



Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council
Parking Services
The Campus
Welwyn Garden City
AL8 6AE
parkingservices@welwyn-hatfield.gov.uk

26 January 2023

Parking consultation review and proposal

Dear Resident,

Our initial parking consultation survey was carried out in October/November 2022 throughout Sherrards Ward. The letters contained information that the Council would proceed with proposing a verge protection order and yellow line junction protection in addition to the consideration of any new waiting restrictions.

Sherrards Ward will be divided into separate areas, with each following on from the other in terms of prioritisation. This particular letter is concerned with Area 1, largely comprised of the existing AV Permit Scheme and adjacent roads. The area will cover:

Parts of Conydale, Digswell Rise, Walden Road, Walden Place, Blakemere Road, The Orchard, Vine Close, The Vineyard and Gresley Close.

From the responses to the survey, the existing AV zone residents voted over 75% to retain parking restrictions and over half voted to keep it as is Mon to Fri 8am to 6pm. The adjacent roads to the south voted over 80% 'YES' to parking restrictions, as against those who did not wish any. Of those who voted for restrictions, the most popular choice in this area was for a resident permit parking scheme.

Residents were also asked on when they would like restrictions to operate. Mon-Sun and Mon-Fri was a slim split vote. It was therefore

considered appropriate in this instance to promote a Mon-Fri restriction from 8am-6pm and integrate these additional roads into the current AV resident permit zone.

If you have any questions, observations or feedback regarding these initial proposals, please email us at parkingservices@welhat.gov.uk or call us on 01707 357000.

For further details of resident permit schemes, prices and required proofs please view the following link:

www.welhat.gov.uk/parking-permits

Kind Regards,
Parking Services,
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Appendix D

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Sent: 22 February 2023 18:05

To: ParkingServices <parkingservices@welhat.gov.uk>

Subject: Orchard Tennis Club/Blakemere Road Parking Restrictions Consultation

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Dear Welhat Council,

I hope you are well?

By way of introduction - my name is [REDACTED] and I am the [REDACTED] at Orchard Tennis Club situated off Blakemere Road.

We have received a consultation letter dated 26th of January 2023 proposing that parking restrictions be implemented on Blakemere Road Monday to Friday between 8am and 6pm. The letter invites feedback and observations to be logged to this email address.

I would like to highlight a few potential challenges facing the tennis club that we are hoping you may be able to support with:

The club is accessed via a private driveway off Blakemere Road. The driveway provides circa 8 parking spots for members/visitors to the club. We currently have issues with non-members and people from the local area parking on the driveway, using it as free parking to walk to town or the station. Previous attempts to find the owners of the vehicles have proved unfruitful and we have left kindly worded letters on windscreen asking the perpetrators to not park on the driveway to no avail. There is a general feeling amongst members (who are also residents) at the club that the restrictions on Blakemere Road may exacerbate the issue once word spreads that there are free spots on the Orchard Tennis Club Driveway. It is difficult to pinpoint a potential solution for this however I wanted to raise the concerns on behalf of the club.

We also regularly have tennis matches beginning at 17:55/18:00 at the club on weeknights against other clubs. Due to the number of visitors (especially on Monday evenings) there is often a requirement to park on the Blakemere Road just before 18:00 to get matches begun on time. I am not sure if it would be possible to get some Visitor parking passes for visitors to the club that have to park on Blakemere Road occasionally? This also applies for some of the busier coaching sessions that happen earlier in the day (Occasionally parents need to park on Blakemere Road due to lack of space on the drive).

It would be great to understand your thoughts and I am happy to discuss further on the below number or meet at the Club if necessary?

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

Orchard Tennis Club [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Matthew McCann <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 5:15 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Parking by Orchard Tennis club

Hi [REDACTED],

Yes, there are requests from residents in the nearby roads to stop non-resident parking, some want 7 days a week for as many hours as possible, lots of fears relating to the Campus East development.

I understand we already have had contact from the club relating to parking issues of their own where non members parking on the track leading to it. Any correspondence we have to send by postal letter rather than email anyway.

@Nick Turrell – in case you don't have the tennis club email address, can you add to the data.

Regards,

Matthew McCann

Parking Services Team Leader

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

01707 357000

parkingservices@welhat.gov.uk

welhat.gov.uk



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@welhat.gov.uk>

Sent: 14 March 2023 15:4

To: Matthew McCann <[REDACTED]@welhat.gov.uk>

Subject: Parking by Orchard Tennis club

Hi Matt

Got asked this question when playing at Orchard last week (just because I work for the council)

Rumour in the club is about poss. restrictions to the parking in the streets around Orchard TC. Mon-Fri but possible at w/e's as well?

Would the club be consulted? If so can the info be sent to the club [redacted]@gmail.com so they can comment if it effects them or not?

Thanks

[redacted]

Private Sector Housing Technician

Resident and Neighbourhood

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council, The Campus

Welwyn Garden City

Herts AL8 6AE

Telephone: [redacted]

Email: [redacted]@welhat.gov.uk

www.welhat.gov.uk



Appendix D



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COUNCIL PARKING CONSULTATION

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council
Parking Services
The Campus
Welwyn Garden City
AL8 6AE
parkingservices@welhat.gov.uk



4 August 2023

Parking Consultation “Notice of intention to Propose”

Dear Resident,

We carried out a parking consultation survey in 2022, the first round was a low response rate, and we encouraged residents to have their say to progress any required measures relating to parking. By the end of the second survey stage, 25% of the residents from both the existing Zone “AV” and the Blakemere Road, Walden Road area had successfully participated which met our criteria to progress. For those who responded over 60% were in favour of parking restrictions.

Verge and footway parking was also a common concern across the area however, as roads with a carriageway width of less than 4.5m would not allow full carriageway parking would be exempt from these proposals since compliance with the Order would obstruct access to essential traffic, including emergency vehicles, The Orchard, Walden Place and a small section of Blakemere Road leading to Junction Cottages will not be considered for a Verge and Footway Prohibition Order (VFPO). Other roads are being investigated under these criteria. A VFPO would prohibit parking on the verge and footway including vehicle crossover surfaces which make up part of the public highway land.

After reviewing all the responses, the area was divided into 2 sections, and we have concluded to propose a Verge and Footway Prohibition as well as the following,

Residents Parking Scheme

Section 1 Current Zone "AV"

75% of the who responded were in favour of parking restrictions in their area, with 60% requesting the current zone remains unchanged, with this in mind the current AV permit zone roads and operational days and times will remain the same. The verge and footway prohibition will be proposed to give enforcement officers powers to tackle such parking.

Section 2 proposed permit Zone A02 Mon-Sun 9am-5pm

59% of those who participated were in favour of parking restrictions in their area and with 55% indicating parking issues every day a separate Zone to "AV" would be pragmatic. This area comprises Walden Road, Walden Place, Blakemere Road & The Orchard.

Please note, only residential properties would be eligible for permits/ vouchers and roads outside of the permit zone boundary, such as Digswell Road/Sherrards Park Road will not be included in the eligible address list for a parking permit in the permit zone. Residents in other roads west and north of the proposed permit zone are undergoing their own consultation, with results and proposals due in the coming months.

Double Yellow Lines

A standard approach is now adopted for junctions, installing 10 metres of double yellow lines to improve road safety by aiding visibility in exit and entry. We would look to propose replacement of all existing single yellow lines at junctions with double yellow lines.

Full details of the proposal can be seen on our website from the 16th August 2023 at www.welhat.gov.uk/parking-consultations

If you do not have access to the internet, then please get in touch with us to request a paper copy of the map plans by calling 01707 357000

We will look to advertise a Traffic Regulation Order in Welwyn Hatfield Times and via public notices on lamp-posts on Wednesday 16th August which will begin the start of the 21-day formal objection stage and any objections received in writing will be presented to a future Cabinet Planning and Parking Panel which the public can attend. The date of the meeting will be advertised on our webpage and all objectors will also be notified in advance.

For further details of resident permit schemes, including prices and how it operates please view the following link:

www.welhat.gov.uk/parking-permits

Kind Regards,

Nick Turrell
Parking Services,
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Appendix D

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]@outlook.com]

Sent: 05 September 2023 17:26

To: ParkingServices <parkingservices@welhat.gov.uk>

Cc: Matthew McCann <[redacted]@welhat.gov.uk>; Nick Turrell <[redacted]@welhat.gov.uk>; Geoff Sampson <[redacted]@welhat.gov.uk>; Lee Saunders <[redacted]@welhat.gov.uk>; Frank Marsh <[redacted]>; Jean-Paul Skoczylas <[redacted]>; Flavia Wachuku <[redacted]>; Paul Zukowskyj <[redacted]>; [redacted] <[redacted]>; [redacted] <[redacted]>

Subject: Formal Objection to WHBC Proposal for Increased Parking Restrictions in Zone A02

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

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To:
Parking Services
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Cc: Matthew McCann
Nick Turrell
Geoff Sampson
[redacted]
Frank Marsh
Jean-Paul Skoczylas
Flavia Wachuku
Paul Zukowskyj
Grant Shapps
[redacted]

Subject: Formal objection to Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council's proposal for increased parking restrictions in Blakemere Road, The Orchard, Walden Centre and Walden Road ("Zone A02"), WGC

Dear Sir or Madam,

We, the Trustees of Orchard Lawn Tennis Club (the "Club"), are writing to raise a formal objection to the current proposal by Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council (the "Council") for new parking restrictions in Zone A02 as set out in the attached documents and which would result in parking restrictions being applied Monday-Sunday 9a -5pm Zone A02.

The Trustees are extremely concerned about the major adverse impact which the proposed parking restrictions are likely to have on both the Club and its contribution to the community. We also feel strongly that the Club has not been adequately engaged by the Council in the Council's development of its proposal. We would have expected the Council to follow the principles set out in the following URL on the Council's website (<https://www.welhat.gov.uk/parking-consultations/consult-parking-changes>), specifically with regard to the consultation of affected groups such as "churches, charities and other community organisations". From viewing the attached map it is clear that the Club is right in the very heart of Zone A02 and the proposed changes.

The Club, which is registered as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC), has been in existence for over 85 years and continues to thrive with around 200 members. The land which the Club leases from the Council has a very limited parking area, i.e. parking for just 7 or 8 cars along the service road between Blakemere Road and the entrance to the Club. The Club is correspondingly dependent on club members and visitors (such as parents of children receiving coaching and teams from other clubs, etc) being able to park on Blakemere Road. We believe that the Club has very good relationships with, and is valued by, the vast majority of local residents and that the local residents' main concern is with commuters and WGC town centre workers (rather than tennis club members or visitors) parking in their roads.

Reasons for Objection to the Proposal

1. Impact on local participation in tennis

The proposed parking restrictions would impact participation in the following activities, potentially to the point where they might no longer be viable:

- Junior players coaching, where parents are generally present throughout their children's coaching sessions
- Junior players "tennis summer camps"
- League matches
- Club tournaments
- Club charity tournaments raising funds for local charities
- Social events involving the community such as fun/open days

2. Impact on Club membership and finances

The reduction in participation in tennis at the Club would inevitably result in a reduction in the number of Club members. The proposed parking restrictions would make it difficult to attract new members to replace those naturally retiring from the sport or leaving the area. As you may be aware, the Club is currently investing around £150,000 in new tennis courts. This represents the Club's entire savings from membership subscriptions over the last 18 years. It would be unfortunate if the new tennis courts are underutilised, especially in times where physical and mental well-being are more important than ever.

3. Impact on the Club's role in the community

The Club's charity tournaments, quiz nights and fun/open days are unlikely to be viable if the proposed parking restrictions cause either membership numbers to drop materially or the events to be under-attended.

4. Increased use of the Club's limited parking area by non-members

Some local residents and commuters / WGC town centre workers currently make inappropriate use of the Club's limited parking area. The Council has informed the Club that the Club is not entitled to take action against non-members using its parking area. It is clear that the proposed parking restrictions would cause increased misuse of the Club's limited parking area by non-members.

5. Other material concerns

- Stress and exclusion, especially for parents with young children or anyone with mobility issues (6 minute walk to the club from multi-storey).
- Hardship and potential exclusion due to the cost of alternative parking in the multi-storey car park.
- Increased risk and welfare concerns with parents being possibly tempted to let their very young children out of cars in Blakemere Road instead of parking and bringing them to the club.
- Damage to the reputation of the Club (and potentially the Council also) if free, safe and convenient parking provision is not maintained

Please could you ensure that the Trustees (as named below and with email addresses as above) and the Club Chairman (██████████, email address as above) are all directly invited by email to meet with the relevant decision maker at the Council prior to any decisions being made in relation to the proposal and also directly invited by email to participate in any further consultation meetings and/or consultation steps in relation to this and any other proposals in relation to parking in Zone A02.

We look forward to working with the Council to ensure the Club can continue to use Blakemere Road for its current modest overflow parking needs and/or that additional car parking spaces can be created or allocated for our use. We believe the Club and the community deserve the full consideration and support of the Council to ensure appropriate parking provision is maintained for all our members, visitors and parents.

Yours faithfully,

██████████ (Trustee and Club President)

██████████ (Trustee and Club Welfare Officer)

██████████ (Trustee and Club Treasurer)

██████████ (Trustee)