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|---|--|------------------------------------|
|  <b>Executive</b><br><b>27 September 2017</b>  |  | <b>Agenda Item No.</b><br><b>5</b> |
| <b>Title</b>  | Weston Close Parking   |                                    |
| <b>For further information about this report please contact</b>   | Simon Brooke<br>Sustaining Tenancies Manager<br>Tel 01926 456433<br><a href="mailto:simon.brooke@warwickdc.gov.uk">simon.brooke@warwickdc.gov.uk</a> |                                    |
| <b>Wards of the District directly affected</b>  | Saltisford   |                                    |
| <b>Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?</b> | No   |                                    |
| <b>Date and meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number</b>   |  |                                    |
| <b>Background Papers</b>  |  |                                    |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>Contrary to the policy framework:</b>                                   | No  |
| <b>Contrary to the budgetary framework:</b>                                | No  |
| <b>Key Decision?</b>   | No  |
| <b>Included within the Forward Plan? (If yes include reference number)</b> | Yes |
| <b>Equality Impact Assessment Undertaken</b>                               | Yes |
|  |     |

|   |             |                |
|---|-------------|----------------|
| <b>Officer/Councillor Approval</b>  |             |                |
| <b>Officer Approval</b>   | <b>Date</b> | <b>Name</b>    |
| Chief Executive/Deputy Chief Executive  | 5.9.17      | Bill Hunt      |
| Head of Service   |             |                |
| CMT   | 5.9.17      | Bill Hunt      |
| Section 151 Officer   | 5.9.17      | Mike Snow      |
| Monitoring Officer  | 5.9.17      | Andy Jones     |
| Finance   | 5.9.17      | Andrew Rollins |
| Portfolio Holder(s)   | 9.9.17      | Peter Phillips |
| <b>Consultation &amp; Community Engagement</b>  |             |                |
| Parking survey of all residents of Weston Close was carried out in July 2017, the results of the survey are reported back in the report |             |                |
| <b>Final Decision?</b>  |             |                |
|   |             | Yes            |

## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report is to consider the results of a survey of residents in Weston Close, Warwick following concerns raised about parking in the Close and in particular about parking bays adjacent to the highway that are owned by Warwick District Council and managed by Housing Services.

## **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 Executive are asked to note the results of the survey carried out in Weston Close.
- 2.2 That Executive agree to proceed with option 1 which is to improve the signage and marking of 3 parking bays in Weston Close.

## **3. Reasons for the Recommendation**

- 3.1 Over the past two years Warwick District Council have received a number of complaints from residents about the parking in Weston Close. See appendix 1 for a plan of the site. The County Council have added some double yellow lines on corners to improve the situation. Warwick District Council have done some work to improve signage.
- 3.2 Officers from Warwick District Council have been working with officers from Warwickshire County Council and have met with them on a number of occasions to discuss the situation and options for improvement.
- 3.3 Checks have also been undertaken earlier this year to count the availability of spaces in the parking bays over a two week period, this checked availability on different days and different times of the day. The survey of available parking spaces indicated that there were on average 4.4 available spaces in Weston Close parking bays during the mornings and on average 8.1 spaces in the evening. This would be in addition to any space available for parking on the road. This would indicate that although the parking can be difficult and on some occasions very difficult, on average you can usually find spaces to park in the street. The Council are aware of other locations where the parking situation is more severe.
- 3.4 Following the meetings with Warwickshire County Council and the survey of available spaces; Warwick District Council commissioned a survey of residents of Weston Close. This was to seek residents' views and three options were put to residents. The options for improvement were considered deliverable and could improve the parking situation. However, we also put the option of no works required as the suggested works that we could undertake could have a negative effect in that any restriction to the use of the parking bays could lead to more parking on street and overall make matters worse.

The options that were included in the survey were as follows:

Option1: Improved signage and marking of the parking bays.

Option2: Introduce a controlled parking scheme in the parking bay areas

Option3: No works are required

- 3.5 The full results of the survey are attached in appendix 2. In summary, we sent out 53 survey forms, that is to all residents of Weston Close. 23 residents completed the survey and a further 6 residents refused to complete the survey saying that they supported an alternative action.
- 3.6 Warwick District Council also have a sheltered scheme at James Court in the street, these residents have their own parking facilities. Only one resident of the scheme currently has a car. Plans to improve the marking and signage in Weston Close will also include improved parking signage to the scheme.
- 3.6 Of the 23 respondents to the survey 20 responded to the options question.

|                       |  |    |      |
|-----------------------|--|----|------|
| Option 1              | Improved signage and marking of the parking bays               | 15 | 75%  |
| Option 2              | Introduce a controlled parking scheme in the parking bay areas | 3  | 15%  |
| Option3               | No works are required  | 2  | 10%  |
| Total                 |  | 20 | 100% |
| Skipped this question |  | 3  |      |

Given that 75% of respondents to the survey support improved signage and marking of the parking bays it is recommended to move ahead with this option.

- 3.7 6 residents sent in letters saying that they would not complete the survey. This follows a long correspondence with two residents of Weston Close who have argued that the parking bays should solely be used by the the residents of the properties that are directly adjacent to the parking bays. Whilst this approach would benefit a small number of residents, some of whom do not have a car nor have visitors with a car, it would mean that other residents of Weston Close would not be able to find a parking space. This suggestion would also leave Housing Services with the enforcement of the parking bays and Housing Services would have difficulties to police parking in the area. Therefore, one of the options, option 2 proposed a controlled parking scheme where Warwick District Council's parking enforcement team could control the parking with permits and enforcement with fines as part of a parking control order. As can be seen from the survey results this was only supported by 3 residents. If the 6 residents who sent in letters were added then this is still many less than supported option 1.
- 3.8 All residents have been sent the survey results and have been advised that the results would be considered by Executive at its next meeting. Housing Services will write again to all residents with the decision by Executive.

3.9 Once approved the Council would look to complete the works this financial year.

#### **4. Policy Framework**

- 4.1 **Fit for the Future** – The recommendations look to improve residents parking and address concerns raised. This will contribute to the vision of making Warwick District a great place to live work and visit as set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy.

- 4.2 **Impact Assessments** – Given the number of elderly and disabled residents we have completed an Equalities Assessment. The proposals that are recommended will address the needs of elderly and disabled residents. In particular the improved signage and marking of the bays will further discourage parking in the bays from shoppers and office workers ensuring improved parking provision and our plans also include better parking facilities for disabled drivers with marked bays specifically for disabled drivers. The average age of our tenants in Weston Close is 69 years old.

## **5. Budgetary Framework**

- 5.1 Funds are available within current budgets within the Housing Revenue Account for these works to be completed. It is expected that the costs would be less than £20,000.

## **6. Risks**

- 6.1 Not responding to the concerns of residents could mean dissatisfaction with Warwick District Council generally and Housing Services in particular. These proposals seek to ensure a proper response.
- 6.2 The Council need to be aware of our responsibilities under the Equalities Act 2010 and in particular to ensure that none of the groups with protected characteristics are discriminated against due to a failure to consider their needs. These are addressed within the Equalities Assessment and the improvements suggested to disabled provision.
- 6.3 It is recognised that in Weston Close there are some residents with strong views and that we will not be able to fully meet the demands of all residents.

## **7. Alternative Option(s) considered**

- 7.1 A range of actions have been considered these have been discussed with Warwickshire County Council. The concerns and opinions of residents have been sought and considered. 3 options have been suggested to residents and the Council are recommended to accept the majority opinion, believing that the proposal will improve matters and responds proportionately to the problems identified.

## **8. Background**

- 8.1 Parking issues in residential streets are an ongoing issue for residents in areas adjacent to town centres within the District. Weston Close is one street affected by shoppers, workers and railway users parking on the residential street.
- 8.2 Warwickshire County Council are responsible for on-street parking enforcement. In Weston Close, there are also a number of parking bays that are owned by Warwick District Council and are managed by Housing Services, these are not part of the adopted highway and hence are not the responsibility of the County.
- 8.3 Of the 53 properties in Weston Close, 47 of these are tenants of Warwick District Council, the other 6 properties are private having been sold. There are 19 houses, 20 maisonettes and 14 bungalows.



## Appendix 2: survey results

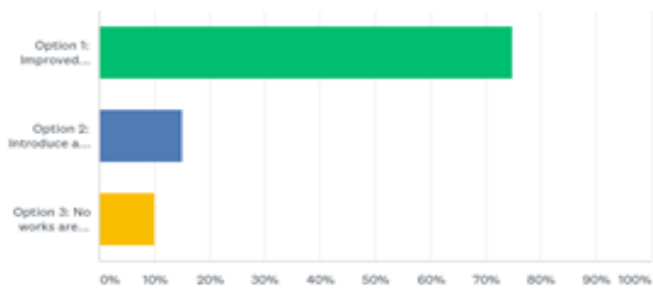
**Weston Close Parking Consultation July 2017**

Deadline for return: 11th August 2017

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### Q1: Which of the three options would you prefer?

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### Q1: Which of the three options would you prefer?

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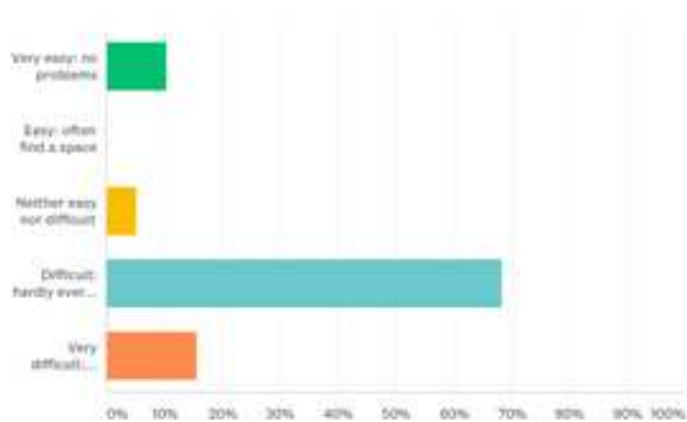
| ANSWER CHOICES   | RESPONSES |
|--|-----------|
| Option 1: Improved signage and marking of the parking bays               | 75.00% 15 |
| Option 2: Introduce a controlled parking scheme in the parking bay areas | 15.00% 3  |
| Option 3: No works are required  | 10.00% 2  |
| TOTAL  | 20        |

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### Q3: How easy is it to find a space to park?

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### Q3: How easy is it to find a space to park?

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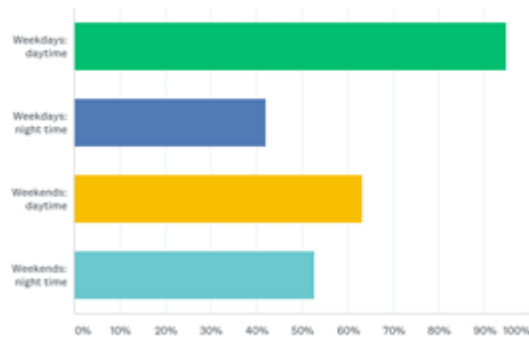
| ANSWER CHOICES                       | RESPONSES |    |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----|
| Very easy: no problems               | 10.53%    | 2  |
| Easy: often find a space             | 0.00%     | 0  |
| Neither easy nor difficult           | 5.26%     | 1  |
| Difficult: hardly ever find a space  | 68.42%    | 13 |
| Very difficult: virtually impossible | 15.79%    | 3  |
| TOTAL                                |           | 19 |

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### Q4: if you have problems finding a parking space, when do you have the problem?

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#### Q4: if you have problems finding a parking space,when do you have the problem?

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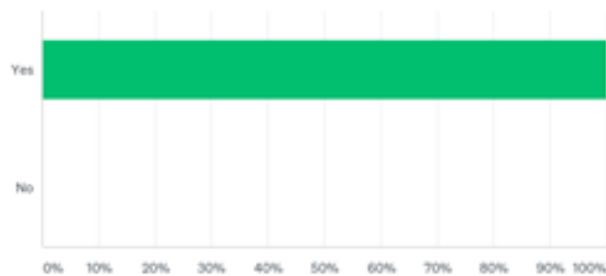
| ANSWER CHOICES        | RESPONSES |    |
|-----------------------|-----------|----|
| Weekdays: daytime     | 94.74%    | 18 |
| Weekdays: night time  | 42.11%    | 8  |
| Weekends: daytime     | 63.16%    | 12 |
| Weekends: night time  | 52.63%    | 10 |
| Total Respondents: 19 |           |    |

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#### Q5: if you have visitors, do they have problems finding a parking space?

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### Q5: if you have visitors, do they have problems finding a parking space?

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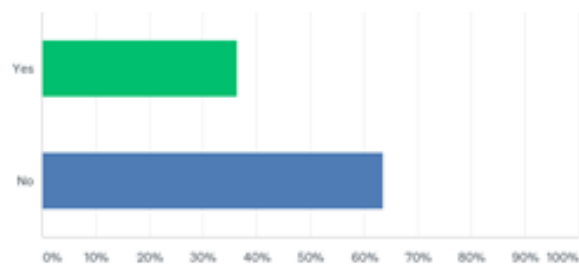
| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES |    |
|----------------|-----------|----|
| Yes            | 100.00%   | 22 |
| No             | 0.00%     | 0  |
| TOTAL          |           | 22 |

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### Q6: Are you a blue-badge holder (disabled driver)?

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**Q6: Are you a blue-badge holder (disabled driver)?**

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| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES |    |
|----------------|-----------|----|
| Yes            | 36.36%    | 8  |
| No             | 63.64%    | 14 |
| TOTAL          |           | 22 |

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