshire schools.

Share your thoughts and have your say!

To take part in the surveys follow the links:

Headteachers: <https://forms.office.com/r/acaPmtW5R3>

Parents/ Carers: <https://forms.office.com/r/jeWYQCC50S>

Residents: <https://forms.office.com/r/fcKxv1W8Hd>

3. LOCAL PLAN

A copy of the Inspectors report has just been emailed [today 12 am] to Borough councillors
It will shortly be published on the NWBC website.

The Inspector concludes **that the North Warwickshire Local Plan provides an appropriate basis for the planning of the Borough providing that a number of Main Modifications [MMs] are made to it.**

There are 14 of these MMs – eg

“Clarify how all forms of infrastructure will be delivered “ ;

Clarify the purpose and application of policy LP5 Strategic Gap consistent with its justification

Include clear triggers for bringing reserve sites forward and parameters that would result in need to review the plan

We can probably assume that this plan will go for adoption in September. We need more time to fully understand the implications of this report and to discuss with the Parish Council / Neighbourhood planning group.

4 Polesworth Leisure Centre – will be closed over the summer period due to building works at the school. The Borough Council is currently trying to find ways of offering some of services and activities elsewhere.

5 COVID UPDATE

Rates of COVID infection in the Borough have increased rapidly since our last report in June – from 36/100000 to 697 /100000 [last week] . We are now a “hotspot” compared with the rest of the County.

Although hospital admissions and deaths remain low compared with the winter months, nationally **more** deaths have occurred in persons over the age of 50 who have received 2 vaccinations than in those who have not been vaccinated.

