

## Multi Agency Meeting for Parking & Traffic Issues in Dursley 14<sup>th</sup> April 2016

### Present

Mayor Clare Nelmes (DTC)

Cllr Steve Lydon (GCC)

Nick Stewart (SDC)

Cllr Peter Hayes (DTC)

Cllr Brian Marsh (DTC)

Cllr Sue Creswick (DTC)

Jonathan Bird (Townsend Residents)

Helen Patrick (Townsend Residents)

Cllr Jan Burdge (DTC)

Deputy Mayor Neil Drecian (DTC)

Cllr Suzi Abraham (DTC & Dursley Business Inclusive)

Cllr Geoff Wheeler (SDC – Leader)

Cllr Doina Cornell (SDC)

Mike Hammond (SDC)

Scott Tompkins (GCC)

Jim Daniels (GCC)

John Kay (DTC – Town Clerk)

Apologies: Sgt Simon Davey, Glos Police; Cllr Sue Creswick, DTC.

### Current Position & Key Issues

- Long Stay Parking provision – impacted by recent loss of Long Street (Temporary) car-park
- Long Stay Parking Provision – increased desire for visiting Dursley: workers, visitors, walkers & residents.
- Long stay (during working day) was inadequate (NDP Study)
- Inappropriate use of long stay May Lane car-park (NDP Study)
- May Lane always full after 8:30am.
- More on-street parking on Long Street since closure of car-park. “chaotic” in the evening with mixture of residents, customers of takeaways and restaurants.
- Lister Street – used for parking by residents and visitors to town. Unsuitable when Lister Street becomes a through route via Littlecombe development.
- Parsonage Street - Increased traffic volumes – “no real need” – local drivers, who know the rules.
- Parsonage Street – Speed of vehicles
- Parsonage Street – Insufficient signage and enforcement. Regular flouting of no entry and one-way.
- Parsonage Street – Pedestrian/vehicle conflict (recent incident – pedestrian injury)
- Loss of spaces in Swimming Pool car park: due to extension (permanent) and site compound (temporary)
- Negative parking “headlines” impacting trade within the town.

### Other considerations

#### Local Parking Arrangements

- Permit parking introduced for businesses and employees in the town centre within Sainsbury’s car-park. 50 permits issued to 29 businesses on a one year trial basis.
- Agreement for Sainsbury’s car-park to remain open on evenings when the Chantry Centre has events on.
- Private arrangements for parking on private land/car-parks.

#### Locations previously considered for a new car park

- Land to rear of Parsonage Street.
- Land at rear of Bell Hotel.

#### Castle Street – 1h hour short stay carpark.

- 29 Spaces available in car-park, viewed as vital to the town, regular turnover for short duration shopping and for additional disabled parking.
- SDC and GCC agreed deal to sell car-park so that it could be retained as car parking, however GCC have recently stopped the sale. It is now unclear GCC intention for the carpark despite enquiries at Chief Executive level. Further enquiries are being made and an urgent response sought from GCC.

#### **Potential Short/Medium/Long Term Options.**

##### Long Street

- Create parking bays by restricting Long Street to one-way. This option could be viable when new link road through the Littlecombe development is open to traffic in 2018 (Traffic Regulation Order Required; estimated timescale 12 months).
- Introduce parking permits for Long Street/Lister Street/Silver Street to allow resident/visitor usage as per GCC policies. Parking Order required; estimated timescale 9 to 12 months).

##### Silver Street

- Re-introduce a trial of a priority buildout to control traffic speed/flow at narrow location
- Enforcement of loading bay and waiting restrictions

##### Lister Street

- Regulate parking by introducing marked bays or other parking restrictions to improve traffic flow

##### Parsonage Street

- Video Survey to monitor traffic movements and usage.
- Consider revising existing restrictions and making Parsonage St one way for entire length (Traffic Regulation Order Required; estimated timescale 12 months).

##### May Lane (Long Stay car-park)

- Regular enforcement of inappropriate usage of carpark.
- Look at Short Stay/long stay parking ratio.
- Introduce charging for long stay parking (not overnight residential parking).

##### Other locations/proposed solutions

**Bus Station:** currently needed for bus turning, this could change with opening of new through road through Littlecombe with a “loop” being created.

**Littlecombe:** new carpark not financially viable due to contaminated land.

**Gazette Office:** Under offer, asking price £650k, not financially viable.

**A new car-park:** Sites within the town centre catchment not financially viable.

**Bus Service for Cam/Dursley/Rail Station:** re-establishing the 30min service bus, to restrict the “need” for local car journeys into town.

**Water Street car-park:** Consider including changes to regulations

**Taxi rank and additional disabled bays** - look to introduce within town centre area (Traffic Regulation Order Required; estimated timescale 12 months).

**Improved enforcement of existing regulations:** Provide list of locations & times that GCC enforcement can look to target to raise awareness and improve driver behaviour

**On street parking:** identify areas close to town centre where possible regulated parking arrangements could be considered

#### Communication and Task Group

It was agreed to release a press statement on the 15<sup>th</sup> April to include a brief summary of the meeting discussion and form a Task Group to convene and develop an action plan.

The task group would include representation from the Town Council, with Scott Tompkins/Andrew Middlecote nominated to represent GCC and Nick Stewart/Mike Hammond to represent SDC.