

WHEATLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PARKING SURVEY March – April 2017

1. Introduction

As a result of a straw poll held in May 2016, parking was identified by Wheatley residents as being of major concern to them. It was therefore decided to conduct this survey to identify the locations of parking problems and where possible to determine the nature of the problem. Then to come up with possible solutions.

2. Location of parking problems

The following locations were identified as having parking issues, either that people were having difficulty in finding a space or that parking was causing problems to traffic flow and in some cases danger to pedestrians.

2.1 Church Road from Friday Lane to Holloway Road junction

2.2 Church Road from Holloway Road to the Sun Inn

2.3 High Street:

In the vicinity of the pharmacy

Between Holloway Road/Station Road to Bell Lane

In front of the shops

From the shops to Crown Square

2.4 Littleworth Road in front of the Primary School

2.5 The eastern length of London Road

2.6 Old London Road

2.7 Park Hill

3. The Process

3.1 It was decided to conduct counts of parking in both Church Road, to include the SODC car park and the Merry Bells car park and the High Street at 8.30am, 12.30pm and 6.30pm, except outside the shops where the count was made every hour.

3.2 Parking outside the Primary School was not monitored as it was quite clear that there is a need for off road parking at peak times.

Similarly no count was made of parking in Old London Road as the problem is primarily due to students from OBU parking their cars during term time.

3.3 The eastern end of London Road and Park Hill were not investigated in depth but there is a growing problem particularly at Park Hill caused by people leaving their cars all day and taking buses to Oxford.

Where possible we asked residents and small businesses which of the registration numbers in the survey area were of vehicles belonging to them.

4. Survey Results

Detailed reports of the parking surveys conducted in both Church Road and associated car parks and the High Street follow:

Church Road

The study was conducted for 3 days (Friday 24th, Monday 27th and Wednesday 30th March).
For the purposes of making the analysis easier the road was divided up into 5 sectors:

East 1 – from the Kings Arms to the Merry Bells car park(DH)

Merry Bells car park – (DH)

East 2 – from the Merry Bells car park to the SODC car park(DH)

SODC car park (DM)

West - SODC car park to the Sun Inn (DM)

1. Vehicles parked all day – every survey day

Area	East 1	M. Bells (CP)	East 2	SODC (CP)	West
Number	-	1	-	5	4

2. Vehicles parked for the whole of the day being surveyed, but NOT every day

Area	Friday 24 th	Monday 27 th	Wednesday 29 th
East	1	5	3
M. Bells (CP)	5	3	3
East 2	1	3	3
SODC (CP)	2	1	-
West	10	6	6
Total	19	18	15

The figures for the West area are high because the local tyre replacement company regularly parks its 4 vans in this area when not in use.

In addition to these tables are detailed records of all vehicle registrations recorded for each and every area and for each of 3 times the counts were made. These are currently being held by David Harverson.

3. Vehicles parked every day or on one or more occasions each and every day not included in table 2 above

Area	East 1	M. Bells (CP)	East 2	SODC(CP)	West
Number	3	11	6	2	10

4. Total number of registrations numbers counted by area and day of count

Area	Friday 24 th	Monday 27 th	Wednesday 29 th
East 1	8	6	7
M. Bells (CP)	54	65	49
East 2	27	33	40
SODC(CP)	44	36	33
West	29	34	40

5. Summary of free parking spaces

East 1	plenty of spaces at all counts
Merry Bells Car Park	generally full at 8.30am, otherwise 1-3 spaces available
East 2	3-4 spaces usually available

SODC (CP) and West

Area SODC (CP)	Friday 24th	Monday 27th	Wednesday 29th
8.30am	10	15	18
12.30	6	11	5
6.30pm	Full	12	2

Rec Area	Friday 24th	Monday 27th	Wednesday 29th
8.30am	6	6	7
12.30	4	Full	7
6.30pm	11	10	10

6 Vans parked in Recreation Ground area

8.30am	5	5	6
12.30pm	2	4	2
6.30pm	6	4	6

High Street

PARKING SURVEY SUMMARY

SCOPE

The survey was undertaken to establish empirical data regarding car parking in the area of the High Street primarily to inform and provide evidence to the Wheatley Neighbourhood Plan team and to provide support information to the High Street Improvement group set up by Wheatley Parish Council.

The results provide a snapshot of parking activity on the specific days included in the survey and whilst the recording is accurate the results should not be construed as scientific. However, we believe that the recorded figures provide a clear indication of overall parking trends within the surveyed area.

SUB GROUPS

This group and its report dealt specifically with the High Street. Other sub groups have produced reports on Church Rd (to include the SODC carpark) and the Merry Bells Car Park.

METHOD

The High Street was divided into four areas

- 1) AREA 1: Bell Lane to Station Road
- 2) AREA 2: Station Road to The Manor House
- 3) AREA 3: Bottom of Mulberry drive /Crown Square, High street from Friday Lane to New Post Office
- 4) AREA 4: In front of the shops and that opposite in front of Ochre, Snobby Dogs, Cinnamons restaurant and WOK one

Counts were carried out on three days of a single week (Mon, Wed, Fri). Areas one to three were counted on March 20th, 22nd and 24th and counts were carried out at 08.30, 12.30 and 17.30.

In areas one to three, not all empty spaces were recorded by all tellers and so notes relating to empty spaces are less specific.

Area four was treated differently because of the potentially high number of traffic movements. The count was carried out on January 16th, 18th, and 20th and counts were carried out every hour from 08.30 until 17.30.

ANALYSIS

AREA 1

Total Number of cars for Monday 17; Wednesday 17; Friday 17. Total for 3 days 51
 38 different cars parked over the three days
 7 cars were present on two days but not on all counts
 2 cars present on all three days but not on all counts
 6 cars parked for a complete day; different cars on different days
 1 car present on all three days on all counts (Known to run business in village)
 There were a total of 14 empty spaces across all nine counts

AREA 2

Total number of cars for Monday 19; Wednesday 19; Friday 24. TOTAL for 3days 62
 42 different cars parked over the three days
 12 cars appear on two days but not on all counts
 4 cars appear on three days but not on all counts
 7 cars parked for a complete day; different cars on different days
 0 cars were parked on all three days across all counts
 There were a total of 28 spaces across all nine counts but note that 9 of these were 08.30 Monday.

AREA 3

Total number of cars for Monday 34; Wednesday 39; Friday 25. Total for 3days 101
 69 different cars parked over three days
 14 cars parked on two days but not on all counts

5 cars parked on all three days but not on all counts
7 cars parked for a complete day, different cars different days.
0 cars parked on all three days across all counts
No accurate of spaces was made but Wednesday 08.30 there were 5

AREA 4

The survey for this area recorded the number of vehicles at hourly intervals to reflect the greater volume of vehicle movements close to the retail outlets. It did not include the number of vehicle movements between each hourly count and therefore does not accurately reflect the total volume of vehicles particularly at busy rush hour periods when the number of vehicles parking in this area would be significantly higher.

5. Summary

Church Road: parking is generally possible in Church Road. There is a problem for residents in the cottages at the western end of Church Road prior to Holloway Road junction. There is little evidence to people parking to go into Oxford by bus, certainly not on a regular basis. It has also been suggested that some people simply park their car whilst they go away for a holiday, but there is no evidence of this as can be seen from the results. The area beside the Recreation Ground has a particular problem in that vans from both Anderson Orr and Wheatley Tyre Centre are regularly parked there taking up spaces that could be used by others.

High Street: it is very difficult to find parking spaces down the length of the High Street, particularly for residents of the High Street. The area outside the shops has a very high turnover of cars parking, a few spaces are generally available except at peak times.

The shopkeepers would like to have additional parking spaces and the only way that this seems possible is to find spaces elsewhere for those people who regularly park in the High Street, as with the vans that park by the Recreation Ground.

There is still to follow a report from The High Street Improvement Group incorporating comments from the shops and residents.

6. Conclusions

Parking is a problem and there is no easy solution other than to find some land that could be used exclusively (in designated spaces) for the vehicles of people employed in local businesses

One such space has been identified adjacent to London Road, Reference WHE24,

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