



# **WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL**

A Meeting of an **INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION** will be held at the Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham on  
**TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2016 AT 10.00 AM**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Couldrick', written in a cursive style.

Andy Couldrick  
Chief Executive  
Published on 8 February 2016

This meeting will be filmed for inclusion on the Council's website.

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## **Our Vision**

***A great place to live, an even better place to do business***

### ***Our Priorities***

**Improve educational attainment and focus on every child achieving their potential**

**Invest in regenerating towns and villages, support social and economic prosperity, whilst encouraging business growth**

**Ensure strong sustainable communities that are vibrant and supported by well designed development**

**Tackle traffic congestion in specific areas of the Borough**

**Improve the customer experience when accessing Council services**

### ***The Underpinning Principles***

**Offer excellent value for your Council Tax**

**Provide affordable homes**

**Look after the vulnerable**

**Improve health, wellbeing and quality of life**

**Maintain and improve the waste collection, recycling and fuel efficiency**

**Deliver quality in all that we do**

**For consideration by**

**John Kaiser, Executive Member for Planning and Highways**

**Officers Present**

**Alison Dray, Highways Assets**

**Colm Ó Caomhánaigh, Democratic Services**

<b>IMD NO. 2016</b>	<b>WARD</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	
<b>IMD3</b>	None Specific	<b>EVENING, SUNDAY, AND SHUTE END CHARGES</b> To add additional charging regimes in the council's pay and display car parks.	<b>5 - 108</b>

**CONTACT OFFICER**

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# Agenda Item IMD3

## INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION REFERENCE IMD: 2016 / 3

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Evening, Sunday, and Shute End Charges</b>
<b>FOR CONSIDERATION BY</b>	<b>John Kaiser, Executive Member for Planning and Highways</b>
<b>ON</b>	16 February 2016
<b>TIME</b>	10 am
<b>WARD</b>	All
<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR</b>	Heather Thwaites
<b>VENUE</b>	Room FF13, Council Offices, Shute End

### **OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY**

These proposed charges will ensure that the council's off street car parks provide a best value return on the asset.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Executive Member for Highways and Planning:

- 1) Approve the permanent making of THE WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL (VARIOUS OFF-STREET BOROUGH CAR PARKS) (VARIATION (2)) ORDER 2016.)
- 2) Instruct officers to amend signage and equipment in the car parks; and
- 3) Inform those who have responded to the consultation accordingly.

### **SUMMARY OF REPORT**

This report summarises the Sunday and evening car parking charges proposed, responds to the objections from the consultation on these proposals, and recommends a decision to the Executive Member for Highways and Planning.

These proposals will contribute towards the savings the Council needs to make to balance its budget.

## **Background**

The principle of charging for car park use is well established. The Council currently charges users in most of the car parks it operates with those charges applying between the hours of 8am and 6pm, Monday to Saturday. The Council is increasingly under pressure to generate new streams of income in order to support services. The proposals for evening and weekend charging will generate additional income and brings Wokingham car park charging regime in to line with many other authorities locally.

For the car parks listed below, a £1.00 charge for parking Sunday and bank holidays all day (8am-6pm) and Monday to Sunday, nightly (6pm-8am). All car parks below have a Nightly Season Tickets (6pm-8am) for 12 months of £292, apart from School Lane, Wargrave, which has a residents parking scheme in place.

- Cockpit Path
- Easthampstead Road East
- Easthampstead Road West
- Crockhamwell Road
- Headley Road
- Denmark Street
- School Lane, Wargrave
- Station Road, Earley
- Lytham Road East
- Lytham Road West
- Polehampton Close East, Twyford
- Polehampton Close East, West
- Shute End Council Offices
- The Paddocks
- Carnival Pool
- Rose Street
- Winnersh Triangle.

In addition, the following charges shall apply to The Shute End Council offices car park on Saturdays between 8:00am and 6:00pm (excluding bank holidays):

- 70p up to 1 hour;
- £1.20 up to 2 hours;
- £2.00 up to 4 hours;
- £3.00 up to 6 hours;
- £4.00 up to 10 hours.

For all car parks, the unladen weight limit has increased from 30 cwt to 3000kg. In all other respects, the charges listed in the car parks shall continue to apply in addition to those that appear above.

## **Consultation**

A public consultation on the above proposal was held from 13 January 2016 until 5 February 2016. Notices were placed in each car park and advertisements appeared in both local papers. In addition, letters were sent to each town and parish council as well as the Wokingham and Woodley Town Centre Management Initiatives. All ward members were also informed of the proposals and consultation. Consultation responses were made on the council's website. Responses which came in writing were also added to the consultation. The responses to the consultation can be seen in Appendix A.

## **Response to Consultation**

Most responses to the consultation were against the proposals. The objections and responses are summarised in this section. Appendix A, which shows the objections, refers to the numbered responses below.

### 1 – Safety impact

Safety concerns were raised regarding women using the car parks to pay at night. Although the fear of crime is understandable, the council's crime figure analysis, in conjunction with Thames Valley Police shows that crime, even in the council car parks, is very low. With the introduction of these charges, trained enforcement officers will now patrol the car parks during the evening, ensuring that an even higher level of safety is maintained.

### 2 - On street parking impact

Car users who wish to avoid the charges in the council car parks may choose to park on street. Whilst this parking is an acceptable alternative if done so legally, illegal parking may inconvenience residents. The council has been given approval by the Executive to apply to parliament for the powers to undertake on-street parking enforcement. Until these powers are granted, the council will continue to work with the police to ensure illegal parking is addressed.

### 3 – Resident impact

The evening charges will have an impact on residents who do not have private parking availability at their residence and choose to use council car parks. Parking is not a right that the council provides for each residence and the provision of where to park a vehicle must be a factor when choosing a place to live. Through planning work, the council aims to provide different types of accommodation to the population to account for different needs. The proximity to amenities and public transport is part of the attraction in leaving near a town centre, even at the detriment of private car owner's ability to have reserved parking for their vehicle. The council has offered an overnight season ticket as part of these proposals to address this concern.

For some residents, the cost of parking may be prohibitive. Adult and children's services run by the council can give advice as to individual circumstances.

### 4 – Social impact

Various community groups concerned by the impact on their organisations were mentioned in the responses to the consultation. These include theatre groups, community centres, car-boots/markets, sporting activities in local parks, libraries, after school clubs, major events, and centres of religious worship. Although the circumstances of each organisation varies, all bring a sense of purpose to their constituents and to the wider community. Whilst the council recognises this contribution, the car parking asset must generate value for money to the council in order to support the transport goals of the council as well as other valuable services that the council provides to the community. The land value of the car parks must also be considered when operating a parking service. In order to provide off-street parking that balances the needs of the multiple users of the council's services, charges must be established in order to provide value for money.

### 5 – Business impact

Among the businesses that residents felt may be negatively impacted by the proposals were take-aways, restaurants, bars, retailers, traders, banks/cash points, fitness/health classes, doctor surgeries, and pharmacies. The charges are proposed so that the provision for off-street parking can remain and be sustainable to support the customers of these businesses in the future. Benchmarking with neighbouring borough councils show that similar charges are in place in other districts, often at higher values than those set out in this proposal.

### 6 – Community impact

Concerns on the impact of the proposals on the vibrancy of the borough's town centres were raised in the consultation. Whilst some individuals may choose not to use the town centre car parks during the hours of the new proposals, the risk of impact on parking is minimal compared to other factors, many of which are addressed through the works of town centre regeneration and other similar projects. Parking studies have shown a steady year-on-year increase in the use of all of the borough's car parks. With many new residents moving to the borough, this trend is expected to continue and the council is preparing projects to address the future parking needs of the area.

### 7 – Financial viability

Concerns were raised within the consultation as to the financial viability of this scheme. In generating these proposals, the cost of enforcement was considered. If the proposals gain approval, the implementation of the proposals will be carefully monitored in order to ensure value for money is achieved. The proposed revenue savings will ensure that the transport aims of the council can be achieved. The off-street parking service is a non-statutory service that provides a valuable asset to the community and is part of the council's transport asset. As the financial position of the council becomes more difficult due to reductions from central government, the land value of the parking asset could release necessary funds to at risk services. To ensure that the council does not reach this position, non-statutory services, such as off-street parking, must contribute more to the public purse.

## **Recommendation & Conclusion**

It is recommended to approve the permanent making of the THE WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL (VARIOUS OFF-STREET BOROUGH CAR PARKS) (VARIATION (2)) ORDER 2016).

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION**

The income generated by the proposal will be used to support highways and transport services.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	0	Yes	Revenue
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	(£150k)	Yes	Revenue
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	(£150k)	Yes	Revenue



<b>Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision</b>
N/A

<b>Cross-Council Implications</b>
N/A

<b>CONSULTATION RESPONSES</b>	
<b>Director – Finance and Resources</b>	No comment
<b>Monitoring Officer</b>	No specific comments on report
<b>Leader of the Council</b>	It is with deep regret that the Council has been forced to make these proposals. I support them as a contribution to the Council's financial position

<b>List of Background Papers</b>
Appendix A - Consultation responses

<b>Contact</b> Alison Dray	<b>Service</b> Environment
<b>Telephone No</b> 0118 974 6000	<b>Email</b> Alison.dray@wokingham.gov.uk
<b>Date</b> 8 February 2016	<b>Version No.</b> 3

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## APPENDIX A - CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Do you have any comments on the proposed changes to Car Park charges?	Response
<p>Seriously ? with the car parks considered and fees mentioned; is council going to generate enough money even to pay for the traffic warden's extra hours required to enforce this. Stop squeezing law abiding tax paying citizens who haven't had any pay rises recently but cost of living kept going up. If you want to do this, at least exempt people from council areas as we are already paying more than most of the councils around.</p>	<p>Please see comments 3 and 7.</p>
<p>I think this change would cause a lot of upset. Parking in Wokingham is already very expensive and this would only make me LESS likely to visit and support local businesses. Why are you introducing more charges when people are already complaining about the current charges being too high?</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>To think you want to charge to park at woodley shopping centre evenings/sunday/bank holiday it disgusting. You make enough money charging what you currently charge. This will be the final nail in the coffin for woodley centre which is already in decline.</p>	<p>Please see comments 6 and 7.</p>
<p>In Hart the overnight charges cause issues because you have to return to your car at 6pm to buy a £1 ticket, and then again at 8am to fill the meter again. I have no objection to the charge, but the ability to pre-pay for the new charge period and beyond must be present.</p>	<p>Please see the comments in the report.</p>
<p>Appalling idea. For every attempt local traders and businesses try to tempt people into town, WBC fight back with an attempt to kill it even more. This is the very essence of knowing the cost of everything and the value of nothing. It's very disappointing when it feels like the Council are actively working against the local residents they are meant to serve.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>This is quite wrong, it sends the wrong message to people visiting towns in the borough. It would be better to increase day rate charges for car parks to address commuter use of car parks. Charging people for times when we actually want to encourage visitors is the wrong decision.</p>	<p>Please see comment 6.</p>
<p>Surely the cost of employing inspectors to check tickets at unsociable hours and weekends would negate any advantages of introducing such charges.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>This will have a negative impact on encouraging local people to use local facilities during off peak times. This in turn will have a negative impact on the success of local businesses.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>

<p>At the moment the lack of charges for evenings and weekends encourages users of local centres at off peak hours. It also helps to reduce inconsiderate parking. An introduction of charges at off peak times will adversely affect those businesses that rely on the trade (e.g. restaurants) and also for charitable events (e.g. May Fayre and Winter Carnival). These events boost the image of centres and encourage people to visit at other times. Discouraging people from visiting is counter productive. Also the lack of free parking (despite the seemingly minimal cost) will encourage people to park elsewhere potentially causing problems for local residents.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 4, 5, and 6.</p>
<p>I think charging for parking in the evening will kill the evening trade for restaurants. If anything free parking should be extended, not reduced. Free parking on Saturdays all day would be an excellent initiative. We need to do all we can do encourage good trade in the town, please don't discourage customers further by imposing further car park charges.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>The proposal is completely unfair for people who live in town who rely on these parking spaces during the evening because of such limited availability of permit parking and the road side parking already being fill with visitors to the town centre.</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>
<p>This will deter people from travelling in to Wokingham to eat and socialise in the evening, yet another idea from the council which works against Wokingham residents. Schemes should be encouraging people into our towns and parks, not making these trips more difficult and expensive.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>
<p>I've stopped going in to Wokingham now when all that's on offer are coffee shops, estate agents and restaurants!! If I need to go in for any reason I park at my daughter's and walk in. It's ridiculous that the council in their wisdom think it's reasonable to increase parking charges. I'd sooner go elsewhere and I'm sure I'm not alone!!</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>
<p>I object to the introduction of the charges because I fear that it would act as a deterrent to people coming into Wokingham evenings and weekends. In my view, people should be encouraged to use the town centre, and anything which counteracts this should be avoided. If less people come into town, this will have a detrimental effect on the businesses in town, and on the community spirit. People that I know sometimes drive into town on Saturday evening and leave their car overnight. Charges would prevent people from being able to do this.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>
<p>I do not think any changes will benefit the businesses in Wokingham. It is already difficult for them. This will potentially 'drive' people away to bigger nearby towns as the thought process could be, if we have to pay we may as well pay some where else.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>

<p>The car parking charges in Woodley are already excessive, with no free period (e.g. 1/2 hour if you only want to pick up a newspaper or prescription etc.) I will already avoid the Town Centre if possible on charging days, introducing further charges would just encourage me, and probably others like me, to use out of centre options such as Sainsburys or Marks and Spencer on evenings / Sundays as well. My view is that its likely to have a detrimental effect on the local traders.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>Although I appreciate that Wokingham has retained free evening and weekend parking in some car parks until now, which is good, I feel these charges will effect the popularity of pubs and restaurants in Wokingham so that some will close causing the council some unforeseen losses in consequence. Likewise I consider the withdrawal of free weekend parking will impact on the popularity of shops and the market in Wokingham, which will again cause loss to town and council in the long term. As ever plans seem to be based on short term gain!</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>
<p>I think an evening payment in the town centre car parks will again reduce people going into town and spending money, and therefore make it not a safe place to walk through etc with it being very quiet.</p>	<p>Please see comments 1, 5, and 6.</p>
<p>Yet another reason NOT to come to Wokingham Town Centre - The council seems to want the town to fail! A very short sighted way to raise a bit of extra revenue. The shopping experience is very poor in comparison to near by towns with more to offer! I feel sorry for the retailers in Wokingham as you don't want to help them in any way.....Why not be different and encourage us to shop and spend money in Wokingham instead of trying to finish it off.....? I will only be using the Waitrose or Marks and Spencers carparks from now on and my visits will be out of necessity rather than pleasure. Its such a shame, as I fear your all your recent car park decisions will put so many people off visiting places in the Wokingham Area.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>
<p>I paid my council taxes in Woodley and I feel so betrayed by Wokingham Council as we seem to be the forgotten area for anything until you put up charges. Woodley is starting to thrive at the weekend and putting a charge on will stop people going to the centre which will impact on business. Also the parking charges at Dinton pastures going up to £6 for 3 hours is day light robbery and means I will not go there and if I do I will not be paying for a coffee. Again taking business away from a local company and potentially losing jobs. You leave Woodley alone for everything else so leave the parking as is. You are getting more money from all the new houses in Woodley</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>
<p>Really bad idea - won't be coming into wokingham on a Saturday any more with kids if this happens Will stop coming in during evening as well - plenty of other places with free parking</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>

<p>Absolutely awful. Are you not making enough money from people that have to pay for parking to visit the doctor, not knowing how long they will be? In Woodley it is already the highest Council Tax charge in the borough.</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>
<p>Overall we understand the need for these changes, but think that at least the first hour should be free, to allow people to come into town and get some shopping or even 2 hours so that they can get a haircut or meal. Otherwise they will be pit off and go into another town.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>
<p>I wouldn't come into town as often if the charges came into force. It will take away from local business and stop people 'popping to town' for a wander etc. please don't increase the charges or put in week end charges. Residents locally have enough expense and this will not help community spirits</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>I think what is great about Wokingham is that there is ample parking at low cost and free on the weekend. It really means that the community can support local business, without this many people including myself will go elsewhere to shop/ eat and it is likely to have a detrimental effect on the town. Leave it as it is. Why is there a sudden drive to increase parking charges? To cover shortfall? Perhaps look at the other towns that have done this or even pedestrianised where shops and outlets are left empty with just a few charity shops to call a town centre. Look at the feedback from the recent instease at Dinton etc, people want to use facilities and shops where they live, not be forced to go elsewhere.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>I don't think you should change the situation, introducing a charge would increase on road parking an penalise local residents.</p>	<p>Please see comment 2.</p>

<p>I am particularly concerned about the proposed charges in Polehampton Close in Twyford. I strongly object to this proposal. As it stands there is already a charge during the day which mostly affects commuters using the station as the station car park is not big enough. However in the evening this car park becomes a community resource. The old Polehampton School is the headquarters of The Twyford and Ruscombe Theatre Group who use the building in the evenings for rehearsals and at weekends for set building and painting. The Polehampton Close car park (which was originally part of the school grounds), is therefore used by members of the group on several evenings and at weekends. Should you impose this new car parking charge this could have a devastating effect on the viability of the Theatre Group as this could effectively prevent members being able to use the facilities without huge expense. Surely you do not wish to have such an adverse effect on this successful Theatre Group which has been operating happily out of the Old Boys School virtually since the school ceased using it. I also wonder if you are aware of the plans to develop the site as a community hub. A planning application for this has already been submitted and it would seem a little premature to add new car parking charges just before this proposal is being considered. As it is we have had to contend with the toilets being closed without any consultation with the occupiers of the school (they were our only toilets) and now you intend to prevent us parking there as well. It does rather give the impression that Wokingham District Council are not very supportive of our community resources in Twyford. I should be very interested to know the purpose of the charge apart from purely raising money? If you add car parking charges to this community used car park we shall then, as a community group, have to apply to the council for assistance to help pay the charges otherwise we might fold. Much better not to add the evening and weekend charge at all surely.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 7.</p>
<p>I am not sure I completely agree to an evening fee, having said that I sometimes visit Windsor and they have an evening charge. This is the main reason that I don't visit Windsor that often as I feel it's a bit much asking a fee when the shops are closed. On another note who will be working during these evening/weekend times to ensure that people are paying to park.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>I often park on a Saturday evening and pick my car up on a Sunday, will there be the opportunity to pay for the weekend? Charges are not an issue as such however the machines probably need to be updated to allow a necessary level of flexibility in ticketing or there will be no option but to park on a side road which upsets residents.</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>
<p>They should not go ahead as money making scheme rather than providing what the people of the borough need or want</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>This move would be a terrible blow to small businesses in the town.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>

<p>A 30 minute rate should be offered at all times and a reduced hourly rate should be put in place if you go ahead with the evening charge. I often use a council car park when running errands on my way home from work and would be annoyed to have to pay £1 for overnight parking when all I want to do is to collect a prescription quickly. I would end paying more than I would if I had been able to run the errand earlier in the day. Will the money be used to provide better parking facilities? In my experience, WBC's car parks are often poorly lit and are in dire need of resurfacing.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>I belong to Twyford &amp; Ruscombe Theatre Group. Our members park in Polehampton Close car park on rehearsal evenings and on Sundays to assist with set building. If one of our members attends rehearsals by car throughout the year, these charges will cost them £100. Compare this with our membership fee of £15 a year and you can see that these charges will increase the cost of supporting the theatre group very considerably. There is a good reason why we have not increased our membership charges for over ten years, we do not want to deter people from supporting us. I fully accept that many of our members could easily afford the additional cost. However those that will find it most difficult are the younger members, whom we are most keen to attract and retain. Without the next generation of members we could easily become yet another geriatric social club, destined to close down as members expire!! These proposed charges represent a serious threat to the future of amateur theatre in Twyford. Please reconsider.</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>
<p>No no no. It will kill the night time economy, what do we pay council tax for?</p>	<p>Please see comment 6.</p>
<p>I think it's a shame to charge for the council parking on a Saturday. We come to Wokingham sometimes, from Shinfield BECAUSE there is free parking</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>
<p>Well done The Borough Council, you couldn't run a wheel stall. I drove through Bracknell on Monday for the first time in ages and saw how that once awful town centre is being regenerated, whilst the regeneration of the one I live in is taking longer than the Chilcott report. If you impose parking charges on a Sunday, the shopkeepers might as well put up the shutters. I would like to know what is involved in the upkeep of the Council's car parks. The only one I've seen maintained is the Euro car park in Denmark Street which was upgraded. Ironic really since I thought that the Council's plans are to allow that one to be built over - eventually. Disgraceful proposal.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5, 6, and 7.</p>



<p>I'm not sure why a 30 min shopper would need to pay a £1 after 6 PM or on Sundays instead of 50p. Specially those daytime worker who would not have enough during working hour to do their weekly groceries. If the scheme proceeds, I personally would look elsewhere to park as I don't think it's fair to be treated equally with someone who's staying overnight or for whole Sunday.</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>
<p>No there should not be any weekend or evening charges! I pay enough council tax without these extra charges!</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>The consultation document is a statement of intent which contains no rationale, reasons or justification for the proposals. Therefore it is not a consultation rather than an exercise to see how many people will object. This is sheer greed - yet again drivers are an easy target. What you are suggesting are 24/7/365 parking charges. WBC will also have to pay for parking wardens 24/7/365 to 'police' it - what is the benefit in that? It's bonkers! WBC does not have a parking problem - this is purely money raising and therefore illegal. If the vain hope is to encourage people to use public transport, then it will fail. WBC residents are poorly served by infrequent and expensive buses which only serve main routes and not outlying areas. In fact the bus service generally stops after 7pm anyway. Trains are not much better with a half hourly service at best. These 'proposals' will do is drive away business full stop. Restaurants and bars will be badly hit in the evenings as well as reduce footfall for events held on Sundays. If people can't enjoy an evening out, then they will stop visitiing Wokingham and Woodley town centres altogether.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>It is disingenuous that the reasons for these 'proposals' are hidden or can only be seen at the WBC offices during office hours. The documents on this site are statements of intent or variation to the present charges. No reasons are given at all. This process is a sham. The reasons should be publically stated in all documents on this site. They should also be published in the Reading Chronicle and Reading Post because we no longer have a Wokingham Times thanks to lack of support by WBC. It is sheer greed.</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>

<p>Local shops and business will further lose out. If you are going to charge for parking in evenings and weekends, I will vote with my feet and go somewhere else. Wokingham doesn't have any decent shops anyway so it's not an issue for me and neither Wargrave For Twyford especially the madness needs to stop with the parking and a new carpark built within the next 12 months. Fiddling around with charging parking in evenings and weekends does not address the core issue. WBC need to start acting and build the infrastructure rather than approving new houses built in peoples gardens. Local people will just get hit for living in a already expensive area with poor public transport and stagnated infrastructure. This shouldn't be another one of these planning debates for 10 years it just needs to happen now</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>I use the free parking to drop into wokingham for casual visits coffees, shopping, haircuts etc and meals out in the evening. Also my camera club the WEBCC meets on thursdays 8-10 PM therefore this proposal will adversely affect me. I am a wokingham resident living in woosehill. Trips into reading by car will now be more appealing as there are more attractions thus decreasing the profitability of wokingham. This would severely decrease any benefits that I receive from my now large council payments. I am therefore against this proposal.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 5.</p>
<p>Should not happen We are already paying too much</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>
<p>You want people to come into Wokingham and use the facilities but you put car park prices up. Doesnt make sense to me. It'll be a flat £1 for a while, then just like in Reading it will go up to full price 24 hours a day</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>
<p>I completely disagree with the proposal to introduce charges. In the last 2/3 years Wokingham has seen a decline in retailers in the town centre because of increased rents and increased traffic problems leading to a lack of customer flow during the day. The result of this is empty premises and an increase in food establishments who benefit from the free parking and reduced congestion. If charges are to be applied in the evenings then what is the advantage of visiting Wokingham over Reading (where there is far more choice), or Bracknell where huge redevelopment is being completed. This move would lead to driving more people out of our local town. If the huge amount of food places were to close, who exactly would take over these premises? I am proud to live in Wokingham and support the town and do not want to see it become full of low rent shops brought in to fill premises and become like any neglected town in the UK. It seems a short sighted move to impose car park charges to increase council revenue when the end result will be empty premises which will ultimately affect the rents and taxes paid to Wokingham. I seriously hope this proposal is reconsidered.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>

<p>I have a few comments regarding the proposed change to charge for car parking after 6pm in the car parks in and around Twyford village : 1. This is likely to have a negative impact on surrounding areas, as these car parks are frequently used by local theatre groups and evening pub/restaurant visitors, who are likely to park on the roads rather than pay the £1 charge - this may be for a variety of reasons such as not having correct change, or just plain avoiding the charge. 2. Having coin boxes containing cash out of hours may lead to a rise in petty theft/antisocial behaviour as they may be seen as soft targets for a few quid - even one or two incidents per year of this type would wipe out any revenue benefit to the borough as a whole with the associated policing and security costs. 3. To be of any benefit to the wider community, such measure would surely need to be enforced, with the associated additional cost to tax payers. I would suggest the cost of additional patrols/wardens would not be covered by the rather modest additional revenues and costs associated with this suggestion as on many evenings the car parks are likely to remain pretty empty (given 1. above). 4. Such a measure is not really in the interest of the local community, or supportive of evening social groups, charities and the like who are the main users out of hours - this change is likely to be seen as just another small revenue grabbing exercise by the council, which is neither in the interest of WBC or the local village community. Thank you for consulting on this matter.</p>	<p>Please see comments 1, 2, 4, and 7.</p>
<p>terrible idea. it will create more parking problems as people will try and avoid it in twyford and wargrave, impacting small businesses such as wargrave and twyfords bars and take aways. stop money grabbing and stop wasting money on minor changes to the most dangerous section of the A4 between London and bath at hare hatch. shocking idea.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 5, and 7.</p>
<p>I appreciate that the council has further restrictions on its budget, so I wonder how much revenue will this bring in over a year and I wonder if, as I suspect, it is quiet small then is it worth alienating the residents of Wokingham and the surrounding Parishes. I feel that it is penny pinching, its not as though it is costing the borough to require payment when people are parked there from 6 at night to 8 in the morning. I assume that there will not be anyone checking the parking, certainly after 6pm. As for charging at the Shute End offices, we paid for that building and its car park, we should be able to use it for free when not in use, Saturday and Sunday. I strongly object.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>

<p>There should be no car park charges for evenings or weekends. "...we simply cannot afford to run free car parks in this current climate," said Cllr John Kaiser, executive member for planning and highways. What is the cost for running free car parking. How much will it cost to enforce if parking charges are introduced?</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>Evening and Sunday Car Park Charges. My particular interest is the Crockhamwell road carpark next to Waitrose and the Headley road car park near the Oakwood centre, both in Woodley. The consultation document, does not explain why these charges are being introduced. Parking has always been free on Sundays and bank holidays and has provided parking for locals for purpose of shopping, accessing pubs, restaurants and also for accessing sporting activities at the nearby Woodford park. I know Woodford park has its own carpark but this is sometimes full. I also attend some evening activities in the Oakwood centre which will now require me to pay the new evening charge in the nearby Headly road carpark which is currently free. Can you please let me know, why these charges are necessary and assuming there is a sensible reason, why no allowance is being offered for users who only require a short stay.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 7.</p>
<p>Happy with weekend payments. But the overnight charge of £1 is too much if you want to pop in for late night shopping or food - it would only cost 50p or 70p at present. Maybe if it's normal charges until 10pm and then the flat rate.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>Feel that evening parking should be free where there are shops to encourage people to attend the shops and restaurants. Alternatively a free period of 2 hours before charges are enforced.same for Sunday's.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>Residents of Caldbeck drive Woodley already suffer from inconsiderate people parking over driveways,this will make them cram as many cars As possible to avoid paying charges. There's is also a DANGER BEND at the bottom of Caldbeck Drive where cars regularly park making it a dangerous single track blind bend,Police are fed up with WDC as residents are constantly asking them to move cars of Driveways.Already get people from Portsmouth/Southampton going to social serves seminars,people going to school/ shops/Banks/and doctors.People turn up in the middle of the night,just to park and some cars remain parked over driveways for several days.Are conservatives trying to make life miserable with extra housing means more resources stretched,traffic probs , less green space and then being charged to use remaining park..ie Dinton. Have voted for Conservatives in the past.....NO MORE.</p>	<p>Please see comment 2 and 3.</p>

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<p>Why don't you just put up a sign to say Wokingham is closed, another nail in the coffin for shoppers in Wokingham.</p>	<p>Please see comment 6.</p>
<p>I am very against proposed change to car park charges. Living in Caldbeck Drive we already have dreadful trouble with people parking badly. Not only parking all day on the bend making it into a one track dangerous blind bend on a hill, but also across our drives making it very dangerous particularly when school children are trying to cross the road and we have to pull out into road without being able to see properly. Already the car park charges force people who work in the doctors surgery, banks etc to park all day outside our houses making life very difficult for residents, plus we now have the residents from the flats above Lidl parking outside overnight and sometimes for several days, making it impossible for us to have visitors, workmen etc parked outside our own house. If this goes ahead we should at least be given the double yellow lines we have been asking for for many years. I think now the council can afford this with the extra revenue that would be raised. CALDBECK DRIVE RESIDENT</p>	<p>Please see comment 2 and 3.</p>
<p>I am against evening parking charges in locations where they are not currently imposed. I am particularly against the new charge at car parks near Woodley Precinct. Many people drive to Woodley and park in the evenings for five to ten minutes to get fish and chips, pizza etc from takeaways. Why should they be penalised by having to pay an additional £1 for a takeaway. Is it pointless trying to charge anyway as people will just park on the roads around after on street restrictions end for the day? Does WBC not support local businesses because in this case those in Woodley may soon be deserted in favour of other outlets with access to free parking. How much would the additional enforcement measures cost - enough to justify or even cover the costs of a small amount of new income in such a car park.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5, 6, and 7.</p>

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<p>Other councils in the area charge less, see Henley for example. As for charging overnight rates? Who is going to police this. How much will it cost to have night parking attendants for each car park? I cannot see how overnight and Sunday charging will be cost effective if you have to employ overnight parking attendants to give out parking fine notices. Because of parking charges at Woodley Centre I try to only go there on Sunday's, except when I need to go to the Doctors Surgery. As a Pensioner I need to watch my pennies. Due to health problems I am currently unable to walk the distance from home to the Centre. If parking charges go up, I will have to think about changing doctors, unless there is a scheme to give doctors surgery a discount. I don't buy take always, so evening charges won't make ant difference to me, but they will to the take always in the Ventre as people will just go elsewhere.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 5, and 7.</p>
<p>Evening charges will detract from visitors to the towns restaurants. Whilst set relatively low to start with there is no safeguard that this charge will not increase as council funding is right. Charging for Shute end is a retrograde step as this will deter shoppers using the town which is the opposite of what regeneration is meant to be about.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>
<p>Yet another death knell for Wokingham I usually choose to visit Wokingham on a Saturday because I can park for free in the civic offices car park - not any more. All this change will do is to make people park in the surrounding residential roads and create chaos for the residents. This will also impact on the evening trade in Wokingham. Currently people will visit, park and have a meal. An additional few pounds to add to the bill. Why do Wokingham council have to "keep up with other councils parking plans" Why can they not TRY TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO COME TO WOKINGHAM instead of making people stay away.</p>	<p>Please see comment 2 and 7.</p>
<p>Given the state of government funding and in particularly my primary school funding (totally appalling) I think this is a good idea. I just hope you spend the money wisely.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>

<p>I object to parking increases bearing in mind the local Woodley precinct and Wokingham town centre is already struggling to entice shoppers but free parking does help. Wokingham town centre has been a disappointment for some time now due to the delay on redevelopment and the shops and restaurants who have persevered should be applauded. I have always recommended shopping/dining out at Wokingham to my friends from Reading due to free parking in the evening and Sunday.so I suspect the won't come now either if WBC start charging, what a pity. I'm assuming if the charges go ahead you will be paying for an attendant during the extra hours to check on payment or no doubt you will have more charge to the council by installing new car registration meters as they have done at the park and ride Winnersh. I might add I have now stopped using the park and ride.</p>	<p>Please see comments 6 and 7.</p>
<p>Evening charges will make me think twice about going to dinner in one of Wokingham's restaurants. The car parks are not near capacity during the evenings. What is the point of adding a charge other than money making?</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>As a Woodley resident I very often nip up to the local shopping precinct after 6pm after work to pick up a few items from Waitrose or Iceland. I currently do not have to pay to park after 6pm. If charges are introduced then it is simply not cost effective to do this and I would rather drive to one of the out of town supermarkets near by instead. Also what if I want to nip into Woodley to pick up a takeaway in the evening, again I just wont if I have to pay. There are plenty of take-aways locally where I can park outside FOC. I strongly feel the introduction of out of hours charging will certainly affect the local shops in the Woodley precinct.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>If I want to buy fish and chips or a pizza from Woodley or pick up a pint of milk from Waitrose after 6pm I will need to factor in an extra £1 for parking for 5/10 minutes. I will just go to one of the many food outlets around the area where there is free parking. Problem solved. Feel sad for the shops in Woodley precinct that will suffer thanks to the short sightedness of WBC. You are killing Woodley Town Centre. In addition, the state of the road surface in the Waitrose car park is atrocious - every time it rains the car park becomes flooded &amp; dangerous underfoot. Come on WBC how about spending some of the already highly inflated charges on improving Woodley !</p>	<p>Please see comments 5, 6, and 7.</p>

<p>I do not agree with the proposed changes for the following reasons: 1. There will likely be an impact on local businesses that rely on Sunday and evening trade, particularly coffee shops and take-away food retailers who are located close to car parks which are currently free during those periods (eg. those in Woodley centre close to Crockhamwell car park). Some councillors and others will suggest that paying £1 will not affect people visiting such businesses, but can those people honestly say they have conducted genuine research on the issue or is it just gut feel or that they saying that because it justifies the outcome they want ? Small punitive changes can indeed change people's behaviour - take the 5p carrier bag charge from supermarkets - it's a very small charge and probably less than 1% of a typical supermarket shop, yet almost instantly reduced carrier bag supply by over 80%. It's not the 5p that people object to, it's the principal that matters and drives change in behaviour. The same applies to car park charges - charging for something that people think should be free will drive change in behaviour and evening/Sunday usage will fall, affecting businesses accordingly. 2. People will park on roads instead, impacting residents on those roads (eg. Silver Fox Crescent, Roslyn Road in Woodley). You could paint double yellow lines along these roads, or increase the times that parking is not allowed on the single yellow lines to include evenings and weekends, but this still affects residents and makes it difficult for visitors to residents on these roads. 3. The cost of enforcement - Taking Crockhamwell Road as an example - mid week evenings this car park is not heavily used - it will not generate a large income, especially if even less people park there in the evening once charging is implemented (eg. me - I'll park outside peoples houses and walk into town instead). The cost of enforcement will surely outstrip the income from fining people if they don't pay. 4. I see the introduction of charging as a stealth tax - making residents pay for something that is currently free without it appearing as an increase in council tax. 5. You should look back to when the car parks and their charges were originally introduced - at that time there was a decision made to provide free evening and Sunday parking. I would suggest that those reasons have not changed and hence the reasons for keeping it the same now has not changed either. These proposals are simply an attempt to generate revenue and nothing more than that and the council should take a long hard look at why there is a budget deficit and address those reasons rather than trying to top up the budget implementing changes such as this wherever and whenever they can.</p>	<p>Please see comment 2, 5, and 7.</p>
<p>I am dead against it and it echoes all who live in the local community. WBC is using us as Cash Cow. How about the top cats in WBC not lining their pockets with high salaries that do not match their work at all.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>



<p>There are numerous reasons why this is a poorly thought out scheme. Those I fail to mention will no doubt be raised by others. This action will have the effect of driving business away from the shops and services located near to the car parks in question. Shopper will go to shops that offer free car parking. If shops lose business they may cease to trade. Who will pay your their business rates then ? But most worryingly for me is this entry level charge of £1. To be effective, the new charges will have to be policed either by council staff or whomever it is sub-contracted to. It is highly probable that the additional cost to police this new scheme will not be covered by the revenue generated from the car parking fees. So the fees will have to increase and you can rest assured it will not an increase determined by inflation. Historically, when car park charges were introduced to a car park that were previously free, it didn't take very long before the charges were increased. The £1 fee is like the "spider to the fly" story. Suck people in then Bang ! This scheme if introduced will badly affect local businesses, will lead to much more parking in the street causing obstructions to vehicles and pedestrians alike. Police resources would not be available to deal with it even if they wanted to. If they are not going to attend burglaries I think an illegal parked car will be well down the priority list. Woodley shopping centre is very outdated and of a poor standard and these charges if introduced could be the final nail in the coffin for some businesses. All local authorities are under financial pressures due to the current financial situation in the country but this is not they way to solve any of these problems. Therefore I respectfully request that this scheme is filed in the brown wheelie bin that is collected fortnightly from my home and never sees the light of day again.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 5, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>These charges would have a detrimental effect for me when shopping in Woodley, I'd be more likely to shop at other places such as Sainsbury's Winnersh where the parking is free.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>

<p>Hi, The car park behind Café Rouge used to provide 30 minutes free parking before it was turned into a site for new houses. This only leaves a few 30 minute free spaces in Sturges Road (by The Salvation Army Hall) and along Denton Road - and these are usually full. As a result, I've recently stopped popping into Wokingham by car to buy a newspaper, wait to pick up my wife after shopping, or click and collect during the 'paid parking' hours. These new charges will stop me from going into Wokingham town center for a 'short stay' at any time of the any day or night! Could there not be a free first 30 minutes in these car parks? Am I the only person who would not want to add a £1 to the cost of a Sunday paper on rainy day? And shouldn't free parking be our 'unique selling point' for Wokingham's promotion as an evening/weekend destination point for recreational/eating/shopping visits? I'm not sure that I understand the "carparks must become more self-sufficient" argument. Is the cost of maintaining the parking machines and warden patrols more than the money currently collected? Will it help if fewer people visit and wardens need to be employed on evening, weekend, and holiday pay rates? I guess that, if it's unavoidable, paying for off-peak parking is OK for long periods but it shouldn't penalise or deter 'short stay' visitors.</p>	<p>Please see comments 6 and 7.</p>
<p>It is a shame that Wokingham Borough Council seeks to stifle or profit from Woodley's new night time economy by extending the charging period duration. Surely it is better to have people using the precinct in the evenings which in turn will reduce unruly behaviour and the subsequent costs to remove litter and graffiti? The increased duration and cost of the charges will encourage more drivers to park on local residential roads rather than using the facilities provided. Despite the encouragement to use other forms of transport, people will not cycle unless proper facilities are provided. Either to make the roads safer or shower/changing facilities at their places of work or education so they can freshen up and change out of wet clothes. I understand raising parking charges is an easy way to generate revenue whilst the Borough gets limited support from central government, but I am sure you can be more imaginative than this!</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 5, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>The facility to park for free at Shute End on a Saturday has encouraged myself and family to shop and have lunch in Wokingham rather than Reading or elsewhere for many years. When parking charges are introduced we will not visit so often. I suspect this will apply to many people. The traders in Wokingham will experience a drop in trade because of this.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>The Supermarket car parks will be used. How much will it cost to employ evening inspectors? Is it cost effective? Will it drive away trade?</p>	<p>Please see comment 5 and 7.</p>

<p>I strongly object to the proposed changes to the car park charges in Wokingham. I live on London Road and do not have on street parking facilities. I have to use the Easthampstead Road East car park, every day and from there have to walk down to my house. I have to park there in the evenings and at weekends. I already have to pay to park my car there all day on a Saturday, which is what I would expect to have to do. However, I should not be expected to pay to park during the evenings and on a Sunday in addition to the vast amount of money I already have to pay for Council Tax. What benefit do I gain from paying this money? I have no alternative but to park my car in that car park. I would expect residents without access to on street parking are provided with free parking permits to cover the hours you intend to start charging for. This would not involve a large amount of properties, as the vast majority of houses on the London Road have drives (or room to park their car) beside their property or are able to park on the road outside their house. I do not have either option. I would of course be expecting to pay for parking in the usual way during 'normal' hours ie week days until 6pm and all day on Saturday to 6pm. I know Reading Borough Council run a scheme in some parts of Reading for residents, whereby the first parking permit is provided free of charge and you can pay for additional parking permits / visitors permits. You are expected to apply on line on an annual basis. Surely Wokingham Borough Council would consider a similar scheme for their residents. I am happy to be contacted further about this issue. Thank you.</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>
<p>This relates mostly to the car parks in Woodley Town Centre. I fully understand the need to charge on Sundays and Bank Holidays as many shops are now open during these times and it's almost the same as a Saturday now. However, charging in the evening is not something I'm happy with as often I pop in briefly for a take-away, quick purchase or to visit a cash machine in the evening on the way home from work. Having to pay is going to make me use alternatives (away from Woodley Town Centre) where parking is free.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>I am against the extra parking charges for use after 6pm and on Sundays. This will have a detrimental effect on the restaurants and takeaways in Woodley Precint.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>I would oppose these charges as they will impact the users of the Oakwood Centre, the restaurants in Woodley Centre and the Sunday Car boot fairs. We have waited a long time for there to be dining facilities in Woodley and these charges may force them out. Additionally living in Arundel Road we already have enough problems with people, who presumably work on Woodley centre parking during the working week, these charges will just encourage this street parking in the evenings and weekends.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 4, and 5.</p>

<p>I do not agree with introducing evening car park charges throughout Wokingham Borough. The car parks are now very well used throughout the day therefore income must have increased. As a member of Woodley Theatre whose home is the Oakwood Centre this will certainly impact on members who spend many evenings and weekends working to provide quality shows for the public. This will affect the membership. This is also an additional cost for patrons. If audience numbers decline this will affect the financial viability of Woodley Theatre. There is no alternative to the public carpark the public can only use the public carpark. Re-think this idea, do not penalise local people. To suggest this increase is to put Wokingham Borough carpark charges in line with neighbouring areas is absurd. You cannot compare towns such as Henley with Woodley. Please listen to local people.</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>
<p>I understand the need to charge for parking however I would also like to support local business. So could you bring in this change with the change to 'no cost' for 30 minutes or less. Win : for the residents and WBC .</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>we have a terrible time trying to park outside our home in Bruce due to the shoppers and staff working in the precinct in woodley parking in our parking bays if you increase the parking charges it will make it even more difficult for us.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2 and 3.</p>
<p>Is the council determined to stop patrons attending Woodley theatre and the woodley library. What happened to regenerating the town centre and encouraging people to use the two nice restaurants. Of course the councillors who impose such charges will be unaffected as they can claim their charges back on expenses. This could result in lots of parking in the surrounding roads, will residents of local roads welcome an influx of cars.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 4, 5, and 6.</p>
<p>I have lived in Wokingham Borough (Woodley) for over 40 years so have observed the incredible growth in population and car use). My husband and I visit Twyford every few days as our daughter (a single mother) requires regular child care help from us! Our daughter lives in Brook Street where it is always notoriously difficult to park. We frequently cannot find a space in Brook Street (especially at night) and have resorted to parking in Polehampton Close car park as it's the only place where there is any space in the evenings whilst we care for our granddaughters - not ideal but no charge at the moment! Charging us in this situation seems grossly unfair. I also feel that there will be a knock on effect which will need some thought! Twyford Village side roads are already congested and this will get worse! Local businesses will lose patrons - especially the restaurants and cafes! Parking in Brook Street will be impossible for residents and their families 24 hours a day!</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 3, and 5.</p>

<p>Are you seriously trying to put people off ever bothering to visit the limited shops of Wokingham. You will now kill off the evening trade of restaurants as well. On top of Dinton Pastures charges someone needs sacking for killing this town</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>
<p>Before you change these charges try installing machines that take card, or give you change or charge you on your return to the car. Would like to know how much you have made with all those extra 20p + change not returned to customers..</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>I think this would impact greatly on the businesses in Woodley - if you can't park for free in the evening to go to the takeaways or restaurants then you are going to go somewhere you can park for free. I don't want to pay for parking to pick up my Waitrose shopping when I deliberately go at the quieter times like evenings and Sundays. It is a completely unnecessary stealth tax and, I believe, like for Reading Borough Council, it will not create the extra revenue they sought. The example I will give is of making South Street pay and display. They thought that visitors to the venue would pay to park there but we've all chosen to park elsewhere so there's no extra revenue. Pointless and it just annoys the electorate.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>Incurring evening charges will penalise those who already can't afford to park during the day, particularly those on very low incomes who have already lost their blue badge and possibly their disability benefits under the stricter criteria being instigated.</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>
<p>I want to know how you think this is feasible? Do you really want NO ONE coming anywhere near Wokingham borough? It actually will work out CHEAPER to go into Reading have a decent meal and come home again. You'll see a decrease in people visiting. Wokingham will be a ghost town at night which doesn't look good! Parking is already ridiculous at the best of times. I'm not sure who's clever idea it is but they need to be sacked asap! I think you should introduce resident cards like Windsor and Maidenhead have.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>

<p>I do not agree to these changes in car park charges. Although the individual charges seem small, visiting the shops or Wokingham town centre would add an unacceptable £100 a year to my bills (based on this year's use). This will shop me from shopping in local stores at the weekend and encourage me to do more internet shopping. I would also be discouraged from going into Wokingham in the evening to visit restaurants or pubs. I am a pensioner so even a small charge will make a difference. At a time when the council is trying to encourage us to shop locally rather than using superstores, I think these changes would be a backward step. We have already lost a number of shops due to increases in business charges and rents, and the addition of extra charges for shoppers could reduce business in these shops and force even more closures. It does not take much to poison the future of a thriving town centre, but extra charges for members of the public that use it can do that.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>
<p>This will massively effect evening business in Woodley which you have started to try to build up with Bosco Lounge and Cozze, as well as the three take away establishments, for example, if I wanted to pop up to Woodley after 6pm for a take away it would now be cheaper and better to go to Hudson Road, Crockhamwell Road or the Three Tuns where there is no parking charge. Having to pay an extra £1 when you are only going for £5's worth of fish and chips is a ridiculous overhead. Also where before I would wait until after 6pm to use Woodley precinct to go and buy something from a supermarket to make use of the free parking it would now be better to use it anytime up until 1 minute before 6pm, as the parking will increase by 30p once it becomes 6pm. Finally you are saying that you can't afford to offer the free parking because of the cost, but surely you will now have to employ a parking warden to police these new parking charges, surely the cost of these new parking wardens will massively subtract from any money you might make.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 5, and 7.</p>
<p>I think that this charge may take away customers from places like Woodley Precinct. I also think it's unfair to have charges late night at the stations or on weekends. This may put people off travelling.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>

<p>I think these proposals are completely short sighted. I live on the Airfield in Woodley and rarely visit the precinct during the day as I object to paying for parking, when I can drive to Sainsburys in Winnersh or Asda, Lower Earley and have much the same shopping options, and I can park for free. Currently I visit Woodley precinct most Sunday's and Lidl during one evening a week. We also use the Hong Kong fish and chip shop in the evenings. If I had to pay £1.00 for a 10 to 30 minute visit, I would simply stop going. I never pay more than 70p to park during the week/Saturday, so this charge would mean that I would be paying more to visit on a Sunday than during the week. How can that possibly be right? Woodley precinct simply does not have enough facilities to justify charging. And where would the money go? I fell down a pot hole last winter in Headley Road car park, reported it and it is still there, so it is not for repairs. With regards to Shute End car park, it is the easiest car park that we can get to and it is a big draw to us that it is free. I would also query whether the charges, if implemented, would offset the cost of enforcing them.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>This will help to kill off trade in local centres in the evenings and at weekends, and will also affect those using services such as the libraries, which increasingly are extending their remit to offer evening events.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 5, and 6.</p>
<p>I object to the increase in parking charges for Woodley and Wokingham, especially on Sundays in Woodley. The local 'Streelife' feed has listed many reasons against the increases that need to be taken into consideration. I like many others will, when using the car go to other outlets/shops/banks that have free parking all the time.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>

It is totally unbelievable that WBC is seeking to charge for such parking. Parking charges during the day are already excessive and mean many people simply will not shop in either Woodley or Wokingham. To now suggest evening and Sunday charges will seriously affect all manner of businesses and clubs and mean many people will either simply not go out at all or try to park in residential roads. WBC should have acquired a small fortune in developer contributions and this should be spent improving the appalling state of roads and congestion and making all car parks free instead of forcing more and more driving to out-of-town facilities where parking is free. The people this will hit hardest are the ones dependant on savings income already hard hit by low interest rates and what is a miserly state pension who try to have some kind of life. When you add on the increase in Council Tax come April life will be impossible for millions like this right across the country. It's completely cruel for Councils whose staff enjoy Gold Plated pensions at our expense to think that everyone else who does not enjoy such luxury can keep on paying out. Start back at the beginning and think of improving services without robbing residents into the bargain.

Please see comments 2 and 3.



I object to the proposed Sunday / BH / evening car park charges in the car park around Woodley shopping centre. I feel very strongly that this will have an impact on local shops in the Woodley shopping centre as well as amenities such as the library and Oakwood Centre. Small shops in Woodley are being financially hit by lower footfall these days as more people drive to supermarkets who have free car parks. I feel that this implementation of car park charges will cause some of the shops to go out of business or be closed down by their head offices due to reduced revenues. This will also drive many shoppers to park in nearby local streets to avoid extra charges causing bigger pressure on nearby roads. While you may think that £1 is not much extra to pay - it really is too much extra for many of us. I try to walk or cycle as much as possible to Woodley shopping area but on some odd occasions I have to drive and that is when the car park charges will force me to avoid it. For example if I need to use the car park for less than 5 mins to drop off a library book on my way home from work one evening - why should I pay £1 for those 5 mins? If I wish to put items in the recycling bins in Headley Road car park on a Sunday or evening - why should I have to pay £1 for the privilege of recycling? You should be encouraging locals to use facilities such as the library, Oakwood centre and recycling area - not making residents pay additional money to use them. I also don't believe you should be implementing evening and Sunday charges at Winnersh Triangle. You should be encouraging people to use the train as a public transport not discouraging them. Councils are supposed to work for local residents and businesses - not against them! I strongly object to this proposal and request that you do not implement it.

Please see comments 4 and 5.

<p>This charge is completely unnecessary and the implications have not been thought through. It is not just a simple £1 fee. It affects hundreds of people and families from people who visit the doctor after 6, to families taking their children to their after school activities, to people attending clubs such as weight watchers. Many of these are recurring activities and make the activity a lot more expensive and it may make the difference for people who can only just afford to do the activity. So instead of encouraging people to go out and about and be active, you will force them to stay at home being miserable and inactive causing more people to get ill and unfit. More people will start parking inappropriately and dangerously on yellow lines, causing traffic problems and chaos. Traffic congestion has got worse since the changes around the new station making it very difficult to get out on to the London Road even at 7am! In addition you will put people off from using the local businesses after hours because a simple 15 – 20 minute stay will now cost £1 So have you actually modelled the revenue taking into consideration all these variables? How many people would you have to employ to enforce this charge? How easily will you find it to recruit people to enforce these charges between 6pm and 8pm? Any profit you get will be swallowed up in these extra costs.</p> <p>Instead of having Wokingham as a vibrant town centre after 6 pm you will cause people to go elsewhere which will have an impact on local businesses. Already there is very little to feel proud of in Wokingham with little by way of leisure facilities for children for outdoor play for example, there are no pretty gardens for people to sit in, poor road planning with lots of roads with potholes, accidents on the A329, charges for green waste etc. In summary this is a poorly thought out proposition which will only cause hundreds of disgruntled and resentful citizens who will not be able to respect the work of the Council because we will no longer trust you to be making sensible decisions.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 4, 5, and 7.</p>
<p>Introduce these charges and turn Wokingham into a ghost town. Do you intend employing parking attendants in the evenings / weekends to issue tickets to non-payers ? Very badly thought through. There is little enough to attract people into the town already. My prediction. Revenues will fall not rise as people go elsewhere. Anyone that does bother coming onto town will park in residential streets further annoying anyone that lives there.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>This proposal will penalise town centre businesses. I would think twice before paying £1 to collect a take away, attend a weight watchers session or pick up some milk from a convenience store. It is particularly unfair for such short visits. We already have a town centre that has an excess of charity shops as a result of previous business closures. Even more trade will go to superstores that have their own parking and this will deprive us of locally owned businesses.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 5.</p>

<p>I don't mind the £1 charge for early evening and Sunday parking which seems reasonable, however, all other parking charges in Wokingham are expensive and it's depressing that the council wishes to impose these high charges on people who use the Shute end car park on Saturdays as well.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>Yes, I'm totally against the proposal</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>
<p>Well what can one say, is there any way the council can get any more money out of motorists. Apart from that, Caldbeck Drive Woodley is already a dangerous road to drive down because of the cars that park on the blind bend near the Cobham Rd junction. Yellow lines were put opposite Cobham Rd and they should have been extended further on up to the bend on both sides. Extra car parking charges will only make this an almost permanently hazardous road, No police patrols to deal with the parking and the police community support officers take no notice at all. Don't expect any better when I see a community officer cycling over the 'NO CYCLING' sign etched on the surface of the entry into the shops. Putting extra car park charges in the Woodley shopping centre car park is definitely not in any way helpful to the local residents who only have to suffer during the day at the moment.</p>	<p>Please see comment 2.</p>
<p>In what is already a difficult time for our traders, this will further discourage people from shopping in Wokingham. Likewise, people will be less likely to use the restaurants, preferring to go instead to pubs &amp; restaurants which have free onsite parking.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>Saturday &amp; Sunday parking charges at the council offices would be detrimental to footfall in the town at an already difficult time for retailers. In addition, churches in the town offer a number of activities &amp; services to the community. It seems therefore somewhat mean-spirited to charge community-minded people £52 a year for parking on a Sunday, to attend services at town-centre churches where there is little, or no other, parking available. As for £6 to park at Dinton Pastures for 3 hours, it is cheaper to park in central Reading for 3 hours(!) I thought the council were supposed to encourage people to exercise, not provide deterrents..</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 5.</p>
<p>I have lived in Woodley for 20+ years. I reckon I have paid to park at the Woodley car parks no more than 5 times in those years, I simply refuse to pay 70p (or whatever the minimum charge is) to pop to the library / bank / chippy etc. I will continue to park 4-5 minutes walk away. Charge what and when you like, you won't make a penny more out of me.</p>	<p>Please see comment 2.</p>
<p>This will deter anyone visiting town for a very short period to pick up take away food from any of the businesses offering such services. Collecting in person is much preferred to waiting for deliveries which can very unreliable. Such a policy will have an adverse impact on business in the town during these periods.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>

<p>The proposed extension of car parking charges in Wokingham are unnecessary and will only serve to kill off what little life there is in the town centre week-ends and Bank Holidays. We want to encourage more people to come into town, not discourage them!</p>	<p>Please see comment 6.</p>
<p>I do understand that you need to raise more funds to run services in this area. However, I am concerned that if you raise the cost of parking you will drive away shoppers and evening users, such as Library users and customers of restaurants. I would like to see more support for independent shops and service providers in Wokingham and keeping car parking costs fair encourages visitors to come and linger rather than rushing off to large out-of-town superstores with their free parking. As a community we need to keep the town alive and encourage both independent shops and chains to come here and enliven the town. This includes the Library which is one of the best and most innovative in the UK. Events take place on Thursday evenings with regularity and it would be very wrong to impose charges and undermine their success and drive away users. Your proposal to both impose additional charges and increase existing charges will affect all levels of the community but mainly those on lower or fixed income, as always. The continued pressure on shopkeepers and customers alike is not wise at a time like this when we need to see a regeneration of the town centre for everyone's benefit. Therefore, I would like to register my strong objection to the proposals.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 5.</p>
<p>I don't remember this being part of the conservative manifesto for the last elections!! Too frightened to ask the government for a bigger slice of the local government budget. Result, this is yet another nail in the coffin of a dying town. 2 hours free parking in Bracknell and many free car parks in Crowthorne. Where shall I go shopping?</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>No to charges. There is no need, the excuse of government cuts is nonsense. I love fact there are some small businesses in the area, long may it reign.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>This proposal is very damaging for the community life of Wokingham. Lots of people come into Wokingham in the evening and on Sundays and this policy will really put them off doing so. You must realise that the psychological effect of parking charges greatly outweighs the actual cost - many people will do anything to avoid paying for parking. As one of the leaders of All Saints Church I am particularly concerned about the adverse effect on the church and its Cornerstone community building. But I am also worried about Wokingham's community life in general. This is a mean and spiteful measure that should not go forward.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 6.</p>

<p>Can you make it clear how much you have to pay if say I arrive at the Crockhamwell car park at 5.30pm and wish to stay until 6.30 do I have to pay my 70 p then go back and put a £1 as I am still there after 6.00pm I understand you need to raise money somehow and this is as good as any. However I think bank holidays should be free. In addition on Sundays why not have a one hour charge of 50p for those who want to do just a little bit of shopping and £1 for the whole day. It will help the smaller shops from loss of trade because of parking charges.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>The proposals do not indicate who is going to monitor the pay and display overnight, weekends and Public Holidays. Presuming parking inspectors are going to be employed to carry out this task, will it be at all times covered by the Parking charge regime? What is the cost of employing this staff at unsocial hours going to be compared to the estimated revenue that will be collected for each site? Do you have ANY indication of the level of usage at each of these sites at even endings, weekends and Public Holidays? Wha happens if the revenue stream does not cover the costs at each site?</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>its about time you introduced parking charges at Shute End for Saturday parking but I disagree with introducing parking charges on Sundays and bank holidays in other car parks across the borough as it may well affect local traders</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>Have you really considered the difference between a town centre car park (such as Wokingham) and a car park in a predominantly residential district (Woodley). You say this is bringing Wokingham into line with neighbouring areas but I know of no such area that is little more than a parade of shops but charges car marking as if it were a major town centre. Woodley's car park serves community halls and the library. The only real businesses open in the evening are the Lidl supermarket and the chip shop. I can understand Sunday charging but not evening charges. The community halls do not have their own car parks and even a £1 charge will put a huge burden on volunteers who are regular users of the community halls. For example. The amateur theatre at the Oakwood expects cast and crew to attend some 20 or so evening rehearsals for each production - this adds £20 to the expenses of a volunteer! This is not a charge for car parking for a town centre - In Woodley it is a charge for parking at community halls!</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>
<p>Overall, I think the charges are acceptable. However, I believe the addition of a 30 minute stay with a lower charge would help reduce the parking problems outside schools (as a grandmother, I pay for an hour's parking to collect children taking 20 minutes) and increase the flow in and out of the car parks - often, queues arise backing onto the roads whilst people search for parking spaces. It might also mitigate against some of the inevitable resistance to the proposals.</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>

<p>I am extremely disappointed to find on-line so little information about this proposal which I presume has been under consideration for some time. I would like to ask:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the reasons for the parking increases? References are made to bringing us into line with neighbouring authorities. Can you provide me with a table of charges for the authorities that you looked at. If reference is made to Reading it would be fair to say that Wokingham Borough is no Reading</li> <li>2. When were the regeneration team made aware of these proposals? You will be aware of the public consultation that is taking place on the Elms Field application currently and parking is an integral part of that application</li> <li>3. There are other car parks in Wokingham Town, for example Waitrose, Marks and Spencer and the private Denmark Street car park. Have these operators been made aware of these proposals which may have implications for their own car parks?</li> <li>4. Is there any way of increasing the 21 day consultation period which seems very short bearing in mind the need to look at the above information. I would like to suggest the 21st of February</li> <li>5. As far as I am aware the proposed car parking strategy has not been produced and is that going to be done before the proposed start date for this change? It is also the regeneration team's intention to start work on the multi-storey car park on the Carnival Pool site with a view to it opening in 2016.</li> </ol> <p>Are the proposed charges for this car park included in the proposal?</p>	<p>Please see the comments in the report.</p>
<p>Parking charges discourage casual shoppers from patronising local businesses. I am a Woodley resident but do not visit Woodley Precinct during charging hours - I work outside of the borough and can visit shopping areas in Thatcham and Theale with free parking, or I can go to one of the many supermarkets that also offer free parking on my route. There are shops in those 2 towns that I now regularly visit that I would never have considered entering if I had not been able to park locally for free - I do not visit local shops for long periods and am back in my car within 10 minutes on most occasions. Why should I visit Waitrose in Woodley and get charged for parking when I can go to Waitrose in Thatcham or Twyford and not be? It is ridiculous that in the evening, on a Sunday, or a Bank Holiday I can park in Albertopolis, adjacent to some of London's foremost tourist attractions and not be charged to park there at all, but to buy milk at my local Lidl or Waitrose I will have to pay.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>

<p>It will just make people park on the roads instead and make it more expensive for anyone who has no alternative transportation. I don't see why you need more money for a carpark which is just a bit of tarmac and where the only running cost other than maintaining the tarmac (which hasn't been done in years) is to ensure someone checks that people have paid and displayed and maintaining the machine that collects money. How about remove the need to pay and display and save money from employing someone and maintaining a machine? Surely that would be a better way to save money and would encourage people to visit the shops and locations in Wokingham borough, rather than travelling elsewhere?</p>	<p>Please see comment 2, 5, and 7.</p>
<p>I am a member of the Twyford and Ruscombe Theatre Group. We rehearse in the old Polehampton School in Twyford and therefore use the Polehampton car park in the evenings. Charging in the evening would mean a cost per cast member per production of £32-£35 each which is considerably more than the annual membership of the group. It would seriously impact our ability to retain membership and cast plays. It also seriously disadvantages those on low incomes and many of our members are retired. I also question the economic viability of the proposal. To be effective you would need to employ inspectors to enforce the charge and I doubt much extra revenue will be generated once the additional costs of policing it are taken into account.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 7.</p>

<p>This is the worst proposal I've heard from Wokingham Council. I wouldn't mind if the money I spent on Council Tax I could see good results but if you can't even sort the awful bins around Woodley that are always overflowing with foodwaste/dog waste and we have one of the highest rates of tax in the whole country?! Fairwater Drive in Woodley has had a sign up on it for over a year saying it's been earmarked for resurfacing. So far only about 50 yards of it has been done. Are the council going to pay for my new suspension? I think not. It's been in a terrible state for over 3 years and making people wait this long for basic things like making the road a safe place to drive (for cars/motorbikes and cyclists) is appalling. At the moment, Twyford and Woodley have a lovely community feel and I often pop into the shops there and use the small Polehampton carpark for community events (theatre rehearsals, social things). When we rehearse 2-3 times a week, that's an extra £3 a week - even if we don't rehearse every week it would still cost me over £100 in fees. That's excluding the times when I want to pop into Woodley for things - don't worry, I won't get the food from the little pet shop, get my hair cut in Twyford, pop into the lovely coffee shop - I'll just pop along to the big Asda in Lower Earley and get everything from there. No more money for Wokingham council. This, on top of making the extortionate price increase at Dinton Pastures.... it's expensive enough as it is - are the council trying to discourage people from using the park? Maybe they're trying to discourage people from taking healthy walks around the lake... who knows....</p>	<p>Please see comment 4, 5, and 6.</p>
<p>It's a good idea! Maybe the first 20 minutes could be free to allow me to collect my take away though.</p>	<p>Please see the comments in the report.</p>
<p>As a small town Wokingham should be encouraging people to socialise and participate in community activities which tend to take place at weekends and evenings. Charging for parking can hinder the possibility of community engagement - this smacks at the whole idea of the "Big Society" aspirations. However if people could see that the £1 EVENING AND SUNDAY charge was been invested into the "community" and improving the lives of people within our small town rather than just plugging the deficit in the councils budgets then it would go a long way to placating the knee jerk reaction of residents to this charge being introduced.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 6, and 7.</p>



<p>The car park in Polehampton Close, Twyford is used in the evenings and Sundays mainly by people supporting local pubs and restaurants, helping to keep our high street alive. It is also used by members of the local theatre group whilst attending rehearsals in the adjacent property for their regular productions: evening charges would be an unfair tax on their public-spirited activity. Furthermore, the car park is used by people collecting their orders from the local Chinese takeaway. They would be parked for only a few minutes, making charges unjustifiable, A possible consequence of introducing charges would be dangerous parking on Polehampton Close and the High Street itself or more "nuisance parking" in the private parking area for Polehampton Court and St Swithins Court residents. I am totally against the proposal to introduce evening and Sunday charges for this car park.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 4, and 5.</p>
<p>As a regular evening user of the Polehampton Close car park I take great exception to the proposal to introduce evening charges at this location. it seems to me that the cost of upkeeping this unmanned car park is minimal extending as it does to little more than the maintenance and emptying of the single coin machine. I imagine the existing daytime income from this machine more than covers those costs. I use the car park in order to attend recreational facilities at adjacent premises twice a week on average. An evening charge of £1 per visit would therefore leave me £100 per annum out of pocket with absolutely no additional benefit to myself. As a pensioner and council tax-payer I find these proposals unwelcome, ungenerous and unnecessary. Please reconsider.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 7.</p>
<p>Charges for parking should be abolished altogether, there is little enough of interest in Wokingham to attract people into town in the first place, parking charges are the final nail in the coffin</p>	<p>Please see comments 6 and 7.</p>

<p>I am astonished that the WBC propose to impose evening and weekend parking charges and at the same time increase the general parking charges. This will mean that the town becomes even more 'dead' during the evenings and weekends than it is currently. On one hand Councillors seemed concerned that the shops are not prospering and instead of doing something imaginative like suspending parking charges every day from 3.00pm onwards so that shops can compete with local supermarkets, the best they can do is to try and make sure that restaurants and pubs also see reducing numbers of customers. Mind you they are going to spend a fortune on building an eyesore five-story car park at the Carnival Pool and I suppose they want to claw back some money from the public. Of course, it was to enable councils to take as much money as possible from the public that the Conservative Government encouraged councils to decriminalisation of parking. I think the council should make public how the budget for these actions will work. In order for the Council to 'police' the car parks there will have to be a team of traffic wardens with appropriate training and back-office staff and it will not be surprising to find that the current proposed charges are the thin end of the wedge and further charges will follow shortly.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>Sir, The attraction, a huge attraction, of coming into Wokingham, on an evening for a drink and/or meal, is the free parking. It might be only a £1.00 but I would now go to Reading for the nightlife. Wokingham landlords and restaurants would, I suspect, see a loss in earnings. This has a huge risk and is a great shame but if you want to go down in history as those who finished Wokingham off, then 'go for it!'; I urge not to do so. How would this be 'policed' - by paying someone to patrol the carparks - it would be self defeating given a reasonable wage for those out of hours conditions.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>I think this is the wrong thing to do. Yes you pay to park in the evening in a multi story car park in Reading but small local car parks should not incur an evening charge. For members of Woodley Theatre who rehearse at the Oakwood Centre this will cost them around an extra £30 each time they are in a production for rehearsal and performance night parking and so could discourage people from auditioning when local theatres are already competing to cast shows.</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>

<p>I can see the logic of bringing in car parking charges, in line with other council car parks, for Shute End for Saturdays and would support that. However for people wishing to visit shops/churches either on a Sunday or in the evening for only 1 hour, the £1 charge is disproportionate, compared with 1 hour car parking charge at other times.(70p). This would provide some discouragement to people to come into the town centre on a Sunday for some shopping and encourage more shopping at out of town shops which do not charge for use of their car parks. I accept the council requires additional revenue but does the introduction of evening/Sunday charging justify the cost of enforcement, i.e. paying someone to patrol the car parks and issue tickets? With charging at these times, the Waitress car park is likely to be the preferred place to park and therefore less use made of the council car parks, which would reduce potential revenue and make the proposal less cost efficient.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>I object to these proposed charges for the following reasons: 1. Excluding Reading the Towns current car park charges tend to be higher than those in surrounding towns e.g. Caversham, Henley, Marlow, Farnham, Camberley etc. 2. There is going to be a significant increase in the Boroughs population over the coming years and yet WBC plan to reduce the number of car park spaces. This will result in persons going to other towns that are more friendly and welcoming to motorists. 3. Once persons / shoppers leave the town it will be extremely difficult to get them back 4. The Town is dying and will continue to do so, particularly when the developments kick in so making the town appear at times to be a building site. This is not the time to impose further charges and thus cause the Town's traders further difficulties. 5. There is a safety risk to people, particularly women, who will need to scabble around in their purse looking for money to feed the parking meters. 6. It will encourage further on-street parking thus causing knock on problems. 7. These charges should not be introduced at this time, if they are to be introduced then it should only do so once the town centre developments have been completed and when all of the car parks modernised / updated to include ANPR technology and the associated payment systems. This is being introduced in car parks across Buckinghamshire.</p>	<p>Please see comments 1, 5, and 6.</p>

<p>I already avoid using car parks in Woodley during the week and on Saturdays due to the excessively high car park charges. If charges are applied after 6 and on Sundays I will boycott the car parks at those times too, even if this means driving to Asda, changing my 'usual' drinking venue (Bosco) in favour of one with a free car park &amp; not re-cycling tetra-packs which I usually drop off near the library. I have already stopped using the library, shopping at Iceland or visiting the Saturday market due to the current charges. Oh &amp; I might have to stop giving blood too, unless I can find an alternative venue. Car parking charges are strangling Woodley precinct, &amp; doing away with them altogether might lead to an increase in shoppers which would breath new life into the place &amp; enable the council to charge higher rents/rates to the shopkeepers, as they would then be doing a roaring trade.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 5.</p>
<p>Wokingham is a very small town with limited shops. The main reason for visiting is for the cafes and restaurants inthe evenings. At a higher parking.charge, I would definitely go to Reading where there is much more choice.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>

I am a resident on Rose Street, Wokingham. I pay for a residents permit for the handful of spaces available in my street. They are like gold dust and it is rare that I can ever get one. As a result, the only parking available to me is either parking on the road for the free 30 mins allowed until 6pm when it becomes free until 8am, or paying for parking in the local car park until the same free hours. What you are proposing will mean that my parking charges, as a resident, will sky rocket. The knock on effect will be that non-residents will now take over the road space that is available to us as residents evening and night time. Non-residents will currently often use the car parks over night if they are dining and drinking in the town and then pick up their cars in the morning. The logical outcome is that they will now move to the street spaces, making it more problematic for us. As it is, the number of allocated spaces allowed for residents is shameful, and this will now become even more challenging. I believe that street parking in the town should primarily be made available to residents before any consideration is made to impose further parking charges in local car parks. And not just the 11 or so specified spaces that are currently available in my street, but the whole street. I already have issues in that I can't get a visitors permit for my street, so visitors already have to pay ridiculous costs to stay with me. I pay very high council tax, but because I live in the centre of town, I don't have the luxury as those who live in estates outside of the centre of town do, where street parking is free and readily available. As a renting tenant I have already had my choice of where to live narrowed to almost no choice at all in such a saturated market, paying premiums on pretty much all expenditures, and now you propose this? Potentially £292 a year so that I can park overnight in my own street, outside my own home? Despicable. It will be residents, primarily, who will shoulder the cost of your proposal. And for what benefit? Yet more inconvenience, yet more expenditure. I think it is a shameful proposal, and just another poor decision to add on to so many others made by the Borough Council over recent years.

Please see comments 2 and 3.

<p>I see no reason to impose car parking charges after 6pm in Woodley. Maybe on Sundays 10-4pm when the Waitrose car park is full but in the evening the car park is nowhere near full therefore the only reason for the charges must be nothing to do with rationing/modal change and totally to do with revenue creation. I would like to point out that if you actually surveyed the users at 7pm a lot of them are people returning from work who have decided to stop in on their way home to pick up tea either from a shop or from a takeaway. Yes Waitrose will refund 1 hours parking if you spend £10 but what about the users of Iceland, Lidl or the takeaways or people stopping for just a couple of minutes to withdraw cash from a cash machine - should they really be penalised. I take it that this money will be used to sort out the lighting and drainage in the car parks involved as if people have to pay to park in an evening then they expect to be able to safely walk to and from their cars - and how about the people in nearby roads, have you checked how they will feel about the increased parking in their streets as for example the restrictions in Silver Fox crescent are set to match with the precincts car parks, so either they will need revision in which case the residents won't be able to park overnight outside their own homes or if they are not revised then casual shoppers will use their road and the residents will not be able to park either</p>	<p>Please see comments 1, 2, and 7.</p>
<p>I recognise that Wokingham BC has to seek additional revenue opportunities. However, in central Wokingham, it is essential that charges - particularly on a Saturday - should be decided as an integral component of the Parking Strategy element of the Town Centre Regeneration Project. The charging structure should not be decided in isolation. It can have a noticeable effect on retail footfall if it is perceived as a disincentive. I recommend that the decision should be a joint one between the Executives for Planning &amp; Highways and Regeneration &amp; Communities. The Welsh Government has commissioned some relevant research - see <a href="http://www.assembly.wales/en/pages/searchresults.aspx?k=parking+charges&amp;q=parking+charges">http://www.assembly.wales/en/pages/searchresults.aspx?k=parking+charges&amp;q=parking+charges</a></p>	<p>Please see comments 6 and 7.</p>

<p>I am part of Kings Church Wokingham. We meet on a Sunday morning at the Community Centre but have to use Shute End as an overflow as the car park is not nearly big enough. My concerns about a £1 parking charge at the Council Office are: 1) it will put added pressure on the community centre car park and the surrounding streets as people who do not have a £1 handy will try and park else where. 2) Kings Church rent three spaces from the Council and these are used by us extensively over the weekend. Introducing a charge at the council car park will mean that people from the pub or other neighbours will start using our spaces. They are already dump their cars in front of our gates and front door. 3) It will turn people away from coming into the town on a Sunday or again will lead people to park in roads or private spaces. Churches provide thousands of hours of free hours community service every year. Charging worshipers to park on a Sunday would be the ultimate insult.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2 and 4.</p>
<p>I would be less likely to go to town if the weekend charges came in.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>I have been unable to find any reasoned argument in favour of your proposals other than the bland statement by the Councillor. I object to the proposals primarily because the result will be the same as when Reading introduced on street parking charges, places which previously were used now generally stand empty and the town loses the revenue that would have come from those people. I do not believe that Wokingham is sufficiently a draw as far as shops are concerned to be able to do without the custom of those currently using the free weekend carparks. I do find it annoying that I have not been able to simply access any material suggesting why this additional revenue is needed in order for the carparks to survive.</p>	<p>Please see comments 6 and 7.</p>
<p>Are you as a Council determined to kill Wokingham Town Centre? As one who travels widely around the country, I seldom come across an area where the parking charges are so anti-business or anti-community. The combination of a high cost per minute and a high minimum period deter visitors to the town. There are few spaces where one can park free of charge in the streets near the town centre. Free parking at the Council offices on a Saturday and Sunday help draw people to the town. I use these facilities for a brief visit to the shops on a Saturday and when attending Church on a Sunday. Please re-think your proposals - there are choices you as a Council can make. Do not suggest that you have no alternative. Winnersh resident. 25 January 2016</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 5.</p>
<p>I strongly oppose this plan. The car parks are used by residence as well as shoppers and they should not have to pay for weekend and over-night parking. In addition this will have a serious knock on effect to the weekend markets at the woodley town centre as shoppers will be put off on Sunday parking rates.</p>	<p>Please see comments 3, 4, and 5.</p>

<p>Please don't bring in these new charges. By having parking available as it is, it makes Wokingham special and a desirable place to live.</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>
<p>I am completely against the new proposal for the changes to Headley Road car park. As a resistant above Lidl we currently have to pay a fortune for the car park as we are not given any sort of discount towards the car park, which in itself is awful enough. And we will now potentially be forced to pay on Sundays and bank holidays, but worst of all at evenings! Why should residents be penalised even more because of where we choose to live. I am totally appalled that this is even a proposed idea.</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>
<p>Very few things are free in this world!!! Car parking charges being increased will affect trade but more importantly your plan to charge for overnight parking will have the biggest impact on residents who live above Lidl and other residential accommodation in the precinct area. It's often difficult to park in Woodley as it is so I'm sure you are taking in sufficient revenue. I think you can safely assume I'm against your proposal, particularly to charge overnight. I can't see any reason why you should do this as you don't employ anyone to look after the car park and vehicles overnight. You are purely targeting those that reside there. If you are going to continue to do this the kindest thing to do would be to provide residents with a FREE parking permit.</p>	<p>Please see comments 3 and 5.</p>



<p>Sat/Sun Charges: I understand the need to raise revenue given the cuts the councils are experiencing but one of the real draw points for me is that the civic parking is free Sat/Sun - it's a very nice gesture from the council considering all the other car parks are chargeable - I would question how much extra revenue one carpark charged at a reduced rate on Sat/Sun will raise offset by the public who will just find it annoying and dare I say it : money grabbing. The free car parking does draw me into Wokingham to shop, meet friends, etc whereas if it started charging the incentive to go to Reading just gets higher (I get charged anyway but there are more shops) Evening Charges: Once again, might as well go to Reading or pubs/restaurants with their own car park if you're going to charge...the free evening parking is might raise more revenue than the weekend civic car park charge and frankly I'd rather keep the civic free and charge evenings. We live in a very affluent area so raising car parking charges is unlikely to force any of us into poverty and this isn't so much a financial reason as a civic one: people will just feel like they're being squeezed again and I can gather you're going to get some really irate responders here...free evening and free civic centre car parking will raise little but irritate many - at the moment it's nice being able to go to Wokingham without worrying about car parking charges... On a personal note: I'm equidistant from Reading and Wokingham...the free car parking is a big decision maker for me unless I need specialist shops - if I'm being charged now, might as well go to Reading. Thanks</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>I do not think it is fair that residents may have to start paying for parking. They will not see a reduction in their rent/mortgage to cover this cost!</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>

<p>I strongly object to these proposals. Most specifically the proposal to charge for parking at Shute End on a Sunday, when the free parking is mainly used by people attending church. The alternative would be to have cars parked the length of Reading Road on a Sunday morning, which would cause chaos. I have lived in Wokingham for many years, and watched as council decisions have turned it from a thriving and busy market town offering many varied shops, to a town full of restaurants, coffee shops, hairdressers and nail bars. Basically, unless you run a business by where you are guaranteed that every person entering the premises is going to spend money, you cant afford the rates the council are charging. One by one I have watched small business 'shut up shop'. There is no option now other than to travel to Reading if you want to actually buy anything. Introducing car parking charges to people attending church, or supporting the restaurants and bars in the town in the evening is just a further nail in the coffin. Wokingham may just as well shut up shop now....</p>	<p>Please see comment 4, 5, and 6.</p>
<p>It's a disgusting proposal. My family and I rely on the Woodley precinct car parks as we are residents in the flats above the shops. We need cars for work, and just cannot afford to have to pay any more than we already do! It's not even as though we get priority parking - we already have to fight our way to get a space vaguely near the front!! My family and I are very angry about this and oppose greatly to it. Moreover, putting up the prices for other car parks in Wokingham will mean that there is no such thing as a cheap day out for families with young children anymore. Do we not pay enough, living in the Wokingham Borough?</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>
<p>Totally disagree with these plans. My friend lives in the flats and it is disgusting that she will have to pay for parking.</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>
<p>I object to the introduction of parking fees for Sunday's and overnights. My brother and his fiancée live in the flats above Lidl's in Woodley. Why should they have to pay to park their car overnight? There needs to be some consultation with people living in the flats for free or subsidised parking charges.</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>

<p>I believe this does not take into account residents who rely on these car parks, such as Headley Road, to store their own vehicles - many of whom may have opted to live there over another location, despite higher rent, because there was ample free parking after 6pm and on Sundays. I agree that raising the price of parking will generate valuable income for the Council, but it should NOT be done at the expense of the residents. Those who cannot afford to park their car in Council operated parks will seek alternative parking in residential streets, causing congestion and pushing the occupants of those areas into parking further and further away from their own houses. This is especially worth considering given that areas such as Woodley count many elderly residents amongst its population, who should not have to walk significant distances just to park their own cars. I would request that the Council consider waiving the charges for residents who have nowhere else to park. I would add that I am not a resident of Woodley myself, and the above is not in response to personally having to pay more - I can choose when I visit, and I am not bound by having to park my car in these grounds. I am perfectly happy to pay the additional charges as a non-resident, as I understand the need for the revenue it will generate, but I feel it is an extraordinarily unfair manoeuvre where the residents are concerned.</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>
<p>This is very typical of this council and worrying that it needs to scrape more money from its residents to fund what exactly? I strongly oppose this and believe it will not go down very well at all with the numerous families in the area most of whom are struggling to get by as it is. You all may retaliate by claiming its a tiny amount but it's the principal. Why change something which the public have appreciated.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>I think this is disgusting! I am thinking of the people who live in the flats at Woodley Precinct who already pay a small fortune to park their cars. Many of these people live there because it is what they can afford and most certainly not afford to pay for even more parking . The residents should be given free parking and just charge visitors to the car park for shopping and the restaurants and Oakwood Centre. The residents pay enough to park there, far more than anyone else in fact, please consider them as they make enough money for you as it is. I am aware there is a permit which most people cant afford either. Do the decent thing and consider the residents please.</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>
<p>So very disappointed to hear you are planning on charging on Sunday's /evening etc in our local shopping area you are continually pushing your local people away to bigger shopping places to avoid paying these charges. Sadly one more nail in the coffin for Woodley.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>

<p>Disgusting, disgusting, disgusting, if you bring in these charges you should be thoroughly ashamed of yourselves, I quite often wait until after 6pm to go into car parks, now I simply won't bother, I will use Supermarkets with their own free parking, feel so sorry for the newsagents, restaurants, gyms etc that will bear the brunt of your ridiculous greedy decisions.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>Many people I know in the Woodley area pop into Woodley shops on the way home from work just to pick up a few bits and also come and browse the shops especially the charity shops on a Sunday as free to park. If you start charging for these car parks then most people I know will refrain from shopping in Woodley precinct &amp; will shop at alternatives where parking is free i.e M&amp;S Woodley, Tesco Express, Sainsburys etc You will harm the trade at the precinct which cannot be good for businesses or the community in general.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>I think by charging after 6pm and on a Sunday you will be damaging the small businesses that run near the shopping centre. I use the car park after 6pm or on a Sunday to support the local library. By charging I may choose not to use the library at all. If others do the same the library could be lost and this would be a loss to the community. Also there is a new dance studio starting up at the shopping centre, by charging people after 6pm and on a Sunday they are likely to loose a number of potential clients. What about those of us that use the car park just to get to the bank cash machines, are we expected to pay £1 for the pleasure.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 5.</p>

<p>I am thoroughly disheartened by this suggestion, not that I can't afford to park, but that it will dissuade people from visiting the precinct from outside Woodley. On the face of it, £1 for the day does not seem too much, however when the local hypermarkets like ASDA offer free parking, I worry that this charge will drive away the fragile customer base that the precinct enjoys on a Sunday to local alternatives. Having seen the precinct return from the brink of collapse a few years ago, these are the times where we should consolidate our gains to guarantee the future of our town. As Reading Bus services are laughable on a Sunday as well, I worry that we isolate the precinct from any out-of-borough trade. It also seems wrong that it is more expensive to park for an hour on a Sunday than on a Saturday to be honest. If you insist on a charge, perhaps a 'first hour free, then £1' scheme might be appropriate? This would enable the shops to keep a passing trade whilst charging medium / long term visitors (who will presumably be less put-off by the charge). I suppose that this would also generate some revenue for the council and protect the businesses in the town centre. Risking the loss of small business in the town (and therefore business rates) as a result of a trivial parking charge seems like a poor economic strategy to me. Overall, I am VERY concerned that this will have a detrimental effect on trade at the precinct and in it's current form is a very poor idea indeed. I feel that we finally have a town centre to be proud of and this will do nothing to help it take the final steps towards genuine prosperity.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>I find these changes as another way for the council to grab money without justifying its use. Please provide detail on the upkeep of an empty plot of tarmac with a few ticket machines? Surely the money taken during peak hours covers the maintenance and I'm sure creates a nice profit for the council.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>I am opposing the plans mentioning the fact that a lot of people use the car park in the evening or on Sunday to go to the library. Also what about the doctors surgery, the gym and the dance studio which all open in the evenings/Sunday. Should we have to pay for the pleasure of going to the doctors. This will also have an impact on the sunday traders carboot as well we have very little good shops at the precont as it is and this will now affect them even more. Dissappointed that WBC are wven contemplating implementing this after hours and on a sunday you sure know how to discourage people from coming to Woodley. It feels that as we get more houses built in Woodley you look for another way to make more money again, do you not benefit enough from the increased amount of council tax now being paid?</p>	<p>Please see comment 4 and 7.</p>

<p>Many now only use Woodley precinct on a Sunday due to the parking charges. Applying a charge to Sunday parking will ensure the demise of the shopping precinct all together. I've needed to go up there on a Saturday afternoon and there is hardly anyone up there. On one occasion it was when the Xmas tree lights were being turned on. You could count the people up there on one hand! This is outrageous and will drive the remaining shops out of business. More and more shoppers are using marks and Spencer on shepherds house because of the free parking. So much for trying to avoid 'Out of town' shopping! The greed of the council will ensure the final nail in coffin for our neighborhood shopping.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>
<p>It quite outrageous that you want to alter the Woodley car parking to obtain more income. Surely this is not really necessary, you are increasing Dinton charges and going to obtain a lot more income through the council taxes go all the new housing developments. In fact the amount of car parking is not adequate for the level of Woodley residents we have currently so to increase the charging hours seems preposterous. It won't be long before you are charging at Woodford Park so this evening and Sunday charge is quite insulting. Is it really council policy to dissuade new businesses to the town, take for example the new dance studio, you are going to hamper the chances of gaining new evening classes before they start if you continue with this idea evening charges. In summary our council tax level is high enough without the introduction of a new stealth tax by car parking levy. Please please please reconsider.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>Absolutely disgusted about the charges . Is Wokingham Borough council trying to kill off the town centre with its greed??? Will use M&amp;S to get the odd thing or drive to an out of town supermarket - a £1 charge is disgusting when u may only want to pop to get a pint of milk!</p>	<p>Please see comment 6.</p>
<p>I think that charging for out of hours parking particularly at the shops in Woodley will make the area less safe and discourage people from using the facilities out of hours. I would suggest a 30 minutes of first hour free and charge for longer periods would encourage people to pop to the shops that are open</p>	<p>Please see comment 1.</p>
<p>I think it's a really shame we now have to pay to park at woodley shops in the evening and Sunday so all the things that go on in the evening with the gym doctor's and oak wood Centre and the library and counselling in the doctor's surgery this will all be have to be paid in the car park which I think is wrong as why do we have to pay for using the car park after hours and a Sunday this will mean that people will now look else where due to these charges. Why can't it be kept as it is instead of making more money</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 7.</p>

Yes it's disgraceful	Please see comments in the report.
Joke! You really want to kill our town centres. Press release says " we need our car parks to be self sufficient ". How much do they cost to up keep?	Please see comments 6 and 7.
Joke! You really want to kill our town centres. Press release says " we need our car parks to be self sufficient ". How much do they cost to up keep?	Please see comments 6 and 7.
Your argument of the current economic climate forcing these car park changes up is flawed. We could just as easily say that due to the current climate of apparently negligible inflation, the car parking charges should stay the same. The car park charges that are going to be charged at Dinton pastures are outrageous and will be detrimental to the cafe for example. I for one will not be paying that, so will have to stay shorter and will have no time to have a cup of tea in the cafe let alone some lunch. Charging for Sundays and nights means you will also have to employ people to police that, which will cost money. We haven't had an income rise so why should we have to pay more for these car parks? If everyone uses the argument that our neighbouring councils have increased theirs or charge for Sundays and Nights then it will just carry on going.	Please see comments 6 and 7.

<p>I have many comments to the proposed scheme. As a resident at Woodley Precinct I already pay enough to park my car on my rest days. I am a bus driver which means i work shifts which means I'm already parking my car for strange periods of time during the day. also i do not see why we should have to pay on a Sunday when the council offices are not even open let alone run the car park. i often com back late at night in which case i put a ticket on the car for the following day which enables me to get some sleep! if the new policy is introduced the ticket machines will run round the clock and therefore this will no longer be an option for when i come home at 4am . To then have to get up at 8 to put a new ticket on the car is unfair and down right dangerous when i go to work later that day. i pay the council enough money as it is and to ask anyone especially residents who have no option to use the car park to pay even more is an outrage. i will be writing to the MP as well regarding this as it is absolutely disgusting and if these plans go ahead i Will start parking my car on the road even if it does cause obstruction!! We struggle to get a space the front of the car park yet we live here. we have to park right at the back and carry a baby a toddler and a Weeks worth of food shopping all the way home sometimes. we pay enough money we should at least get priority parking spaces at the front. Also there have been many occasions that your so called employee comes to check the tickets and have a nose in everyones cars. parks his car in the car park to do this and DOES NOT PAY!!!! I have even photographed his car to prove he has no permit and no ticket. Surely he should lead by example!!! I hope you will consider this VERY carefully and do the right thing for the people not your bank account!!!</p>	<p>Please see comments 2 and 3.</p>
<p>I am absolutely disgusted with these proposed car park charges. I often wait until after 6, to pop to waitrose in Woodley, as generally all I'm doing is running straight in and out to get everyday items such as milk or bread. You are now proposing that I pay £1 for this privilege, which is 30p more than an hours parking if I went during the day? What about the small businesses, such as Vibez in woodley precinct? Have you even considered the knock on effects of potentially charging for the car parks, on their businesses, when many of their classes run in the evenings? Pure greed Wokingham Borough Council. I certainly will not be using these car parks during the times in which you propose to add parking charges too and will be visiting Marks and Spencer's to do my essentials shopping, which for your information, do not charge for parking. Once again I am disgusted and feel you are penalising local businesses with these charges.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5 and 7.</p>



<p>Are you trying to put shops out of business? If this has to go through then consider a 15min free in the evening so people can run and get fish and chips or a pint of milk without having to spend more money. This is unfair for people that live in any of the surrounding flats as well. When are Wokingham Council going to start giving back something rather than take take take. I am not interested in having public toilets back so save money on this consideration and keep free charges in the evening and weekends. There are now too many people living in woodley were is all the extra council tax money being spent??</p>	<p>Please see comments 3, 5, and 7.</p>
<p>Absolutely ludicrous proposal, totally against it, whatever next!?!</p>	<p>Please see the comments in the report.</p>
<p>This proposal is taking advantage of the residents who depend on this car park on a daily basis. There is no need to make any changes to the current payment system, any changes will be detrimental to many Woodley residents, the concil will be taking advantage of their situation and it should be taken into consideration.</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>
<p>I think it's a disgrace that the only perk of the precinct currently is that the parking is free after 6 / Sunday's. To pay £1 just to pop to costa or for a loaf of bread is a joke. It already annoys me that I have to pay 70p to pop to the bank which takes 5 minutes during the week. I could understand if there was a Sunday token charge of 50p but why for an after 6pm? To charge for a shopping precinct after 6pm when only 3 shops at best are open / worth going into are even open is again just pure greed. It's a money making scheme &amp; always has been during the week but I really thought the Sunday parking / after 6 was really reasonable given the facilities there. More &amp; more Wokingham are penalising people for parking anywhere &amp; do not realise the affect it has on small businesses like the new dance studio, Vibez. Now every attendee to those classes need to pay an extra £1 to attend &amp; this adds up if you do a couple of classes a week.. I could stomach one change but both is pure greed.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>It is absolutely ludicrous to charge for car parks during these hours. It will deter people coming into the towns for the evening and will impact local business. How are you planning on policing the charges, use of technology or traffic wardens?? Either will be an unnecessary cost. I realise that local authorities are struggling financially at the moment, but this move will simply serve as a frustration to local people. Money would be better sourced by re-directing un necessary expenditure and streamlining your services. I would rather pay more in my council tax if it was ring fenced for vital services such as children's social care and not things such as hedge cutting or changing road structures like the A329m.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>

<p>So, to park my car for 10 minutes at 7pm when most of the shops are closed will cost me more than an hours parking when most of the shops are open? Where is the sense in that? Woodley Precint needs reviving - this will have a negative impact. What about independent small businesses that run in the evening? The cost will impact them too. A pint of milk from lidl will now cost me £2 in the evening. I may as well ditch the precint and head straight to M&amp;S which will now be cheaper. Lots of families take their children to junior parkrun on a Sunday morning which starts before the shops even open. They will have to pay £1 for a half hour event - 30p more than any other time. Where is the logic?</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 5 and 7.</p>
<p>Disappointed that our junior parkrunner parents will have to pay £1 to park so that their child can run 2Km. I would hate parents to be discouraged from bringing their children to junior parkrun. It is free event that encourages children to get out and get active. Parents bring their children from Bracknell, Caversham, Theale etc so walking/cycling there is not an option for lots of people.</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>
<p>Outrageous idea. Would be very unhappy if this happened</p>	<p>Please see the comments in the report.</p>
<p>I believe these proposed charges are unfair and will have a huge knock on effect to the local businesses. I use Vibez dance studio and attend evening classes, which I pay for. I park in the car park behind Iceland and to implement a charge of £1.00 for parking after 6pm will effect me on a tight budget. I am a single mum working full time and stretch myself to pay out for one class a week to jeep fit and socialise. To then have to pay another £1.00 on top of the class charge is another expense that I can I'll afford. Further some of these classes are 30 or 45 minutes classes and would see a parking charge of £1, which is more than it costs to park for 1 hour during the day. How can this be fair? I don't have ny issue with the Sunday parking proposal if it is £1.00 but I still think that if the council want a successful precinct for people to come to socialise and be part of a community, then these additional parking costs, particularly the evening, will not encourage people to use these businesses. Such a shame and I hope the council take note.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>

<p>So as well as charging a small fortune to park at country park you now want to charge people to park in the evenings and Sunday's. I am a member of the Woodley Carnival Committee. We use the Oakwood Centre for our meetings and events. The majority of the members park in the carpark opposite which under your plans we will have to pay for. We are organising an event for local people in our own time and will now have to pay for that. Also many people use the car parks in Woodley after work to pick up essential items but now may use larger superstores where they do not have to pay for parking. I believe by implementing this carpark charges it will gave a detrimental affect on the local traders. Many people visit the cafe/ restaurant/ coffee shops in the evenings and would have to pay to park just to have a meal/ socialise with friends. I feel this is a way to generate extra income for the council with little benefit to local people. If the money was to be used for re-generation then more people may feel this more justified but I cannot see this happening. Woodley is a small town and meant local people use the facilities Monday to Saturday daytime and pay the charges. I feel that this p,an to charge in Sunday's/ evenings is disgusting and should not go ahead.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 5 and 7.</p>
<p>I think the charges show nothing but greed from wokingham borough council. It will affect local businesses as there are many supermarkets in the surrounding areas that do not charge to park. Also, do the parking wardens not have families that they should be spending time with on a Sunday or in the evenings. Shocking behaviour from the council.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>The issue for me is not simply the cost but the inconvenience caused. A lot of people do not carry cash. To show that they are in touch with the needs of their residents a large number of councils have addressed this with modern payment machines incorporating contactless, PIN and telephone payment options. Will Wokingham be delivering these well established innovations to show they respect their residents and visitors?</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>As a regular churchgoer I am unhappy about the imposition of parking charges at the Shute End car park on a Sunday. It is not a time when many people need to use the car park, so there isn't the need to encourage people to move on. There must be other ways of raising income, if that is the council's aim</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 7.</p>

<p>I honestly can not believe you are expecting the public to pay even more to park in the run down Woodley centre. What will we gain from paying more to park in the same car park that some of us have done for years.. This will affect all the small businesses, the park run will no doubt be affected by this too because I bet there will be a great number of people who won't be prepared to pay on a Sunday.. Has this literally come about because a handful of business are still open after 6?? I would love to know the thought process behind these ideas... You will add more damaged to an already old and tired Centre... Give us something to pay extra for, knock it down and start again then people might be prepared to pay more... Otherwise Woodley locals will start going else where.. I know I will..</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 5 and 7.</p>
<p>I am the Event Director of the Woodley junior parkrun. We average over 100 runners each Sunday, all between the ages of 4 and 14. Many car share, and use the opportunity to both keep fit, but also catch up with friends. A real community has developed over the past 2 years, since we began. Runners generally head to one of Woodley's café's or cake shops post-run, safe in the knowledge that parking is unrestricted. There is always plenty of parking available; it makes no sense to introduce charges. Income could just as easily be generated, if that is your concern, through fines for people who allow their dogs to foul in public areas and don't clean up after them, for example, or who park inconsiderately in other areas.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 5 and 7.</p>
<p>This is just another example of the council making money out of motorists! As I use the car park on Sundays and after 6pm And it is never full it can't be to discourage driving! Already there are inconsiderate parking on the roads (and pavements) so this charge is going to make that worse. If you want to raise money from motorists charge those people who now think parking on a pavement is OK or stopping on a roundabout to let people out.#</p>	<p>Please see comment 2.</p>
<p>Absolutely outrageous proposal. We already lack a town Centre to attract the locals and those from further afield so making people pay for parking during off peak hours will only deter them further. Furthermore they will also end up havin a negative effect on local businesses and surely we should be supporting them instead of further penalizing them? This is just greed. Lastly the charges proposed at parks like dinton and California will ensure that more locals go further afield to walk and spend time with their families rather than pay extortionate charges. Please reconsider the real impact these changes will have and make a decision that is in favour of the local community.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>

<p>Every Sunday around 180 young people take part in a FREE run at the field next to the Oakwood centre. This is marshalled, run, facilitated, reported on, photographed and coordinated entirely by volunteers. It provides an invaluable opportunity for young people to take part in exercise, build self esteem, meet with friends and enjoy the outdoors. The community that is created by this event is amazing and you would be welcomed to come and be a part of it. Implementing parking charges on a Sunday would take away the FREE aspect of this event. The adult equivalent is on a Saturday and I can assure you Wokingham make a fortune from the running community at Headly Road car park. Please please do not take away our children's opportunity to enjoy their FREE exercise!</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>
<p>I vehemently disagree with this proposal. We are constantly being charged more and more each year for reducing services. This is on top of the authority receiving massive hikes in income from all the extra houses being built in Woodley which in turn is putting current Woodley services under so much pressure they are in danger of collapse. Woodley continues to be the poor relation in Wokingham despite paying the largest precept. Please register this as my formal disagreement to the proposal.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>How about free parking for one hour? There are 150-200 children that run in Woodford Park every Sunday. It's currently 70p for an hour on a Saturday but £1 for all day Sunday is not very appropriate. No one parks in Woodley for more than 1-2 hours.</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>
<p>How much more money are you taking from Woodley residents? We have the least parking area and with more and more houses being built you are not spending money on facilities to help alleviate this situation! You will kill off what little evening social life Woodley has with clubs and meeting groups that people need or is the only social life they have. This will also stop people from coming to Woodley to shop or visit socially because of high parking charges. Can I ask you as a tax payer that you really think about this decision very seriously. I have lived in Woodley for 35 years and it has now become over populated very busy and saturated now with new builds. Traffic has become intolerant to get on the A4 or A329 and the motorway. PLEASE THINK AGAIN!</p>	<p>Please see comments 5, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>Introducing a charge on a Sunday will just encourage more street parking. Not good for residents. It's not like many shops are even open on a Sunday. It should be an hourly option rather than all day. Meters need to be able to accept mobile or card payments.</p>	<p>Please see comment 2.</p>

<p>I have to disagree with the charges and believe the parking should actually be free of charge to encourage life and more business (therefore generating tax revenue) back into woodley town centre in particular. As for raising monies from this I would strongly advise that spending less on the constant changes and modifications at the winnersh roundabout and a329m junctions would save massive amounts. This has had constant work that by and large has been unnessesary with the exception of the barrier upgrade on the 329m. How many traffic lights can we squeeze around winnersh triangle? Spend money more wisely. From a concerned resident.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>Many families use this locally on sunday morning for junior park run. I hope this wont deter families coming. Could it be done after 10?</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>
<p>Morning, I personally believe the new proposal is ludicrous, I can understand charging on a Sunday to a degree but £1 is more than a normal hours parking! Therefore that quick pint of milk you need doubles in price and you will force people to go to asda or sainsburys where parking is free. As for evening charges I think this is a massive mistake as the ones that will suffer are the small businesses like vibez, I know it's only £1 but when you are already paying £7 for a class every pound counts! So how about supporting the small business! Woodley has become a lovely place to go in an evening now, what with Boscos and cozze, and I feel that pure greed is the reason for these charges. And what about the residents living in the flats above the shops? The flats have just been renovated above Iceland and now they will have to pay to park their car over night! And then there's the cost of getting a warden to police the car parks? Surely this is wasted money! I hope you seriously reconsider the evening charge at least. Many thanks for reading my views.</p>	<p>Please see comments 3, 5, and 7.</p>
<p>I think if they introduce parking charges on Sunday people may go elsewhere (Asda/Tesco) where no charges.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>I use Vibes to exercise in the evening and if the charges are imposed I will have to stop using the classes, which are not only good for my health, but it's the only time I get to meet other people. I won't be able to afford to pop to the shops for the odd grocery and will be forced to use M&amp;S and other stores with free parking. You will be taking away my lifeline and good shops will leave and the precinct will be filled with even more charity shops. I am disgusted!</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>

<p>I have just started running classes from the newly opened dance studios, this will massively affect my business! It means on top of my classes people have to pay for parking The reason I chose to start classes here was that the evenings were free! I am competing against all the guns that have free car parks! I think it is pure greed! Yet again it's the council not thinking about small individual business like mine and the other teachers running thier own self employed business from the studio and other small shops! I'm absolutely gutted that the council would even consider this!</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>This is absolutely ridiculous! It's bad enough going into town and paying the high prices but to do this on a Sunday and evenings! Give us a break!!</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>I am not in support of this. All of the Woodley residents I have spoken to also strongly oppose this.</p>	<p>Please see the comments in the report.</p>
<p>Woodley is already lacking customers, partly due to a lack in the range of shops there. If you charge for Sundays there will be even less people coming, not even all the shops are open on a Sunday!</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>This is absolutely disgusting!! It is expensive enough as it is and the charges have already been increased for the daytime let alone an over night charge Or an off peak fee!!! I struggle to get my shopping as it is with three children, I leave it until a Sunday so that there are no charges to buy essential groceries!!! The over night charge is just plain greedy as there are people that want to be able to socialise either in a dance studio or one of the restaurants in Woodley precinct, what about the people who choose to drive and not drink thus ensuring the safety of themselves and their friends??? Why should they be penalised and made to pay a fee to park???????? It's absolutely absurd!!! And just milking the poor residents for more than they actually have!!! Why don't the fat cats take a pay cut instead?!! Overpaid unthoughtful clearly under qualified thinkers!!!! Think of the elderly that don't qualify for a disabled badge...why should they have to suffer...getting out to do their shopping sometimes on a daily basis (either because they can't carry their shopping or that is their only contact with the outside world) this could cut them off as if the charges go up they will not be able to afford the fees. And the businesses in the precinct will suffer as if I am paying extra for parking I would rather use that money and drive to asda to have a wider selection of choice, and cheaper products!!!!!! I am FUMING!!!!!!!!!!</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>

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<p>We use the newly-opened Vibez dance studio above Iceland three times a week and every time we pay £1.20. Adding an extra £1 on top of that would increase the weekly parking cost for us to an extent that we would stop using this facility. I believe the new studio is a great addition to Woodley and its community and it should be encouraged and helped to thrive. Increasing parking costs would do the opposite. Let's start looking after our residents and not focus on making money all the time!!</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 5.</p>
<p>The proposed changes to car park charged would be grossly unfair for residents and staff who live and work in the precinct. Residents have no other parking at their disposal and to charge people to park their cars over night would mean that many people who live in the precinct could not afford to do so. Nowadays people rely on their vehicles in order to get to work, take children to school and generally to get around. Putting parking charges up or extending them may lead some people to be forced into selling or not using their cars. Whilst I understand that this is a public car park and residents do park at their own risk and at their own cost I feel that the council have not fully considered the impact to residents and shoppers alike. Should this put people off coming to the precinct and using public transport to go into town instead then this would have a huge adverse affect upon woodley and the town. It is currently a busy and thriving place to eat drink and socialise and has come along way from being the sleepy market town that I remember growing up in the 80s and 90s. To increase these charges would surely be a backwards step and put people off coming to the precinct. There are many other pubs, restaurants and cafes in the local area that have free parking and it is likely that some people will choose to go there instead. Should the council continue will their plans to change to Car park parking charges I would respectfully ask that they consider the options and possibilities for residents parking. This could be via a parking permit or allocated bays, but would mean that they are not being charged unfairly for where they live.</p>	<p>Please see comments 3, 5, and 6.</p>



I wish to object in the strongest possible terms to the introduction of Sunday and evening parking charges, particularly in Wokingham town centre. As far as I can see no consideration has been given to the impact on neighbouring streets, particularly those which have no permit parking. My street, Gipsy Lane, is already completely clogged every morning Monday-Saturday as commuters and local workers fight to take the free spaces available outside 41-53 Gipsy Lane. The only solace is that a few spaces will generally emerge around 5pm or 6pm when they leave when residents come back from work, although should we ever invite friends around or get a workman in, it is an absolute nightmare since no spaces are ever available in the day. By introducing parking charges in the evening, this will encourage other non-residents to park overnight in this area, further denying residents access. Personally I would advocate the introduction of permit parking in central areas anyway, it is hard to understand the rationale as to why some central streets have it such as Howard Road and Norreys, while others do not. However if you are unwilling to do this, then I feel there is no way this parking plan can go ahead, especially without a study on the impact on neighbouring roads. Of course even as I resident I appreciate I have no right to park close to my house. But I pick out some quotes from British Parking position paper 4 regarding onstreet parking, it would be great if you follow best practise and consider them.

"Parking controls should be introduced to prevent commuters from parking in residential areas....."  
 A further problem is that as a street becomes congested with parked cars it is easier for vehicles to be abandoned unnoticed thereby restricting parking supply even more  
 The time spent and environmental pollution created when searching for a vacant parking space is another effect of the limited on street parking supply.  
 Part of the problem could well be caused by local authority planners often not giving due regard to the likely demand for parking spaces and where or how that demand would be accommodated.  
 To facilitate the unhindered passage of traffic along a road ensure that busy roads have a useable width of 7 metres, less busy routes 5 metres, minor road 4.5 metres, minor residential roads 3.5 metres.

The above facts taken into consideration

Please see comment 2.

<p>I understand the reason for the new charges is to raise money for the council. This is understandable in the current climate but I am a little concerned at the practicalities of the charges. For those of us in the Twyford and Ruscombe Theatre Group who use the car park in the evening twice a week the charge will be an annoying nuisance. I suspect mostly people will not bother until they get a penalty notice and then they will be even more annoyed.</p> <p>I guess I will simply park elsewhere to avoid the annoyance and also get a little bit of warm-up exercise before rehearsals. I also anticipate that this will be the response right across the borough so that your anticipated revenues will not materialise but the annoyance will be spread to other residents who find cars outside their properties at night.</p> <p>All in all this is almost certainly a bad idea which has not been thought through.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2 and 4.</p>
<p>I understand that consideration is being given to evening parking charges in Woodley. I wish to protest that this will adversely affect : LIDL evening users (ie poorer working people shopping out of hours) Library users (a free service?) Oakwood Centre users (Senior Citizens, Blood donors, Club members, Councillors) Woodley Theatre users (audience and rehearsals) Restaurant and lounge users (it has taken 60+ years to get decent evening venues in Woodley town centre and make it respectable after hours, we could do without disincentives to use them)</p>	<p>Please see comments 3, 4, and 5.</p>
<p>I am so angry that residents of Woodley Precinct flats are now having to pay to park on a Sunday and evenings just because there are restaurants there now. Do they not make enough money for Wokingham Council? Many of them live there because it is resonable to rent there and cannot afford to live in bigger properties. Please do not mention permits as one of my daughters purchased one at one time and they are no help! Discount for residents please!</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>
<p>I think this is disgusting for evening parking and sunday parking.</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>

I am writing with regard to the notice informing of the local parking charges that I spotted by the pay machine at Woodley precinct this morning as I dropped my daughter off at nursery. I have some concerns that I would like to bring to your attention with regard to this scheme. My main source of worry is the prosperity of the precinct. For clarity, I do not generally drive to the precinct on a Sunday, if I go, I walk or cycle as my home is less than half a mile away. I have been a life-long resident of Woodley and Earley, with Woodley Precinct part of my daily shopping habits since the first pocket money that I received. Over the years, I have watched the precinct descend from prosperity to a virtual slum and now back to something that we can be almost proud of. I put much of this down to the hard work of the centre management who have clearly embarked on a number of initiatives to drive footfall over the years and this has largely been successful. My arguments against the scheme are as threefold and as follows: 1. Competition Asda, Tesco and Sainsbury's all have hypermarkets within a few miles of the centre who offer free parking. In the knowledge that an additional 5 minutes in the car for those living over a mile away will save £1, I can't help but think that this will damage trade. 2. Passing Trade £1 to park on a Sunday at a shopping centre that is at best 50% open on a Sunday seems quite rich. Any passing trade is almost certain to be put off. On a Saturday or weekday, I don't think that this is an issue as people plan ahead and there are plenty of open, small and local alternatives. I do recognise that I will however frequently stop by to grab a handful of groceries on my travels on a Sunday or on my way home from work. If I have to pay to park, I just will not bother, I'll stop in Theale as I pass through on the way back home (not good for our own local economy but it's free to park in their town centre). To give an example of this shopping behaviour, last week, I stopped at Lidl or Waitrose three times on the way home, spending between £3 and £9 each time. Averaging this at £15 per week, this initiative would take around £705 per annum from me alone out of precinct retailers tills (based on a 47 week working year). As I doubt I am the only one that will adopt this attitude, I can't see local traders welcoming the initiative. 3. Value It seems insane that it would cost more to park for 10 minutes at midnight on Tuesday than it would at 2pm on a Saturday! I appreciate that times are hard at the council with central government cutting service subsidies, however potentially damaging local trade for small businesses and smaller local supermarkets does not seem to be the answer to me. I do however

Please see comments 5 and 6.

<p>Yes , this will affect all the clubs and societies and theatre using the Oakwood in the evening , surviving on a shoestring. For example A lot of our members at Woodley and Earley Arts Group are pensioners and people on low incomes. They need to drive to the meetings with equipment. We will probably have to find another place to meet if that is at all possible or our attendance will go down until we cannot afford to go on. I believe when planning was given for the Oakwood in that position in the park to replace the other buildings and old theatre , one of the justifications put forward was that there was free evening parking in the library car park for the groups that would have to move there when they lost the other buildings. The cafes / restaurants who operate after 6 will loose trade (and probably close ,)to those with free parking .My off peak shopping which I often do after 6. When I have family to look after my disabled daughter will now be in Twyford Waitrose now, or at M&amp;s .this will affect waitrose which may decide to close the Woodley store as their trade has fallen off quite a bit recently anyway . That would be a disaster for Woodley .i want to support local business and culture but having to pay for parking in the evenings as well as safety issues of buying a ticket when alone and it's night time in the winter will put me off using the car parks at all . I think this will be the same for a lot of local people</p>	<p>Please see comments 1, 3, 4, and 5.</p>
<p>I am a member of the Twyford and Ruscombe Theatre Group which is adjacent to Polehampton Close Twyford car park when we have rehearsals for plays and pantomime we use this car park , it is going to be expensive to park the twice a week rehearsals we have, also very inconvenient for members who do not live within walking distance surely as a theatre group giving the people of Twyford the enjoyment of our plays and much anticipated annual panto without rehearsals these would not happen. Could not some sort of concession for such times we have our rehearsals be considered by your good selves. thank you</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>
<p>Many parish councillors attend meetings at Shute End in the evenings and if the main car park is to be pay and display there is no way that the parish councillors can claim this back. Is there an intent to provide an exemption for such councillors?</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>
<p>While I can see the advantage of this in terms revenue in Wokingham Town centre. I don't think the cost benefit analysis is favourable in other local centres such as Earley, Woodley, Wargrave etc. I really can't see these sites making much money. In these areas it will unfairly affect the odd evening car park user and local businesses such as restaurants.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>

<p>I would like to object to the planned increase to parking charges in Woodley precinct. Council priorities should lie in easing the overload placed on parking facilities in the community caused by the explosion of new housing in the Woodley area rather than how to turn a profit from them.</p>	<p>Please see comment 6.</p>
<p>Why the punitive £1 charge for the Sunday? Most people only park for less than an hour which during the week I'd only 70p. My opinion is that will just drive cars onto local side roads or go to supermarkets (free!!) and deprive the local shopkeepers of much needed income. Will you really be able to justify this coupled with costs for wardens?? Unnecessary and unfair to local residents it's just penny pinching as far as I can see.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 3, 5, and 7.</p>
<p>How do you justify the cost of running a car park on Sunday's and evenings when there is no apparent expenditure?? No wages for wardens, surely all of the costs have been met years ago. Ongoing maintenance is minimal or never. Apart from pure greed I can see no justification for this.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>It's outrageous and unnecessary, simply another stealth tax and inconvenience, we pay enough in council tax charges and are about to shell out for an unnecessary toilet at the expense of two car parking spaces and still being charged! The council needs to fulfil the needs of the community, not find ways of swindling money out of taxpayers to meet their shortfalls</p>	<p>Please see comments 6 and 7.</p>
<p>Despite me writing this I am sure the Council will have already made their minds up. I tend to nip to the shops after 6pm and do go to Woodley as it is free parking and I can go into Lidl and do a shop. However having to find cash to pay for a parking space to do this will actually make me go else where. Also if we park on a Sunday to go to the Library why should I have to pay, I may as well go else where. I think the after 6pm and Sunday charges should not be put into place I think you get enough money from parking charges during the day without having to rob people of more money.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>I think this will be detrimental to the businesses which currently operate in the evening in Woodley as people will not want to pay the charges. I.e. The new Vibe gym, cozze, Bosco lounge etc. These have brought much business to Woodley town centre creating a better atmosphere in the evenings. I think it would be more preferable to slightly increase the charge during the day as people expect to pay in the day. This may also effect the car boot sales which take place on Sunday's.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 5, and 6.</p>

Our new start up business has a growing night time and weekend economy and hence would be significantly negatively impacted by the proposal. Issues are:- 1) Damage to our new business by the removal of the sales feature of free evenings and Sunday parking which attracts clients who may be charged elsewhere. 2) The additional cost of parking monitoring, staffing and administering such additional periods may actually increase costs to the council? 3) The tenants of the increasing number of refurbished and new flats would either have to pay for overnight vehicle parking or displace their vehicles to surrounding residential street with the issues that would raise. 4) It is not clear from the proposal documentation if those who pay for period permits would have to pay significantly more to cover the new charging periods - impacting the ability to draw in staff with vehicles who have long of variable shift working patterns. 5) Car park usage at night is less than during the day and it is assumed there are no figures available to show how much can be raised in revenue form night time and Sunday parking? There is information on daytime figures, hence a more reliable source of predictable income if current parking charges were raised. 6) Shoppers have choices and parking is an emotive subject. Eliminating free parking periods may deter shoppers/clients and displace them to other centres with more faculties and outlets. 7) There are no benefits offered in this proposal to offset the charges proposal. The parking machines are antiquated and often Out of Order. There is no change facility or features such and paying by Card/Contactless payment/payment for time actually spent etc. Whist it is understood the Council have a cut in funding and has to make choices we would like to offer an alternative. Given that at a time of low inflation any increase is potentially damaging to business and unwelcome; increasing the daytime charges would provide a more predictable revenue at very little additional cost. As it is understood the 1 hour rate payment is the most popular, so this is the area where the charge could attract a modest increase with no other changes to the current arrangements.

Please see comments 5 and 7.

I am completely appalled that this proposal has even been put forward! As a resident about Lidl and also having family who live above the shops here in the precinct, we already currently have to pay a fortune to even try to get a space, we have to fight for one! We don't even get parking allocated or any sort of discounted pass. Whats furthermore you are now proposing to charge evenings, bank holidays and Sundays which is disgusting. What will all this extra money made by Wokingham Council be going towards? People apart from us residents choose to shop after 6pm and on a Sunday or Bank Holiday so they do not have to pay! Surely residents like us should be entitled to a permit for at least the evening and Sundays. I sincerely hope this proposal is abolished!

Please see comments 3 and 7.

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<p>I am completely outraged that this proposal has even been put forward! As a resident who lives above Lidl, myself and my neighbors already have to pay an extortionate amount on parking as it is;with this we don't even have priority parking but have to fight with all the shoppers who chose to use the car park! So the idea of having to pay on Sundays, Bank Holidays and especially overnight is an absolute joke! Myself and my neighbors choose to live here as its cheaper than other properties in Woodley and yet we are being penalized for this, we have never been offered a discount rate of allocated parking which I find disgusting. With this extra charge will CCTV cameras finally be put into place in the car park!? I really hope all comments made to you by myself and others are taken into consideration and this proposal is abolished!</p>	<p>Please see comments 3 and 7.</p>

<p>I'm appalled to hear that the Council are proposing to charge for car parking overnight and on Sundays! With the cost of living nowadays, the last thing people need are extra charges for car parking. Many people are isolated due to financial constraints already and this will just add an extra expense at times of the day when relaxation and leisure activities should be the theme. With taxes, Council taxes, VAT and daytime car parking charges I would think that this is enough for any community to have to bear!! I believe the Council should be welcoming people to use the town and services/businesses, not driving them away with multiple charges and therefore sending them to alternative locations which are more welcoming!! Ultimately it's your town and Council that will lose out financially when businesses fail due to lack of use and the area becomes ghost like! I know from personal experience that people will go elsewhere rather than spend out unnecessary money on parking.</p>	<p>Please see comments 3, 5, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>I think extending charges would be extremely unhelpful to local businesses. I have recently started to visit Woodley Shopping centre to attend events at Vibes Dance Studio. While I am there I usually buy shopping from two or three of the local shops. I already object to having to pay for car parking when realistically there is no other way for me to travel to Woodley except by car, extending the charges will ensure that I don't bother to attend events at he weekend. On the weekend Vibes runs many social events, many attended by older citizens. It would be sad to limit the appeal of this fab new studio. I can shop at Waitrose in my home locality without paying car parking. Why does Wokingham Council want to deter business in Woodley with car park charges?</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 5.</p>
<p>Please reconsider this proposal as it will effect both business and community in the town. The evening charge will directly effect the lovely restaurants we have finally managed to acquire and the new dance studio which has done an amazing job with the old social services office. Surely these types of business should be being encouraged and not driven out of town. The Sunday charges will effect community events such as markets and car boot sales and also deter people from using the library. Please don't drive these lovely things away and penalise the residents of Woodley.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 5, and 6.</p>
<p>I think parking charges for evenings is such a bad idea as it will impact on so many evening activities and will cause distress and a fall off of attendance and membership. to the town's social life A much better idea, is to raise the day time parking fee when the town centre is at its busiest.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 6.</p>
<p>Yes. Disgusted that this is being planned for Please don't go ahead</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>



<p>Clearly you are expecting people to be upset and object to the introduction of evening and Sunday charges to the town's car parks (and start charging for the Shute End car park). I currently enjoy the ability to park freely at these times and also struggle with the general lack of parking at peak times (Denmark St and The Paddocks are often full) and do not like the introduction of charges. However I find the stated logic for the introduction of charges totally incomprehensible. Contrary to what Cllr Kaiser says the car parks are not free and I'm sure the income from the car parks is far greater than the cost of running them (clearly except Shute End which is not primarily a public car park). The suggestion that they become more 'self sufficient' implies that they are currently subsidised and that they will continue to be subsidised (to a lesser extent) once the new charges are introduced. I do not expect that any notice will be taken of objections but if you are going to try to sell it on the basis of the rationale given then this really needs to be backed up with figures (current income, cost and anticipated increase in income) as I, and probably many others, simply do not believe the rationale stated, which undermines trust in the local council. I would also like more information on the 'best value' comments, particularly I would like to understand the negative impact of not introduces these charges. "We understand people are going to get upset about this, but compared to other nearby councils we've hung on as long as possible before introducing overnight charges. But we simply cannot afford to run free car parks in this current climate," said Cllr John Kaiser, executive member for planning and highways. "If they are to survive our car parks must become more self-sufficient, and these new charges have been set with best value for local people very much in mind."</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>All car park charges of this nature put people off (certainly me) coming into the town, opting instead for out of town or bigger shopping shopping centres. Adding further charges are likely to make it worse. This will reduce the trade in the town. However, the major problem with the charges in my experience (so may not apply to all locations) is the inability to pay by phone or card. The chances of me having the correct cash are slim, so either pay more, or don't go if I don't have change, as there is no way to pay. All car parks should accept non cash methods of payments as most of us rarely use cash for anything.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>I am not in agreement with the suggested charges. Why not just increase present charges by a small amount. Lots of clubs use car parks in the evening and late night shoppers. £1 is a large amount to pay for a pensioner as well as the proposed increases in council tax.</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>

<p>Woodley shopping centre attracts considerable custom on a Sunday because of the free parking. The local economy will be adversely affected if a £1 day charge is introduced. Should there be an overwhelming clamour for charging, surely logic suggests an extension of the weekday fee - 70 per hour/ £1.20 for 2 hours and possibly an all night charge?</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>
<p>I can understand the need to generate income from car parking, particularly if we all want to keep our council tax bills as low as possible. However, I feel that it could cost more to administer an evening/all night charge than revenue collected. From a personal point of view, I may have to carefully consider whether to travel to Woodley in order to attend meetings etc at the Oakwood Centre. The proposed increase could add an estimated £30 to the cost of attending meetings there. £30 is a significant amount of money to people who are retired or otherwise on reduced incomes. Living outside Woodley it isn't practical to suggest that we travel to the town centre by bus, or other mode of travel (particularly on dark winter nights which tends to be when most club activity occurs. If people start to budget in order to take the additional cost of parking into account, then there could be a knock-on effect of clubs losing subscriptions and/or the Oakwood Centre in turn suffering a reduction in its use. With loneliness a factor leading to poor health, and hence a potential burden to local healthcare, surely, for the sake of the loss of revenue in the evenings, then social contact via the Oakwood Centre more than repays the social costs of potential loneliness and ill health. On the evening when I use the car park I observe that most people are of retirement age. As for Sundays. I once believed that Sundays should be spent with the family and that shops should be closed. However, in these modern times, if local shops wish to compete with out of town superstores then they also need to open 7 days a week. It is possible that an introduction of car parking charges on Sundays would discourage people from shopping locally and the town centre could, possibly, die. What then? There may be a reduction in income from business rate. If you do proceed with introducing said charges, perhaps they could be introduced on a trial basis e.g. maximum of one year, in order to monitor the effect on local businesses and clubs. Please bear in mind that the greatest impact is likely to be in the autumn and winter months.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 6, and 7.</p>

<p>I attended a meeting this week of the Woodley Town Centre Management Initiative Committee (WTCMI) which was attended by the Committee, Town Councilors and residents where amongst items for discussion was the proposed increase in car parking charges. We understand that cuts in grants from Central Government mean that Wokingham Borough Council have to try and make up the shortfall where they can without cutting vital services. The Town Council, the WTCMI and all attendees at the meeting feel strongly that this proposal of evening and Sunday car parking charges would be detrimental to any activities held in the evening at Oakwood Centre or in the Woodley Town Centre. For example the Woodley Arts Group; the Photographic Society; Woodley Ladies Group etc. I understand that the Oakwood Centre struggles sometimes for bookings this proposal would deter any future bookings and also I feel the membership of various clubs and societies would decrease over time. We do not want our Town Centre to become a dead zone. The Town Council propose a counter solution to increase the week daytime charges, say, from 70p per hour to 80p per hour; all other charges to remain the same. As you have precise figures of the daytime use of the car parks you know exactly how much revenue this small increase would produce whereas the evening use is unknown and unpredictable. The above proposal was supported by the WTCMI, residents and users of the Oakwood Centre. I do hope that you will seriously consider the above proposal and solution.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 6.</p>
<p>I think that evenings charges will not bring in the revenue that the council is looking for and a more predictable way to increase revenue is to increase the charge for daytime parking. Reason is the council knows the revenue they currently get and what the most popular period of stay is. By increasing the daytime charges they have a guaranteed increased income.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>Insane when you consider Henley and Caversham council car parks are free after 3pm in the daytime. If WBC car parks were less restricted, more visitors to local businesses would result. More visitors to local business .. more revenue for local business.. more revenue for the authorities. Restricting the number of visitors coming in to the town centres is cutting off the supply of customers to start with - doesn't make a lot of sense.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>

<p>I am a member of the Twyford &amp; Ruscombe Theatre Group based in the Old Polehampton School, Twyford. The proposed charges in Polehampton Court will have a significant effect on me. We are all amateurs who attend 2 hour rehearsals every Tuesday and Thursday evening virtually every week of the year. In addition, a team of individuals, myself included, meet every Sunday morning for two hours to build scenery. The results of our dedication and efforts are appreciated by so many people in Twyford. It sounds as though users like me who will be parking, off peak, for no more than 2 hours at a time, will be paying far more than the current daytime Monday to Friday hourly rates. This simply isn't fair. The charges as proposed will significantly impact myself (retired), and so many other members. To put it into perspective, our annual membership is £18. A quick calculation indicates that I will be spending £100 a year for parking. Another nail in the coffin for Big Society? I will be send a copy of this to my MP.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 6.</p>
<p>In a town this size - that is POOR, seriously poor. Sunday morning - junior park runners and dog walkers paying for parking? That is so tight and unnecessary. If you want to charge for parking, charge for Sunday shopping hours (official) 11am at least. Come on, don't make locals cross over something that could be thought out with a compromise in place.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4.</p>

<p>I don't agree with the proposed new charges. By having free parking in non peak trading times, it allows people to spread out shopping habits. Someone who is just popping in for one item may come later as it's free to pop in but now it isn't worth paying £1 to buy a 40p can of tomatoes they need! I believe this will mean people live without and businesses will suffer. It will also affect smaller businesses such as dance studios, craft classes etc. Also if people don't see a small charge, £1 a week soon adds up to £5 a month, £52 a year! And lastly the charge to enforce this? Ticket machines will need to be restocked more regularly, cost to put up new ticket machines and signage and of course the people being paid to check tickets. It's not cheap. Would this money not be better spent on our roads, improving local parks and making it a nicer place to live rather than an expensive place to live and driving the long standing residents out! Have you considered the implications of this on our roads, people will start parking on roads to avoid the charges making them impossible to pass and causing traffic problems. If the solution is the double yellow lines everywhere this impacts the residents who didn't have a problem on their road until the additional cars started parking there because of the new parking charges. There are so many factors to think about and I truly hope you consider the towns and residents rather than just more money! I used to be proud to live in Wokingham borough but now it's a mess, please don't add to it. Small actions have big implications.</p>	<p>Please see comments 3, 5, and 7.</p>
<p>The preferred option is to increase the daytime charges and continue to allow free Evening, Sunday and Bank Holiday Parking. This will continue to allow our Woodley Town Centre to thrive and encourage people to use our facilities in the evenings ie: Local groups that use the Oakwood Centre and people who use our restaurants, also Sunday morning Table Top Sales and special events at Holiday time. It is bad enough now with people parking in residential side streets in the day time. If you increase the day time charges at least you will know how much your expected income will be on a regular basis. Please continue to allow free parking in Woodley in the Evenings, Sundays and Bank Holidays. Thank you.</p>	<p>Please see comments 3 and 4.</p>

<p>I am a resident of Woodley and a member of Woodley and Earley Arts Group. I am not in favour of the proposed introduction of car parking charges for evenings and weekends as I feel this would stop many elderly and less well of people from attending evening clubs and groups in the area. There is a growing number of people both old and young who are on their own and lonely and these clubs and groups provide a vitally important means of meeting other people and being part of a wider network. Whilst it is understood that councils are facing greater funding cuts and are having to find new ways of raising revenue it would be inappropriate to penalise a very vulnerable group of people. Perhaps the Council could look at the alternative of raising the daytime car parking charge to 80 pence instead. I personally would find this an acceptable alternative.</p>	<p>Please see comments 3 and 4.</p>
<p>Yes I do! Why is it that Wokingham is just squeezing the last drop out of us all? I go to Wallingford on a Monday &amp; I pay £2.30 ALL DAY &amp; if you wish the first hour is free, but you still have to get a ticket to display, this gives you time if you wish to do something like popping to the Post Office or to get a newspaper &amp; Wallingford has much more to offer than Woodley - perhaps a move to Wallingford would be a good idea! My husband goes to the Photography Club on a Monday evening at the Oakwood Centre, he always used to walk, but after a man of the same age as him was attacked in Headley Road East I've got him to take the car. I know that you should be able to walk everywhere you like in safety but it doesn't seem to be like that anymore unfortunately, which is a great shame. I really do think that this issue should be reconsidered.</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>
<p>Please note the effect that introducing car park charges at Woodley Headley Road on a Sunday will have on the Woodley Junior Parkrun held in Woodford Park at 9.30am every Sunday. This is an event tirelessly and brilliantly run every single Sunday purely by volunteers. Between 100 and 230 local children benefit in terms of fitness and feeling part of a community and it would be a shame if it was necessary for volunteers and participants to have to pay for parking. Some walk to the event but many don't as they live in neighbouring areas not close enough, e.g. Twyford. Thanks</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>

<p>The proposed parking charges will cause a detrimental effect to small businesses. For example, is it fair to expect people to pay £1 to park for 10 minutes to collect a fish &amp; chip supper? The proposal does not show the costs of enforcement and thus does not show whether the proposed increases will provide a net income to the council. The justification for increasing car park charges to bring the car park charges in line with neighboring councils is no justification, Wokingham council should act for the benefit of the Wokingham ratepayers.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>I think it is terrible to propose a £1 charge for parking in Woodley, especially for evenings and Sundays. How about a 50p an hour charge for evenings, and still free on Sundays. That would give people who are at work all day a chance to park either for a reduced price in the evenings, or free on Sundays. There is no facility for mothers and children in the Waitrose car park in Woodley - WHY???</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>
<p>I understand that the addition/increase in charges is to increase revenue. I'm not sure if/how it will be enforced and whether the costs of enforcement will make the increases worthwhile, e.g., are there going to be parking wardens overnight and on weekends, and if so do those costs offset the predicted gains from the proposed charges? It's also being sold as a benefit that may not really benefit anyone -- does anyone park overnight at Crockhamwell Road, for instance? I would guess the numbers are very small or nil at some of the locations for which the new charges are being proposed. In the case of Crockhamwell, evening parking charges may in fact be a deterrent to business -- there are a number of restaurants and takeaways in the precinct and I'm not sure many customers would want to pay a pound to park for 10 minutes to pick up a takeaway order. One could foresee footfall to those businesses declining or parking issues just moving to other locations, e.g., increased traffic on nearby residential streets or use of handicap parking bays because "it's after 6pm and I'm only going to be parking here for 10 minutes"-type excuses. One alternative would be to have free parking for 15 minutes after 6pm (for example) -- but this gets back to the enforcement issue, ensuring that no one overstays and any accompanying costs. I'm resigned to the fact that free Sunday parking is disappearing. As I hope my comments here point out, I'm still confused about how nightly parking can be put into place and enforced in a cost-effective manner at some locations.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>most unfair to charge evenings and sundays. keep is as it is, 60p for daytime only</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>
<p>Very unfair to charge us £1 to park to go shopping. Would Waitrose in Woodley give you the £1 back? I often just go to the bank - why should I have to pay £1 to park for a few minutes???</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>

<p>I think it's a joke that you are now charging to park in car parks around Woodley precinct on Sunday's, Bank holidays and evenings! Just pure greed and completely out of order. All the services that are on offer come the evening and on Sunday's will suffer because people will just go else where. We pay 40% tax to you as it is! My husband works shifts so often I'm a mother with two kids having to do the shopping so it's a struggle without having to make sure I have correct change to now pay to get some essentials for the kids pack lunches or dinner items. I feel this should not be happening. Completely unjustified.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>i am a single mum on benefits with kids to feed. I cant afford to pay £1 every time i go shopping. Waitrose give you the money back, but i cant afford their prices. Please keep it to 60p.</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>
<p>Apart from enjoying the Art Group Meeting I attend, I really appreciate the convenience of free parking. I don't have to find the right change and find a parking machine in the dark. I live alone and it is important that I get out of the house and meet like-minded people. I recognise that raising car parking fees is a possible way of raising money to fund the many services. I prefer the alternative rating of fees proposed by the Woodley TCM Management Committee ie to raise only the hourly rate from 70p to 80p (a known and certain increase) Wardens would not have to be hired for the extra hours and the increase from evening and weekend periods would fluctuate and be unpredictable. Removing the free parking periods from the Woodley Precinct car parks would be deleterious to the community spirit of the area very important and invaluable in todays world.</p>	<p>Please see comments 1, 4, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>What is the Council's estimate of the additional revenue that these changes to car park charges will bring in for the financial year 2016/2017? What are the additional costs for the implementation of these additional charges? What are the additional costs that the Council incur for the in-going administration (including overnight) of these additional charges? What is the Council's estimate of additional street parking that will occur in the Borough after these charges take effect? Has the Council made any environmental impact assessment of these additional charges? Has the Council made any assessment of the impact on businesses (revenue or foot fall) in the affected areas? These are questions already posted to the Streetlife note posted by the Council.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 5, and 7.</p>



<p>These proposals seem to have been put together without consideration of how some users actually use the car parks. Quite a number of people use some of the car parks to park and catch the train as a commute for London or Reading. Those who currently pay for 10hours parking should be able to get a 24hr ticket, so that they can cover getting back to the car in the evening - after 6pm. Many people actually work past this, so please think of us rather than just applying this arbitrary rule. Also, you should consider increasing the availability of car parking in Twyford as the new cross-rail trains will increase parking numbers considerably.</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>
<p>If you add an overnight charge to the Denmark Street car park, NCP will raise the same charge and take more money because they have a better position and more spaces. Wokingham BC will receive very little extra so, it would be good public relations to exclude this car park from the list.</p>	<p>Please see comments in the report.</p>
<p>I am chairman of Twyford &amp; Ruscombe Theatre Group, which is based in the Old Polehampton School, Twyford. The proposed charges in Polehampton Court will significantly affect our society We are an enthusiastic and very active drama group who meet for rehearsals every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 8pm to 10pm continually throughout the year. We also get together on Sunday mornings for two hours to build scenery. We put on three productions a year, which are enjoyed by a hundreds of adults and children in Twyford's community We usually only park for 2 hours at a time, so this would be quite expensive, when compared to the daytime Monday to Friday hourly rates. I imagine that you wish to encourage communities and this charge hardly helps. Our members pay £18 per year and therefore these proposed charges would increase the annual cost of belonging to the group very significantly. Even if members attend for half of the time, this would still involve an extra charge of at least £50 per year and significantly more for our most enthusiastic members. Given that these charges will apply throughout the night and on Sundays, I imagine that it will be expensive to employ someone to check the car park for vehicles not displaying a valid ticket. Are you really going to send someone out in the small hours to check for offenders?</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 7.</p>
<p>I object most strongly to evening and Sunday charges being introduced. It will kill off attendance at any evening clubs and associations, which are an integral part of the social network in Woodley. (Similarly, the horrendous parking rises at Dinton Pastures will kill off the café trade - I will now occasionally go for a quick walk and then get out of there ASAP; I doubt I will be the only one.) I have no objection to an additional 10p on daytime parking charges.</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>

<p>This proposal is so unfair. At the moment I can park in the Headley Road car park on my way home from work for 50p, but sometimes I do not get there until just after 18.00 which meant it was free. Under your proposal I will now have to pay £1 if I arrive after 18.00 a rise of 100% than if I parked before 18.00. Charging for Sunday seems uneconomical when you consider the need to pay attendants to patrol the numerous locations, which begs the question has this aspect been factored in to the expected increase in revenue. The economy of the Woodley town centre businesses is fragile to say the least, adding these charges will only deter people who would rather go there at times when parking is free and drive this custom elsewhere. You also say that it brings charges into line with neighbouring borough's is also untrue. I parked in Chester Street P&amp;D car park yesterday (Sunday) at no charge, where is this information conjured up from, and suggest some spurious 'facts' are being used here.</p>	<p>Please see comments 6 and 7.</p>
<p>I am a local resident and also currently churchwarden of All Saints Church. The increase of day time charges imposition of car parking charges in the evenings and monstrous proposal to charge for Sunday parking will have severe deleterious effects on the activities of the church and access to worship at All Saints. The community activities undertaken at The Cornerstone will also be adversely impacted by the changes. Over the last few years we have been promoting musical events in the church building &amp; these are held on weekday evenings. They attract extra footfall to the town (before &amp; after eating and drinking). The imposition of parking charges is only likely to severely diminish this programme. There will also be increased pressure on local residential roads at these times. As for charging on Sundays this is an unwelcome tax on those who for reasons of age and/or frailty are compelled to go to church by car. Also we are not the only worshipping community affected. These car parks are used by Wokingham Methodists, the Salvation Army, Society of Friends, Corpus Christie, Wokingham Baptists &amp; I suspect St Paul's Church also. I write as a ratepayer knowing that books have to be balanced but the required revenue should in my view be raised in other ways. The argument that neighbouring local authorities have 24/7 charging is no defence for doing the wrong thing.</p>	<p>Please see comment 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>This is a really bad idea. It will reduce people coming into the centre, especially people on low incomes and the elderly. It will drive out retailers who are just breaking even and create more empty shops, which in turn will attract less people. Are you trying to destroy our town's life just to get more money? This is not thought through and has many significant and dangerous consequences for our community.</p>	<p>Please see comments 3, 5, and 6.</p>

This will adversely affect the night-time economy of Wokingham. How will the enforcement of charges be carried out?	Please see comments 6 and 7.
No Thanks xx	Please see comments in the report.
<p>Sir/Madam The Wokingham and East Berkshire Camera Club meets weekly at the Cornerstone in Norreys Avenue; Rose Street is the nearest public car park that can be used by our members. Enforcing this evening car park charge will add 50% to the costs of members attending attending meetings. Many of the other users of the Cornerstone will be facing the same situation. Speaking unofficially on behalf of those that attend evening meetings at the Bradbury Centre and the Cornerstone, many charities, voluntary groups and clubs that enrich the quality of life in Wokingham are going to be penalised by this unavoidable extra charge for attending their meetings in the centre of town. Below are listed some of the organisations I have researched, that meet after 6pm and will be affected: Wokingham Mencap, Guides, Beavers, Brownies (3rd Wokingham), Brownies (4th Wokingham), Church Choir, Wokingham Trefoil Guild, CONTACT, Lace Makers, Wokingham Philatelic Society, Wokingham Horticultural Association, Wokingham History Group, Wokingham Art Society, Pilates, Loddon Valley Ramblers, Railway &amp; Transport Club, Table Tennis Club, Yoga in Pregnancy and many more. I strongly object to these evening car park charges for the following reasons: The above organisations and many more are run by volunteers and charge minimal prices to keep the organisations going and are a huge benefit to the community spirit, cultural and physical development and mental well-being in the town. The extra burden of evening car park charges will restrict the many, particularly the lesser well-off, from getting the benefit and pleasure of participating in evening activities.</p>	Please see comment 4.

Opposition to the proposed introduction of Evening and Sunday Car Park charges in Woodley. Woodley Theatre is an amateur theatre that has been in Woodley for 70 years. The Oakwood Centre is the home of Woodley Theatre. Woodley Theatre presents at least 5 productions/plays a year lasting for at least 5 performances. We also produce Jazz Concerts which are very well supported particularly by the older members of the community. The majority of members of Woodley Theatre and their patrons use the public car park in Headley Road, Woodley which they find safe and a short walk from the theatre. All rehearsals and preparation for productions are held at the Oakwood Centre when the car park is used by the membership. We oppose the introduction of Evening and Sunday Car Parking charges which will have an impact on both our membership and our audiences. For members who are taking part in a production the financial implication will be considerable. For our audience it will add to the cost of the evening which we have been trying to keep to a reasonable cost. We urge you to rethink this proposal. The impact on Woodley Theatre will be considerable and certainly affect the membership and audience numbers, encouraging many to go elsewhere. There are no other amateur theatre within the Wokingham Borough or Reading that have evening or Sunday parking charges. We support the proposal made by Woodley Town Council to increase the daily hourly charge by 10p. The daytime use of the car parks are considerable and this would make up the financial shortfall which we understand is the reason for the proposal. Woodley Theatre wish to continue to provide high quality theatre for the local community. Introducing Evening and Sunday charges is likely to see this greatly reduced or even lost. Please reconsider the introduction of Public Car Park evening and Sunday charges.

Please see comment 4.

<p>I am totally opposed to this proposal with respect to the car park in Polehampton Close, Twyford for the following reasons: 1. This car park is used by members of the Twyford and Ruscombe Theatre Group (a local amateur dramatics society) attending rehearsals at the Old Polehampton Boys School in the Close every Tuesday and Thursday from 8 to 10pm and occasionally on Sundays. This proposed charge would effectively add from £50 to £100 to the existing membership fee of only £15. This will be a strong disincentive for members to participate in this social activity and could put the drama group's very existence into jeopardy. 2. The usage of this off-street car park during the evenings and on Sunday is minimal and so there is no need to control congestion of it during these times (unlike during weekdays). Thus the only reason for such a charge would seem to be Revenue Raising, which is contrary to the guidelines set out in the Dept of Transport's document "Operational Guidance to Local Authorities: Parking Policy and Enforcement" sections 5.7 and 14.7 ("Authorities should never use parking charges just to raise revenue or as a local tax..."). 3. Placing a charge on this off-street car park during times of low congestion will just encourage drivers to park on the local streets instead, thus increasing congestion on those streets and consequently jeopardising road safety.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 7.</p>
<p>I think it is completely out of the question to charge people for parking their cars after 6.00 pm and on a Sunday in Woodley. This will affect the bars and restaurants as people will not use their facilities. Why not put an extra 10p on the hourly charge People will start going into the Waitrose car park because they will then get their money back.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>I am a member of the Twyford and Ruscombe Theatre Group and use Polehampton Close car park on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for rehearsals. It would be such a shame to introduce evening and weekend charges for this car park as it would make a big impact on myself financially over a year and would certainly kurb my enthusiasm for getting quite so involved in this lovely community group.</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>

<p>I wish to object to the proposal to introduce charges after 18.00 hours and on Sundays in Woodley. In stating that other, neighbouring authorities do charge at these times the council is not comparing like with like. In Reading a great number of retail outlets are open after 18.00 as they are on Sundays. This is not true of Woodley nor does Woodley have a vibrant night life. On Sundays the boot sale attracts additional people, this is a charitable event which does not deserve to have its success undermined by a mean spirited council. Reading is vying for city status, Woodley is an overgrown village where businesses are already struggling to survive, do you need to add to their struggles. Has the Council undertaken a survey to establish usage of car parks after 18.00? I must admit that I am a very irregular user but whenever I go cars are few and far between, I always thought that charges were a useful source of revenue but also prevented space baggers. Introducing charges out of hours would be a detriment to those visiting the cafes/food outlets and activities at the Oakwood centre.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 5, and 7.</p>
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<p>To the WBC consultation over proposed car parking charges next April 2016. I do not agree that charges after 6 p.m. and on Sundays and Public Holidays should be introduced. To achieve a similar revenue increase-----just increase by .10p the 1 hour daytime charge from .70p to .80p. -----</p> <p>----- 1)</p> <p>I do recognise that car parking charges need to be raised to protect other services that WBC provide.</p> <p>2) I do not agree that charges after 6 p.m. and on Sundays and Public Holidays should be introduced. In my view, this would be extremely counter productive to Woodley Town Centre trying to build up an evening and weekend economy. Any such action would be letting down these businesses if we, the public, condoned such a move on WBC's part. Why not instead: Just increase by .10p the 1 hour daytime charge from .70p to .80p. 3) Please don't destroy the growing evening and weekends revival within Woodley Town Centre where new restaurant businesses and a new Dance Studio have been setting up, by scaring their customers away with parking charges after 6 p.m and on Sundays and Public Holidays. The Woodley Theatre and the various clubs which meet in the Oakwood Centre and the customers to the Sunday Boot Fairs will also suffer if you bring in car parking charges in the evenings and Sundays and Public Holidays. It's bad enough that out-of-town supermarkets offer free car parking. 4) Surely the requirement to have to employ extra car parking attendants checking tickets would negate the possible extra revenue collected after 6 p.m and on Sundays and Public Holidays? 5) Might I suggest that your statistical department in Highways runs a program through and see if something like ONLY adding .10p to the 1 hour daytime charge (i.e. .70p rises to .80p) would adequately provide the extra income you require over a year? The public are used to paying for car parking in the daytime, and probably wouldn't even notice this small increase after a while. The car park attendants would only need to be working their current normal/daily hours - so absolutely no increase to this wage bill would be needed. You must know how many tickets are already sold at any one time in all your car parks? 6) The more WBC dissuades shoppers and visitors to park in car parks in the evenings and on Sundays and Public Holidays, the more on-street parking will happen, to the obvious annoyance of the local residents in those street!</p>	<p>Please see comment 4, 5, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>Evening parking charges would prevent me from using the shops and library after 6pm, will have to go elsewhere</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 5.</p>

This minimal charge is fine, but you must never increase it more than the rate of inflation, once this charge starts it won't be long until you have it in line with the general line of parking charges, they will creep quickly so you should put a limiter on it of once a year. Your Dinton weekend charges are terrible, I go for an hour with the dog, I don't want to pay £1.50 for that, and I don't want 4 hours. For weekends you need to offer the one hour option. Over time you will see a fall away of usage, and don't say I get good services for my £1.50 - have you walked the dog walk from the main carpark lately, in particular the path where the lorries serviced the new play area, it's appalling. And don't say you provide dog waste bins - at 8.00 on a Sunday morning they are stuffed full, they are not emptied enough, WBC is taking money and NOT providing good service, you need to remember it's the public that pay your salary, so keep us happy and be reasonable.

Please see comments in the report.



<p>The Woodley Town Centre Management Initiative (WTCMI) response to WBC Evening &amp; Sunday parking charges proposal. At our quarterly meeting on 27 January 2016 the Woodley Town Centre Management Initiative (WTCMI) considered the proposal from Wokingham Borough council to introduce evening and weekend parking charges in the Borough Council’s car parks. The Woodley Town Centre car parks, in Crockhamwell Rd, Headley Rd, Lytham Rd East &amp; West currently do not charge for parking after 6pm and all day on Sundays &amp; Bank Holidays. For many years the Woodley Town Centre Management Initiative has been working hard to encourage visitors to the Town Centre and has been successful in recent years in increasing Sunday trade. Evening use of the Town Centre has also recently increased with the openings of a large bar, a restaurant, a dance school, bringing the Town Centre to life and helping reduce antisocial behaviour. Waitrose, Lidl, Iceland and several take-away shops also trade much later than 6pm. The regeneration is continuing with plans to improve the northern end of the Town Centre, which should take place later this year &amp; help further encourage a night-time economy. The Town Centre Management Initiative believes that the proposal for new parking charges in the evenings and on Sundays in the car parks surrounding the Woodley Town Centre would reduce footfall and be detrimental to retailers, shops and businesses in the shopping centre and be a serious blow to its competitiveness against large supermarkets that have free parking on their premises. Some retailers in the Town Centre have already been affected by the arrival of M&amp;S food at the Shepherds Hill roundabout, which has free parking on their premises. Parking charges are unpopular in Town Shopping Centres but this proposal would be sending a negative message claiming that now: “Woodley Town Centre charges 24/7” for parking. Currently Woodley Town Centre can claim that at least in the evenings and on Sundays it welcomes customers without parking fees but if this is no longer the case, visitors and customers might choose to go elsewhere and hardworking retailers suffer even more. A Town Centre is the heartbeat of a community and a community needs a successful Town Centre. The nationwide Mary Portas bid was trying to help and boost Town Centres throughout Britain for just that very reason. WBC is one of the three partners of the WTCMI with Woodley Town Council and the Traders and surely cannot want Town Centre trading discouraged by making it less competitive through no fault of its retailers. Woodley Town Council and the Oakwood Centre, opposite the</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 5, and 6.</p>
<p>Twyford Parish Council have concern that the change in car parking charges at Polehampton Close will have a detrimental effect on the Twyford Businesses.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>A lot of the car parks never seem to be particularly full in the evenings so I don't know how cost effective it would be. What will happen about people who buy an all day ticket to travel from Earley or Winnersh Triangle station and don't get back until after 6?</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>

<p>Another step to discourage visitors from visiting Wokingham. Being able to park of an evening without charge or worry is about the only decent thing left in favour of visiting Wokingham.</p>	<p>Please see comment 6.</p>
<p>I'm responding to the proposal to begin charging for evening and Sunday use of woodley car parks. This is in my capacity as an independent retailer and in support of the letter sent by woodley TCMI This proposal will have a negative effect on the image of woodley shopping centre at a time when the retail environment has reached a fragile state. Recent business closures have included Cargo,Fabric Warehouse and Curves. These closures haven't happened because business is so good. Although there has been some improvement,footfall in Woodley is way below where it was some years ago and recently shops have been very quiet. If the borough wants a thriving shopping centre with successful businesses contributing rates,then more needs to be done to encourage people to visit. We have a hard working town centre manager who does his utmost to promote the centre,but he has no control over the car parks that people have to use when they visit. The fledgling night time economy needs support to continue to grow and charging its clients to use it will have the opposite effect. Equally Sunday visits to woodley are often by families who are coming to browse the car boot sales and spend leisure time in the cafes. There's nothing leisurely about "come on,drink up,the ticket runs out in 5 minutes". This is a very negative message to send out to visitors and local residents and negativity breeds more of the same. TCMI is a partnership and all parties should be looking for ways to persuade people to use Woodley not to give them a reason not to come or cut their visit short. I believe that woodley shopping centre itself should be looked at as a business with its product( shops ,cafes,environment etc) being presented at their best and being promoted by the TCMI partners. This promotion could include special offers with well advertised parking discounts for quiet periods,variable charging at busy times (law of supply and demand),and parking loyalty cards ( after 10 hours use ,get an hour free). Let's turn the negative image of car parking ( which still exists in woodley) into something with a more positive image that gives the car park users a good feeling from the perceived value of the ticket they've purchased. All of this could be achieved if the car parking technology was moved into the 21st century where the machines accepted debit cards and could engage with users in real time to inform them of that day's / week's special offer. Continually looking for more ways to extract revenue from woodley car parks without an increase in the perceived return of the parking ticket purchase will just lead to diminishing returns as car park usage drops, and more businesses decide woodley is not for them.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 5, 6, and 7.</p>

<p>Our Theatre group is very active in Twyford and contributes a great deal to the community. The proposed charges would significantly increase the cost to our members, who use the car park. Parking in Polehampton Court overnight is very minimal and in the evenings and on Sundays it is mostly occupied by visitors to our Theatre Group, the Church and The Duke of Wellington. This is a relatively small group, which I would suggest would be uneconomic to monitor.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 7.</p>
<p>At a meeting on 19 January 2016 the Woodley Town Council Community Services Committee considered the proposal from Wokingham Borough council to introduce evening and weekend parking charges in the borough council's car parks. The Woodley town centre car parks currently have free parking after 6pm and all day on Sundays.</p> <p>In recent years the Woodley Town Centre Management Initiative has been working hard to attract visitors to the town centre on Sundays and has been successful in increasing Sunday trade. Evening use of the town centre has also increased with the recent openings of a bar and a restaurant, bringing the town centre to life and reducing the incidences of antisocial behaviour. The regeneration is continuing with plans to improve the northern end of the town centre, which will take place later this year, to further encourage a night-time economy.</p> <p>Woodley Town Council's Oakwood Centre, opposite the Headley Road car park, provides a social facility for the residents of Woodley and is used by local community clubs and as a venue for a variety of activities in the evening. The Centre is also the home of Woodley Theatre. Woodley Town Council is promoting the use of the Oakwood Centre to increase the recreational facilities available to local residents and make it a vibrant social hub adjacent to the town centre.</p> <p>Woodley Town Council believes that the introduction of evening and Sunday parking charges in the town centre car parks would have a detrimental impact on the footfall in the town centre and at the Oakwood Centre. There would be fewer visitors to the town centre on Sundays, which would adversely affect retailers, and fewer visitors in the evening would affect business in the bar and restaurant. People would be less likely to visit the Oakwood Centre in the evenings if they had to pay for parking, leading to reduced attendance at clubs and courses and the possibility that some of these would no longer be offered. Visitors to the theatre at the Oakwood Centre would have to pay to park and cast members would have to pay parking charges every time they attended a rehearsal, which would amount to a considerable sum. Woodley Town Council is strongly opposed to the introduction of evening and Sunday charges in the Woodley town centre car parks. However, the Town Council appreciates that Wokingham Borough Council needs to increase</p>	<p>Please see responses 4, 5, 6 and 7.</p>

<p>Wokingham Town Council has considered the impact on the town of the proposal to introduce evening and weekend parking charges. The Town Council believes that, with the regeneration of the town underway, this is not the right time to implement additional charges. However, if they are justified by a financial assessment and are not the prelude to further charges or restrictions then the Town Council will not object, but requests that residents be allowed to purchase an annual pass to park anywhere in the town at any time of day or night.</p>	<p>Please see comments 3 and 7.</p>
<p>I would like to write to you in my capacity as Chairman of Wokingham United Charities who, as you may know, own and run the Westende Almshouses in London Road which borders onto your Council's Easthampstead Road car parking. The car parking facilities that we have at Westende are inadequate as it is and to enable carers to have ready access we have had to impose rules that friends and family visiting the Almshouse residents should park in your Council Easthampstead Road car park and walk through. Evenings and weekends are prime times for visitors and therefore to impost a charge on visitors to residents who are in need, is a wholly unreasobale burden which I must strongly object to.</p>	<p>Please see comments 3 and 4.</p>
<p>It has recently been brought to my attention that Wokingham Borough Council have in place proposals to apply overnight and Sunday charging for all their car parks. We at All Saints Church can fully understand the need by WBC to find ways to earn additional revenues especially so in this current financial austere climate. However, having discssed WBC proposals at our recent Standing Committee meeting, it was the opinion of all members that I should write to you, on their behalf and explain to you that these proposed increases in car park charges, as mentioned, will be a real deterrent to the building of good community activities in Wokingham of the sort that the Council are keen to support and we do our best to provide. It will hit people coming to All Saints Church particularly hard as the Easthampstead West and East car parks are widely used in the evenings and Sundays for church services and functions at the church and The Cornerstone. Many of the people who come to church are in considerable need - frequently emotional and the fuss about parking charges will be upsetting and often financial and the charge will discourage them from seeking help from the church at a time when they most need it. For these reasons may I ask you and your committee to take these considerations into your decision making which will hopefully lead to a reversal of the proposals to apply car park charges for evenings and Sundays.</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>

I am writing on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Wokingham Society to object to the proposed introduction of a £1 parking charge for evenings and weekends. While we appreciate the difficult financial circumstances which the Council faces in the light of successive cuts in central government grant, we are convinced that this is not an appropriate measure to increase income to the Council. Firstly it would be damaging to the local economy at a time when it is fragile and when steps are being taken to enhance retail and leisure opportunities in town centres, particularly with regard to Wokingham town. This would affect revenue in respect of those enterprises which rely for much of their income on evening and weekend trade and put at risk the potential benefits of the Council's investment in regeneration and in seeking to support the 18 hour economy. In addition, the Bank Holiday charge would adversely affect the festivals and carnivals local people work so hard to run for the benefit and enjoyment of the local community. Secondly there is a safety risk to people on their own, especially single females, in having to leave their cars and to find and feed a meter. They may well be deterred from coming into town and would thus feel excluded from the retail and social facilities otherwise on offer to them. Thirdly, and contrary to claims of direct comparison with other local centres which are said to have such charges already, parking is free at the affected times to those in Windsor and Maidenhead who have a free Advantage card; in specified car parks in Henley, and also in Marlow, which additionally has a number of free car parks. Thus people in this wider area will have a good reason to avoid Wokingham Borough and go to these other centres for their retail and leisure activities in the evenings and on Sundays. Fourthly, assuming that the charging method will continue to be payment on entry, there will be the practical inconvenience for those who wish to extend their afternoon stay into the evening and who will have to return to their vehicles to pay the £1 charge at some inconvenience, or who may decide not to stay once they have had to go back to the car park. In this last respect, we are assuming that those who know they want to stay beyond 6pm will be able to pay the £1 charge at the same time as they pay their initial parking fee, otherwise the same arguments of inconvenience will apply. Lastly, we would urge clarification as to whether the charges will apply to the new Carnival Pool Multi-Storey Car Park and in due course to the new Paddocks and Elm Field food store car parks. Yours faithfully

Please see comments 1, 4, 5, and 6.

<p>I am writing on behalf of the Woodley Women's Club regarding the proposed introduction of Evening, Sunday and Bank Holiday Car Parking Charges. Our meetings take place in the evenings at the Oakwood Centre on a fortnightly basis where we have no option - as do all other groups who use the Centre - but to park in the Pay and Display Car Park opposite, as there is no parking provided at the centre. We are a Non-profit making Charitable Organisation run for the benefit of the local community and feel having to pay for parking would deter some of our members from attending the club on a regular basis. Our preferred option is to increase the daytime hourly rate, which would bring in an increase regular income to the council and would not discourage people from visiting our clubs and restaurants in the evening, our Table Top sales on Sundays and our Special Events on Bank Holidays .We in Woodley are strongly in favour of Evenings, Sundays and Bank Holiday Parking to remain free. Yours Sincerely</p>	<p>Please see comment 4.</p>
<p>I completely agree with the proposed charges. It is a fair fee to be spread amongst everyone who uses the facilities. Sunday is now a major shopping day, free parking should be a thing of the past. In addition, this is a fairer way than increasing the day time parking. The only thing I would suggest is maybe change the car parks so they are pay on exit, that way it will be easier to police it and will alleviate the need for someone to check tickets. It will prevent people parking and not paying too, if you need to put your ticket in a machine to release the barrier. This in itself will raise additional funds as at the moment people do park without buying a ticket. Being able to pay by card would be useful too. It will also stop fines for overstaying your fee</p>	<p>Please see the comments in the report.</p>
<p>Do they live or use things in Wokingham no do they own a car ??????????????</p>	<p>Please see the comments in the report.</p>
<p>Wokingham town centre is already quiet on a Sunday, without further discouraging trade. In the evenings, this will likely just put pressure on neighbouring roads as people try to avoid paying. I also suspect Waitrose will no be too happy as it will put more pressure on their car park as the only free one in town. The hassle of simply having enough change and the principle is enough to to out people off paying for parking, so I'd suggest a small increase to existing charges would come across better than a charge for already quiet periods.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2 and 5.</p>
<p>Absolutely disgusting!! No shops are open during the evening, and not all shops are open on a Sunday. I frequent Crockhamwell Road carpark regularly and there will be no one there on a Sunday if you introduce charges. Plus a £1 charge??? You can pay 70p on a weekday or Saturday!!! The only reason the few people that go on a Sunday is because the parking is free. There is no trade. Few shops open. People only pop for a paper or some milk or maybe a coffee. I think you need to throw this idea in the bin immediately.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>

<p>We are charged enough as it is to park! Especially for such a small town with hardly any clothing shops. I do not agree with charging for evenings and Sunday's - disgusting.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>You are killing our small shopping centres like Woodley. I pop into Woodley 2-3 times a week (usually for cash withdrawal, pick up a couple of items) and cannot afford more and more charges. I usually go after 6pm, because it's quieter and easier to park - implementing more charges will just send people to away from Woodley. Please support our small shopping centres, do not impose EVEN MORE CHARGES. With this and Dinton Pasture parking charge hikes, if these go ahead I will be going elsewhere. You currently do not collect glass recycling, so now I'm going to have to pay to park and deposit my glass - ridiculous. I already pay over £150 a month in Council Tax:I have to pay extra for more bin bags, how much more money do you want?</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>I whole heartedly disagree with this proposal as an additional covert income stream. I propose that you increase busy time parking to create the additional income you require and leave the free periods alone. If this is implemented, I for one, will cease to use Wokingham center as my 1st choice for evening entertainment and eating.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>I would like to comment on the extra charges to car parks. I don't disagree but I think you should at least allow an up to 15 minute free parking option for people who are just popping in to use cash machine or something quick. I think it is ridiculous to have to pay 70p or £1 as it will be just for the sake of using the car park for 5 minutes. And how is this going to be monitored? Are you having to employ parking attendants 24/7? will it be cost worthy?</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>I think this is a real shame, the Woodley precinct is very quiet on a Sunday and those that do come attend the monthly car boot, do a small amount of shopping or pick up a paper. I with lots of others wouldn't bother to go to the precinct and would just walk to me local corner shop if I had to pay. It won't generate that much money and the good will lost will be huge. Think about it guys.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 5, and 7.</p>
<p>Is it really going to make more revenue than what will be lost when more people give up their trips into Wokingham to mooch around shops, have a coffee or eat out on Sunday or in the evenings? It sounds self-defeating to me. There are other towns/places that have more competing businesses - so WBC have found yet another way to damage the uniqueness of a lovely market town and put more pressure on local businesses. And what will any extra revenue be spent on.. ? Unwanted developments? Repairs to the roads - that are constantly being dug up? Child or elderly care? Local services? I'd be interested to know.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>

<p>Already there is little reason to come to Wokingham in the day, as there are so few shops worth visiting. Now you are going to put people off coming to the pubs and restaurants in the evening? Wokingham will become a ghost town attracting nobody but criminals.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>
<p>I do not agree with these proposals and think parking should remain free evening and sundays and bank holidays. i would rather go to another town for a restaurant in the evenings rather than pay in wokingham. i would rather shop in another town than pay for parking on a sunday. this will in my opinion continue to discourage people from shopping/ leisure time in wokingham and further harm town trade.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>Why would you even think of this? Are you trying to kill trade in the town in the evenings? I have never heard anything so ridiculous. Your car parking fees during the day are already very high. Your council tax rates are very high. Why would you even think of trying to squeeze more of out local residents? Lower staff salaries, particularly the higher paid people, if you want to save money.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>Lots of people shop on Sunday because it's free parking. They will shop elsewhere ( large supermarkets where parking is free) Local shops will suffer.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>The proposal to extend car parking charges will of course hit businesses, but I write from the point of view of community activities. I am a church warden at All Saints Church and a trustee at Wokingham United Charities who run the Westende Almshouses. Both of these care for needy people. Both have visitors who make use of the Easthampstead Road East car park, and in the case of the church a particularly large proportion of that use is on Sundays. The support that both organisations offer to the community in Wokingham will thus be reduced, and just at a time when more voluntary community is needed, because of the reduction in Council services. Whilst I sympathise with the need to raise more money with such significant cuts to the block grant, an increase in Council tax would be a much more progressive way of achieving this.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 5.</p>
<p>How sad. The death of shopping centres is understandable. I hate online shopping, but it seems the only way forward.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>



<p>For the following reasons I urge you not to impose the evening and weekend charges: 1. I've lived in Woodley all my life - one of the great things about it is to be able to visit on an evening/Sunday for short time e.g. pick up a Dominoes/newspaper etc without having to search for change for the machine. 2. Much more relevant and significant to me now. I understand you wish to activate and encourage evening trade in Woodley. As you know it tends to be a meeting point for all kinds of people (not all great as with sites around the Chequers pub etc). There is no visible police presence (ever) in the evenings and no CCTV. The dance studio in particular is in an area with a lot of dark/secluded areas and I have felt more than scared on one occasion. I get out of my car and run to the door. If I have to find money - find a pay point - go back to the car - place ticket in the car - then get to door - its even more scary. I have been approached/shouted at/intimidated several times and people know we are there till late - sometimes on our own. These parking charges would just make everything worse and we will all feel even more anxious. 3. As I believe has been pointed out you will make so much more money and lesson the costs involved by just putting a small increase on the hourly charge. PLEASE for the sake of vulnerable women - as well as all the other very very valid points - DON'T put us at more risk. Many thanks</p>	<p>Please see comments 1 and 5.</p>
<p>A very bad idea which will be counter-productive, for the following reasons: 1. At present Sundays at Woodley shopping precinct for example are civilized and peaceful, quite different from weekdays when people are rushing to get to their cars before their time expires. Parking charges will destroy this atmosphere. 2. Making people pay to park on Sundays is immoral! 3. Likewise in the evening, drivers will have to fork out just to pick up a takeaway meal. 4. Extra charges will just add to congestion, jams and accidents as people avoid car parks and leave their cars parked on the road. 5. Having to pay to park will drive away business and be bad for traders in the area, who will lose custom; if customers have to pay, they will think twice before going out and likely reduce the number of visits. 6. Will the council employ wardens to check car parks in the evening and on Sundays? That will drive up costs and make the charges uneconomical. 7. Wokingham will lose the reputation it currently enjoys as a fair, free and friendly borough.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 5, 6, and 7.</p>

<p>I have been living in Woodley for more than 25 years and working in the town centre for 17 years. We are starting to see more people coming in to Woodley in the evening with the arrival of Bosco, Cozze and evening classes at the Oakwood and now with the new dance studio. People choose to come for these things and may choose not to if we start imposing car park charges for evenings. Sundays have always been seen as free parking. However, if you add 10p on to the hour during the day people may grumble initially but they will get used to it as most people have to come out during the day to shop etc. As our charges have not gone up for a while I think 10p on an hour during the day is reasonable and would surely bring in more income than charging for evenings and Sundays.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>Yes I have 3 comments: 1. I do not see the point of introducing charges unless they are going to be policed. I think it would be wasteful to employ inspectors evenings and Sundays. 2. Introducing higher charges at places like Dinton Pastures doesn't necessarily increase your revenue. Since charges increased the last time, Colemansmoor Road and roads off it are plagued with dog walkers parking their cars on the roads and pavements, making life very difficult for local residents. 3. I am in favour of just increasing council tax to cover increased costs/reduced funding. This has the advantage that the bigger your house the more you will pay, which normally reflects the income and/or family size of the occupants (my house is band E)</p>	<p>Please see comments 2 and 7.</p>
<p>Object to the evening and weekend car park charges. The lack of charges makes visits to Wokingham shops attractive.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>We would like to oppose the over night charges to the car parks in Woodley, we live in Crockhamwell Road, Woodley , it is starting to fill up with parked cars in very dangerous positions and we can see this increasing very rapidly with the residential houses being built. My main fear is that if you decide to make an evening charge for the car parks this will increase the parking in our road and the noise factor with night time parking. People will park in Crockhamwell Road to avoid the charges and returning to their cars late in the evenings will create noise late into the evening. I hope you can take this into your consideration seriously.</p>	<p>Please see comment 2.</p>
<p>What a dreadful proposal. The Woodley precinct is a small shopping area for local people, many of whom pop in on their way home from work to buy a pint of milk or go to the Library. Most stays after 6pm are short and not worthy of a steep parking fee. The precinct has worked hard during the last few years to encourage people to frequent the shops by holding car boot sales on Sundays, having the Library open late and on Sundays, and I am sure an out of hours and Sunday parking fee will curtail this. Once again the people of Woodley are the "cash cow" for Wokingham!</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 5.</p>

<p>I think that WBC are being very short sighted in imposing car park charges in the evenings and on Sundays and charging to use the Council car park on Saturdays. It will have an impact on people using the shops, bars and restaurants. Wokingham currently does not have a huge range of shops, when Bracknell has finished their regeneration people will go there instead to shop. I walked round Wokingham last Sunday looking for somewhere to eat and most of the restaurants were empty - don't add to their problems by imposing car park charges and encouraging people to go elsewhere where there aren't car park charges.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>Can you confirm, will the £1 fee to park on Sunday be transferable across car parks? I park in Elms Road for Church in the morning, might well pop back in to Woodley for some shopping in the afternoon. I might even come back to Wokingham for a meal in the evening. Paying £1 for the day doesn't seem too bad, especially if I can pay it on my phone before I leave the house, but having to pay several times because different car parks are convenient for different things seems wrong. Maybe you could issue a Sunday permit, say £40 to allow parking in any Wokingham Borough car park on a Sunday - I'd happily pay that. It would just be a disc you put in the car window. Of course, I'm in a situation where £40 isn't a lot of money to me. I'd take the risk that I didn't park in town on 40 Sundays a year for the convenience. Maybe a reduced fee for those on income support, and less well off pensioners.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4 and 5.</p>

<p>Introducing evening car parking charges will discourage drivers from using the car parks. We have no parking enforcement in Wokingham so illegal parking will increase and residents, that have paid for parking permits, will have their spaces filled by illegal parkers. The evening trade is boosted by free parking and to place a charge on this, before the town regeneration is finished, is mad. I agree with a charge after midnight to stop cars using our car parks as free over night parking and not paying for a parking permits. To have a car parking attendant visiting all the car parks will cost money and probably make it cost negative, be a dangerous job working after dark dealing with angry motorists that have been ticketed and with passengers that have been drinking. Have you done a risk assessment on this and correct costings including, staffing costs, equipment for ticketing, uniforms, appeals panel and a WBC officer to run the system and the reception dealing with complaints. Introducing policies that will anger residents, is another nail in the coffin for WBC public relations. Wokingham should set an example, that when there is the need to raise funds, it doesn't use the motorist as a cash cow to fill the gap. The amount of money this will raise, is minute, compared to the anger of the residents being taxed by the back door. WBC please think again, we know that central government has cut the funding again, but you need to be smarter than just slapping charges on an easy target and annoying all the tax payers, voters WBC employers.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 5, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>We are totally against the proposal to commence night time and weekend car park charges in all the borough car parks. These are under-utilised at these times and the cost of enforcing these charges will outweigh the possible revenue raised. Those who do use these car parks at weekends and at night will instead park their vehicles on and around the residential roadsides to avoid paying charges which will impact on residents and on through traffic. Through traffic is already compromised in the daytime due to vehicles parking on residential roads to avoid paying daytime car parking charges, vehicles which disappear at night and leave our residential roads clear. Local organisations and businesses have a difficult enough time now to encourage visitors to frequent their establishments at night and at weekends and it will distract from the re-generation instead of adding to it. This is not the time to be employing extra staff to enforce the parking charges or to be placing third party contracts to do so. It will inevitably lead to having the cost of parking permits for local residents and will never generate enough income for that. This will severely impact on our organisation. Wokingham Spiritualist Church meets at Denton Road Wokingham.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 4, and 7.</p>

<p>I wish to object on the grounds that there has been insufficient time to allow proper consultation on this significant proposed change to the existing regime. 28days would be more appropriate. I also think that a sufficient period of free time after 6pm should be allowed to enable people to carry out a quick shop on the way home from work or to collect takeaway food from the various establishments in Woodley precinct. It is very unfortunate that after having waited so long to have some decent restaurants in Woodley you are potentially driving customers away to other areas where there is free parking available.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
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I am concerned about these proposed changes to car parking - an evening/overnight charge, Sunday charges and making Shute End car park chargeable. Where I start is from the article in the Daily Telegraph (18/7/15) headlined "Free parking to save the high street" and the call from Marcus Jones ("high street minister" at the time) to allow shoppers to park for free to save shops from closure. Wokingham Town Council made a comment 2 years ago asking for the first 30 mins to be free to encourage users to the town. In the News Release ("Budget consultation : your comments published 14th December) the suggestion was made that evening and Sunday charges would raise between £75K and £110K. This was backed by 11 people and opposed by 2. Concerns were raised about the impact on the town centre and its 18hour economy and questioning how it would be enforced. As there is no Borough wide parking strategy it is difficult to agree with your proposals. Further the RAC were reported in the Bracknell News Weekender that Wokingham car parks made a surplus of £793K in 2014/15 so where is the justification for any increase. The Daily Telegraph report earlier on makes clear that Councils should not be using parking charges as a "cash cow" If the Council had a strategy then it would need to take into account the impact of the town centre regeneration. That was an attempt to increase its footfall and much of it would be people coming by car and parking. The supporting documentation for this proposal makes no reference to regeneration even though in 2016 work will start and finish on the new multi-storey car park and while work is being done a temporary car park will be made available along Elms Road. When I asked a question at the Executive last week I was told that the aim was to produce an extra £150K in 2016/17 but there was no information about where these amounts would come from - evenings, Sundays or Shute End. Already we know that due to increased usage car park revenue is expected to be £75K up for this year. This TRO is premature, incomplete and takes no note of the impact of the regeneration. I would urge you to re-introduce it in 3 months when work starts on the Carnival Pool site and the Elms Field planning application is determined. It may also give you time to consider the impact of the enlarged station car park. While the delay takes place perhaps the existing car parks can be looked at to see if any more spaces can be created. For example the 3 new disabled parking spaces on Rose Street may free up 3 spaces in the Rose Street car park. The lower Elms Road car park, adjacent to Wellington House, could be opened up and earn revenue. The Shute End free car parking

Please see comments 5, 6, and 7.

<p>I strongly oppose the introduction of these additional parking charges. Wokingham town centre needs to retain its vibrancy and character. In order to do this it has to attract people into it. Any parking charge is a deterrent. One of the ways Wokingham has distinguished itself is by having a very large number of restaurants in the town centre, and the introduction of a charge will be a deterrent to people coming here in the evenings, on Sundays and on bank holidays rather than other nearby towns. I also wonder how much it will cost to (a) impose and (b) enforce these new charges. Given the lack of parking enforcement currently in effect within Wokingham town centre, I think that we will be spending a lot of money to change the machines and for parking enforcement staff while at the same time decreasing the footfall into the town centre. This council continues to demonstrate that it knows the price of everything but the value of nothing. Community requires give and take. Not every service needs to be run for a profit.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5, 6, and 7.</p>
<p>I believe that charging for evenings, Sunday's and Bank holidays would be unfair on members of the public. The Community Charge is already very high and charging more for car parking is yet another stealth tax. We get very little from Wokingham Borough Council as it is. For xample we get the paltry refuse bags instead of wheelie bins, we have to take glass bottles to the recycling cations instead of having them collected, we have to pay extra for having our garden refuse taken away. Where on earth will it stop. As a pensioner, I do not have an insurmountable amount of money. So please don't keep taxing us. Further, if these charges continue to increase, there is a possibility that local shops and services will suffer as more and more people will drive to places where parking s free.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>Introducing these charges will definitely affect footfall in Woodley precinct in evenings and weekends. I don't want to pay a pound when I stop at Waitrose for bread and milk on my way home in the evening. This is unfair on businesses and shoppers.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>I believe these increases will have a detrimental affect on business in Woodley Town Centre. Especially in the evenings. There are a number of businesses that rely on evening custom. The carparks are used in the evenings but not massively and I don't believe the council will raise enough revenue to police the new charges. Is there really going to be parking attendants patrolling in the dead of night? Where will the extra revenue come from to pay for the additional parking attendants? And what do the council intend to do with any monies raise from the increases. Not thought through at all. If Sunday charges and bank holiday charges are to apply, why not charge at the same rate as the rest of the week?</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>

<p>I only use the car parks during Sunday and occasionally in the evenings - purely because it is free at this time. If you introduce a charge then I will no longer use the car parks and will either shop elsewhere or park on the roadside. In the evenings you will find further abuse of the disabled area if this goes ahead. As for not being able to run free car parks - what are the expenses except traffic wardens - which will increase if you add to the chargeable periods. Who would want to job of ticketing cars in the dead of night? drop the charges completely and you no longer need to employ traffic wardens or people to empty and maintain the machines - and the shops will see an increase in footfall and happier residents</p>	<p>Please see comments 2 ,5, and 7.</p>
<p>Why change the weight limit to 3000kg instead of 3500kg. Everyday there are two, three or more transit vans using these car parks. If you allowed 3500kg as a weight limit then they could use the car parks for banking lunch buying etc. If you are not going to increase it from 3000kg to 3500kg will you actually ticket these vehicles? I also wrote last year about having dedicated larger vehicle bays in Lytham Road with 20 minutes free parking in the carpark behind Iceland for people to nip in to bank cheques buy breakfast or lunch. This could bring many more tradesmen to use the Woodley precinct for such purchases rather than go to Tesco or a garage. I would appreciate a response.</p>	<p>Please see the comments in the report.</p>
<p>The one good thing about Sunday shopping in Wiodkey is not having to pay parking charges. The charges in the week are high enough and many people have no choice but to drive. This move will encourage more people like myself to use shops like M &amp; S, asda m, tesco etc on Sunday's for free parking. I have live in Wiodkey for best part of 50 years and I know that moves such as this break the community by pushing people away. Typical of this council. Short sighted money grabbers.</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>
<p>Firstly I am not going to rant and rave at the stupidity of this idea. I am just going to put forward my views. As the owner of an independant shop in Woodley precinct and having worked very hard building up a Sunday trade I feel this would have a detrimental effect on the whole precinct. We must try to encourage the community to shop local. With free parking in many of these larger out of town stores and the internet we are all having to work hard to keep the local customers we have. Sunday shopping has a much more relaxed atmosphere with a very different buying attitude. With Sunday parking charges it will all become a rush to get back to the car before the ticket runs out. It might be worth considering putting the parking charge up 10p Mon-Sat rather than a Sunday charge. Give us Independant retailers a chance. Once your small local shops have gone there will be no community.....</p>	<p>Please see comment 5.</p>



As a local resident I disagree with the evenings and Sunday charges. What are the justification for proposing these charges? What rise in outgoings have happened to create the requirement for additional revenue?	Please see comment 7.
I do not agree with the introduction of parking charges on Sunday's, Bank Holidays and evenings. This again will put people off coming into Wokingham which will be detrimental to small businesses. I thought we were trying to encourage people to come into Wokingham. People I have spoken to say they will favour visiting pubs & restaurants outside Wokingham rather than meet up at a restaurant in town in the evening if they have to pay for parking.	Please see comment 5.
Object most strongly to the proposed new charges in Woodley. The town centre is in a general downward spiral. Trade in the two restaurants will inevitably suffer at a time when the district and town councils are trying to regenerate the area. Similarly Sunday trading will also be affected. Woodley does not have the range of shops and facilities Wokingham enjoys. This proposal is just another money making scheme for Wokingham at the expense of Woodley.	Please see comments 5 and 7.
To start charging in the evenings and weekends, is just plain greedy. The car parks should be a convenience for visitors and shoppers alike. Not a hinderance. This is just another cash cow for wokingham Council. Disgraceful.	Please see comment 7.
Shocking over charging, evenings charge is not needed, Sunday should be free. Dinton too expensive. Stick with the existing acceptable charges like all the other areas around Wokingham	Please see comment 7.
I am very disapointed that Wokingham now feel the need to charge for car parks after 6pm. The town is struggling against Reading for custom and the fact that one can park for free when using the restaurants and pubs of an evening is an incentive to "stay local". It won't encourage people who have to drive into town to come in again during the evening. Why does the council offices need to charge for parking on a Saturday. Will they also be charging their staff to park there during the week?	Please see comment 5.
I believe that this new charges will deter a lot of people who go into Woodley on a Sunday because the paking is free and trade in the town will suffer. I do not believe evening charges are warranted either as there is very little open in Woodley precinct apart from a the takeaway food outlets and a restaurant and bar. The free parking on Sundays and evening attracts people to spend money in the town. This is just another form of tax on local people. I also believe the cost of sending a parking attendant to enforce the tickets will outweigh the revenue the new charge will bring in.	Please see comments 5 and 7.

<p>In Woodley this will be damaging to events at the Oakwood Centre, It will lessen the number who give blood. It will lessen the footfall to the evening businesses in the Town Centre. It will increase vandalism as less members of the public will be around. This is not a thought through business like decision. All the council is looking at is raising money, sadly in the long term this will loose revenue as more shops close and the Oakwood center is used less.</p>	<p>Please see comments 1, 4, 5, and 7.</p>
<p>I don't feel that charging evening and weekend parking will help anyone. How will you enforce it? You don't have enough ticket people to go round all the car parks how on earth will you afford any more? Have you considered the impact on policing should a driver or passenger return to the car and find a ticket on there whilst under the influence? People will wise up and park in the roads or the other non council car parks, potentially causing an impact for residents, the Police will be called and their time will be spent dealing with an issue that to be honest doesn't need to happen. The council need to OWN the parking for the whole of the Borough and not rely on the Police to do it. If you create a parking issue then you sort it! You will kill trade as people who come to Wokingham for the evening won't be bothered to if there is additional parking to pay. Evening parking might not be a big cost but it is. Instead of penalising those who chose to come to the town you could sort out the parking and fine those who park illegally. Is the solution bigger than the problem? YES! The problem is that the council will not get so much money. How much money was wasted on the town centre regeneration plans that didn't go anywhere?</p>	<p>Please see comments 2, 5, and 7.</p>
<p>Insane.It will cost £1 even if you only need to be there on a Sunday or an evening just for an hour? That's dearer than in the week and I couldn't afford to go there then, I only ever went on Sunday. Just have to go to Worton Grange instead on my way to the tip with the garden waste. Guess what, I can't afford a green waste bin either. Some of us have had no proper work since the recession started and nobody will employ the over 50s.</p>	<p>Please see comments 3 and 7.</p>
<p>Evening charges will force those who are popping to supermarkets for 1 or 2 items to go elsewhere - eg tesco express or m&amp;s. Will effect those gong to short classes at Vibes studio (or worse dropping off children &amp; picking up ) from vibes. Will make people park on street to avoid paying charges . Woodley is already more expensive to park than wokingham for long term parking. Why make car parks more unpopular.</p>	<p>Please see comments 2 and 5.</p>
<p>It shouldn't be done. Why charge for parking on Sunday.m when limited use off the car park already. Where will these funds go? Back into the car parks???</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>

<p>I am a resident of Sandford Court in Woodley and park my car in the Headley Road car park as my home was built with no parking. Of course, I anticipated that there would be increases in the car parking fees over the years and was happy to accept this as part of my household expenses. However, I feel that your proposal to increase the chargeable hours of this car park is more radical than simply increasing the current charges and is unfair to residents who have nowhere else to keep their cars. Respectfully, I would like to ask you to reconsider this proposal or perhaps consider offering a reduced rate residents' permit. Thank you.</p>	<p>Please see comment 3.</p>
<p>These increases are unjustified. Many residents can't afford them, it takes more than 1 hour to walk round Dinton £2.40 /£3.00 is way too much. That is nearly 1/2 work for some people on minimum wage. Charging for evening and Sunday will stop many people going into Wokingham, Bracknell restaurants will be more attractive as parking is free often. Charging for Shute End on Saturday when it is free during the week for council workers is plainly wrong. Council workers should pay for use during the week if we pay on the weekend.</p>	<p>Please see comment 7.</p>
<p>The proposed high parking charges will deter people from visiting the town and local parks. The shops' revenues will reduce. Likewise the foot print at the local nature parks will also drop so the revenue for the cafes will reduce and insufficient money will be available to maintain the parks. Why not have a low parking charge that will attract more visitors.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 7.</p>
<p>Just when Woodley Town Centre is becoming a successful place to be in the evening with new restaurants and bars as well as the very successful Oakwood Centre these charges, whilst minimal at the moment, WILL discourage people from visiting. Are you determined to kill off Woodley completely? I appreciate the budget pressures that WBC are currently experiencing but I really don't feel that damaging the rising vibrancy of Woodley Town Centre is the way to make up the shortfall.</p>	<p>Please see comments 4, 5, 6, and 7.</p>

<p>I dont agree with the changes,regarding paying for parking on sundays or evenings.The only over night stay people are residents so we are being penalised when we already do not receive residents parking. One of the only things that makes our parking as residents here bearable is the fact we get sundays and evenings free and you are about to take this away from us. Which makes parking here completely unreasonable, This will cause allot of problems with residents parking in the wrong places and residents getting together and campaigning against this. Their is a current issue for residents parking here at sandford court anyway this is going to add fuel to the fire. Their are 13 flats above lidl and due to half of us using the pay app we have only just found about the proposed changes thanks to one neighbour noticing the small notice on the pay machine. I would expect residents of sandford court to be formally notified due to the fact it majorly applies to us especially the over night parking which is ONLY used by us.</p>	<p>Please see comment 2 and 3.</p>
<p>Another greedy attempt by the council to get yet more money out of its council tax payers without any increased benefit. The council should be fostering growth in the local business economy not hindering it. Enough is enough!</p>	<p>Please see comments 6 and 7.</p>
<p>I think it is adding to the death of Wokingham - why would anyone bother to come to use all the many restaurants that fill the town (instead of useful shops with any character) if they have to pay for the pleasure of parking? The one thing that keeps some life in the town at night is that people can park for free.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>
<p>The current black of parking fees in the evening and in some carpals on Saturday and all on Sunday is a big draw when coming into the town. Adding parking fees of an evening whilst only a small charge initially will have the potential to be increased like you have done at Dinton pastures etc. Implementing the charges could have a detrimental effect on local businesses.</p>	<p>Please see comments 5 and 6.</p>