

Feedback from Consultation

From	Comments
<p>CLlr Nikki Ind - Tetbury East and Rural</p>	<p>I am concerned that charging in West Street will start at 10am on Sunday and Church Street will start at 12 noon (to allow for those attending Sunday morning worship at either St Mary's Church or St Michael's Church). However, as you know Church Street has a limited number of spaces and West Street is also used at this time by attendees - particularly if there are Christenings - it could be confusing for people parking, as West Street can appear to be an extension of the initial Church Street spaces - with the same pricing structure for any parking up to 3 hours. Could a change to 12 noon please be considered for West Street?</p>
<p>Mark Marshall</p>	<p>I wish to register an objection to the proposed plans to change the parking charges - specifically the plan to introduce charges on Sunday in those areas where charges are not in place.</p> <p>I assume that this refers to the Car Parks such as Brewery and The Forum but not to on street locations?</p> <p>I live in Ashcroft Road and pay for residents parking - the problem is that the few parking places are also available for non-residents. This is limited to one hour Mon-Sat which makes parking difficult but not impossible. However, there is no restriction after 6pm on Saturday - I am sure you see where this is going - which allows non residents to park all day on Sunday. To date, this has not been a big issue as the Brewery car park is available, free of charge, on Sunday and I know it is used by people coming to Cirencester for the day and, in the event that there are no residents spaces available on the roadside we can also use the carpark. Once the new plans are adopted, I believe that more people will seek to avoid paying for car parking by using Ashcroft Road (and other residents parking slots in both Zone 1 and Zone 2) which means, the already difficult situation will be exasperated. I have a blue badge and do not relish not being able to drive out over the weekend knowing that I will be unable to park near my house on my return. I am therefore objecting to the plan to impose Sunday charges in the carparks on the grounds that this does not tie in with the residents parking system. I believe that either the charges should not be imposed, the carparks included in the Zone system (ie we can park there as residents) or, possibly the most likely, the residents parking restriction should also be extended to Sunday and I would be grateful for your views on this.</p>
<p>Antony & Lisa Cunningham (of 19 Somerford Road, Cirencester, GL7 1TP)</p>	<p>As residents, we are writing to you to register a Formal Objection to the proposed rises in parking charges in Cirencester, as per the Notice of Proposal in the Wilts & Glos Standard dated the 8th Feb 2024.</p> <p>It is our belief that parking charges should be kept as low as possible to ensure our town continues to thrive, by encouraging both locals and tourists to use the services offered in our town centre.</p> <p>Across the UK we have been in a 'cost of living' crisis for a number of years, and wages have certainly not kept up with inflation, so I would challenge the council to address to the public on why they feel the need to increase parking charges above the line of inflation.</p> <p>As an example, the Brewery Car Park in Cirencester (that I use regularly) will see its 30-minute parking charge increase from 80p to £1.00. Thats a 25% increase. In the same car park, up to 3 hours is an increase of 18% and let's not forget the extra charge to pay using the app on our phones because the council decided to become cashless, which sometimes is the only option when the machines aren't working.</p>

	<p>What is the council actually doing to enhance our town with the continuous increase in charges? The parking charges are clearly not used for any improvements locally, and is therefore just another form of taxation to bridge gaps in funding despite, from what I am led to believe from your accounts, the council have received an increase on government funding.</p> <p>It is noticeable there is a lack of a long-term strategy that actually takes into consideration how people live and their need for using a vehicle. For example;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The lack (and removal) of free parking spaces, minimises those who make quick visits to the butchers, green-grocers, market, post office etc - they are limited by what they can carry. There is limited use for the 30 minutes free parking at the local hospital for quick errands when a round trip walking takes c.20 minutes to the post office for example. ii. Parents who need to work to support their families, can find themselves with limited time to collect/drop off between school/activities/socialising (all of which bring money into the locality and businesses) and sometimes have little choice to make ends meet and give their children the best opportunities (the towns future). iii. Consumers of the Leisure Centre services, who can't afford extortionate memberships that include parking, will now be required to pay an extra cost on a Sunday to keep themselves healthy and maintain their wellbeing. <p>This can be seen already within Cirencester. At 10:10AM on the 15th February, the car park was empty as was the town. This week, school's half term week, town should be buzzing with families and children and it was a stark reminder that our town does not cater for this and it begs the question, why would you pay to park when other localities have free or minimal parking charges near activities, entertainment and better services.</p> <p>The council should be ashamed of themselves, as this objection is coming at a time when many news outlets are reporting that the UK economy fell into recession between October and December 2023, with it expected to continue long into 2024. We are therefore are entirely opposed to these proposals to increase parking charges from April 2024, which we believe will damage our town at a time when your residents and tourists, who you need to spend money in the town, can least afford it.</p>
<p>Laura Wiggins</p>	<p>I am writing to you concerning the rise in Cirencester's parking charges in April. People in the town are very worried about the impact this will have on businesses and whether people will bother to visit the town anymore. I myself don't come into Cirencester anymore unless i have to. I would rather shop in other local towns that I pass through at the weekend. I was born in Cirencester but hardly have anything to do with it anymore. When I do come into town I find a free space or get my husband to drop me off as I'm not prepared to pay the prices just to do a couple of things in town and I certainly don't bother to browse round anymore or stay for coffee.</p> <p>Please reconsider these rises as it will put more small businesses at risk.</p>
<p>Katy Groves 35 Ashcroft Road GL7 1QZ</p>	<p>As a resident of Ashcroft Road, I strongly oppose the proposals to charge for car parking on a Sunday.</p> <p>Residents parking in both Ashcroft Road and Ashcroft Gardens is already extremely difficult because there is not enough of it and the general public currently are allowed to park for free for an hour. This will only be exacerbated if the Sunday car parking charges are introduced, as members of the public try to park for free in our residents parking rather than pay to park in a car park. The proposed changes to parking in Cricklade Street by Gloucestershire County Council will also put extra pressure on our valuable parking.</p>

	<p>I feel no thought has been given to those of us who live in town and I am strongly against Sunday car parking charges. Parking for residents in Ashcroft Road and Ashcroft Gardens needs to be for residents only, as it is in St Peter's Road and Cecily Hill, if Sunday car parking charges are to be introduced.</p>
<p>Victoria Bolwell Executive Officer Tetbury Town Council</p>	<p>During the recent Full Council meeting, members deliberated over the proposed fees and changes concerning Church Street and West Street. They expressed concerns about the potential confusion for users, particularly regarding the staggered implementation of parking restrictions on Church Street, scheduled for midday to accommodate residents attending religious services. This arrangement might create confusion for those utilising West Street's parking facilities due to their proximity. Although these parking areas are distinct, there is a risk that users might inadvertently park incorrectly.</p> <p>Consequently, Tetbury Town Council has decided to object to the proposal.</p>
<p>Vanessa Oliveri Committee Clerk, Bourton-on-the Water Parish Council</p>	<p>The Highways committee want to log their strong objections listed below: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The PC object to the increase of the car parking charges at Rissington Road car park as this will put people off using the public car park and will push people to parking in residential streets in the village. This is already a problem in the village, so it will just add additional frustration for the residents and congestion in residential streets. 2. Objection has been raised that the additional 50p increase is proposed to not be included in the Tourist Levy funds. 3. Objection has also been raised to the extension of the car parking charges to be extended from 4.00pm to 6.00pm as the later hours in the afternoon had been noted that residents would pop into the village and park free of charge for that period of day.
<p>Maisie England and epetition (1164 signatures)</p>	<p>I am emailing regarding the recent announcement of the changes to the parking charges in Cirencester town centre. As you may be aware, there was a petition created to request that the parking charge changes are halted and this has raised 1164 signatures from local people of Cirencester who are against the parking charge increase.</p> <p>To see the petition and comments, please see: https://chng.it/KqXgNB28FR</p> <p>Please would it be possible to reconsider the parking charges in Cirencester town centre. An extract of reasons why people have signed it can be seen in the petition; however, I have copied a few of the comments below:</p> <p><i>Parking charges in Cirencester are having a direct negative e impact on lo AI businesses. Cirencester should be thriving, yet people choose to shop out of town to save money on parking.</i></p> <p><i>This rise would be a further disincentive to come to Cirencester for any shopping other than go to the supermarkets. For anything else, stay at home and buy from Amazon!</i></p> <p><i>CDC needs to encourage visitors to the town to support shops and businesses this is not done by relentlessly raising car park charges.</i></p> <p>We have an amazing town with incredible small businesses. 'Free after 3' gave incredible business to the town, to cut this AND increase parking costs is just disgraceful. Keep Cirencester full of incredible small businesses and ditch the parking increases</p>

	<p>Please could you also keep us updated of the developments on this matter as there is a keen Cirencester community who would like to know the outcome.</p>
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