

Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators

22 July 2019

ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR CAR PARKS

Head of Service/Contact:	Ian Dyer, Head of Operational Services
Annexes/Appendices (attached):	Annex 1 – Map of Car Park
Other available papers (not attached):	Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984 Signed map of Epsom and Walton Downs

Report summary

To request permission from the Conservators to re-open the Tattenham Enclosure Car Park during the summer months.

To address often urgent requests for modified arrangements in relation to the opening or access to car parks, it is felt important to have in place delegated authority to deal with such matters.

Recommendation (s)

That the Conservators:

- (1) approve the re-opening of the Tattenham Enclosure Car Park during the summer months of 2019;**
- (2) to delegate to the Clerk to the Conservators in consultation with the Chairman of the Conservators to determine any urgent request from the land owner, in relation to the opening and or access to the car parks managed by the Conservators.**

1 Background

- 1.1 The Tattenham Enclosure is situated to the East of the Downskeepers Hut car park, as indicated on **Annex 1**.
- 1.2 The Enclosure is a grassed area which stretches from the Downskeepers' Hut to the Racecourse Grandstands.

Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators

22 July 2019

- 1.3 The Enclosure is accessed via the Downskeeper's Hut Car Park and with the exception of race days, remained open during the summer months as an overflow to the Hut Car Park. The area is defined on the signed map, which accompanies the Epsom & Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984, as a car park.
- 1.4 Unfortunately, due to a spate of anti-social behaviour with vehicles speeding up and down this area, a decision was made by the Head Downskeeper a couple of years ago to close off this area as an overflow car park on non race days.
- 1.5 This closure has removed the issue of antisocial behaviour from vehicles, but also resulted in the Downskeepers' Hut and the Tea Hut Car Parks becoming rather full at peak times.
- 1.6 Due to the now limited parking in this area, the Chairman of the Epsom & Walton Downs Conservators has been approached by members of the public requesting that the Tattenham Enclosure area is re-opened.
- 1.7 Due to current episodes of vehicle related anti-social behaviour in other parts of the Downs, the Downskeepers have advised that only a portion of the area is opened to accommodate the overflow from the Hut Car Park. The overflow area will measure approximately 35 metres and will accommodate an additional 30 cars. The remaining area will be fenced off to prevent vehicle access. The proposed area to be opened is indicated in **Annex 1**.

2 Proposals

- 2.1 It is proposed that the Conservators support the recommendation of the Downskeepers to re-open part of the Tattenham Enclosure for car parking during the summer months.
- 2.2 It is important to avoid delays in considering requests for modified opening hours, or access arrangements to any of the car parks, from the land owner. If requests are made between meetings, the Conservators are required to arrange a special meeting, to be able to make a decision.
- 2.3 It is therefore felt necessary to put in place a standard delegated authority arrangement which allows the Clerk to Conservators, in consultation with the Chairman of the Conservators, to determine any request for modified hours or access to any of the car parks managed by the Conservators made by the land owner. Examples would include the making of any temporary road or street orders, or the opening up of any car parking area, such as the one made by this report.
- 2.4 If any request requires permanent changes, the final determination of any such matter will remain a matter for the Conservators, or if it is felt that any request is so significant, it should be determined by the Conservators, then it will be.

Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators

22 July 2019

3 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial implications for the purposes of this report.
- 3.2 **Chief Finance Officer's comments:** none arising from the contents of this report.

4 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

- 4.1 There are no legal implications to consider in re-opening this area as it is legally defined in the Act as a car park.
- 4.2 **Monitoring Officer's comments:** none arising from the contents of this report.

5 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications

- 5.1 There may be some community safety implications if the area attracts anti-social behaviour and this will be closely monitored and reviewed as necessary.

6 Partnerships

- 6.1 None of the purposes of this report

7 Risk Assessment

- 7.1 There is a risk that opening this enclosure will attract vehicle related anti-social behaviour but this will be somewhat mitigated due to the proximity of the hut and the proposed reduction in size.

8 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 8.1 It is proposed that part of the Tattenham Enclosure extension to the Downskeepers' Hut Car Park is re-opened during the summer months.

Ward(s) Affected: College Ward; Woodcote Ward;