

TOWNSEND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Submission to Dursley Town Council Car Park Committee

RESIDENTS PARKING

Thank you for your invitation to attend the Dursley Town Council Car Park Committee meeting on 25th September 2018, where we understand you will discuss the issue of residents' parking in the new long stay car park on Long Street. Unfortunately, we are unable to attend this meeting in person, due to other commitments, but the TRA have met together and discussed this issue and would like to submit the following proposals for the management of residents' parking.

The Proposal:

That DTC will issue Residents' Parking Permits under the following conditions:

1. The Permit will allow the permit holder to park in any free space in the car park for an unlimited period of time.
2. The permit will be limited to one per household
3. The permit holder will pay a specified annual or monthly fee to DTC/SDC for the permit.
4. We would like this permit to extend to on-street parking on Long Street, so that residents were not subject to the current 2-hour limitation.
5. Permits would be displayed on the car windscreen while using the car park.

Notes:

- A BBC survey showed that one in three houses in the UK do not have access to off-street parking, so this is a common issue in towns and cities, and the TRA have researched a number of different models in use.
- Wotton Under Edge has a long stay car park, The Chipping, where parking is free up to 23 hours, but also has a designated area for residents' parking. It is operated by Stroud District Council and indicates that similar models to the one we are proposing are already in operation with the District Council area.
- Based on a survey of Long Street residents in 2017, and taking into account some new residents in the area, we anticipate a demand of 7-10 permits.
- Permits should be made available to local residents, meaning, Long Street, Water Street and Silver Street who have no access to their own off-street parking. This will generally be the older properties in this area.
- Gloucester City charge an annual fee of £50 for a residents' parking permit.

- Some areas reduce the charge for hybrid and electric cars, for example in Brighton, but the annual fee is higher than Gloucester. Both of these are cities, and Dursley a small market town, so fees should be appropriate to the setting.
- The TRA would like to know if a charger for electric vehicles will be available in this new car park.

The Benefits of this Proposal:

Residents would only be entitled to a space if there were one available. If the car park were full, then residents would have to find on-street parking elsewhere. Therefore, free spaces would not be tied-up and the capacity of the car park would be maximised.

Engaging traffic wardens to check the legitimate use of the car park is a costly service, and this proposal would reduce the need for this as residents could park in any available space, rather than having an allocated space. The warden would therefore not need to check if non-permit holders were using allocated residents' spaces.

We would be grateful for your consideration of this proposal.

Jonathan Bird – Co-chair Townsend Residents Association

Helen Patrick – Co-chair TRA

TRA members.

18.9.2018