

CAR PARKING FACILITIES IN NONSUCH PARK

Head of Service / Contact: Amardip Healy, Chief Legal Officer

Annexes/Appendices (attached):

Other available papers (not attached):

Report summary

To review the current arrangements for car parking in Nonsuch Park

Recommendation(s)

- (1) To note the current car parking facilities available in Nonsuch Park
- (2) To determine a date for an on-site meeting at Beddington Park to evaluate the enforcement trial.
- (3) To consider the option for a further report on the introduction of car park enforcement to be brought to a future meeting.

1 Car Parking Facilities at Nonsuch Park

1.1 Nonsuch Park has five designated car parks set out as follows:

Designated Car Park Name	Approximate Number of Spaces
Cheam Gate – Left	40
Cheam Gate – Right	60
Central Car Park (closest to Mansion House)	50
Sparrow Farm Road	40
London Road	70
Other parking	Approximate

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	Number of Spaces
Church Field (seasonal overflow/event parking)	300
London Road adjacent to dog free area (temporary parking for Town & Country Show event only)	300
Front of Mansion House (loading/unloading, Mansion House parking only)	7

- 1.2 With the exception of the central car park, which has recently been refurbished in tarmac with 50 marked out bays, all other car parks are loose laid gravel or grassed areas.
- 1.3 Whilst there are seven marked bays in front of the Mansion House, for reasons of safety, these are limited to loading/unloading and Mansion House business only.

2 Concerns

- 2.1 Over the past few years, a number of concerns have been raised regarding the increase of cars using the park and inconsiderate parking.
- 2.2 Parking issues associated with the popular Park Run event, which is held on Saturday mornings, has been the subject of discussion at previous meetings of the Joint Management Committee. To address concerns of inappropriate and inconsiderate parking, the event organisers are consistent in their efforts by ensuring that their participants are well briefed each week to park appropriately and considerately. The organisers also carry out spot checks and marshalling to help alleviate parking issues.
- 2.3 Although Church Field has traditionally been used as an overflow car park at peak times and for event parking, it is increasingly being used for general parking even when there are spaces available in other car parks.
- 2.4 To address parking issues, Officers are in the process of designing and erecting appropriate parking signs and patrol staff will advise visitors to use designated car parks unless directed to do otherwise.
- 2.5 As discussed in the Events Report on this agenda, parking on the grassed area around the London Road Dog Free, is the subject of some concern to the Nonsuch Watch group.
- 2.6 To allay the concerns of environmental damage and impact on the tranquillity of the park, Officers strongly recommend that this area should only be used as temporary parking once per year for this two-day period.

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- 2.7 Historically, Nonsuch Girl's School has enjoyed the use of the Park's parking facilities at the Cheam Gate entrance for daily drop off /pick up and occasional event parking.
- 2.8 However, recently there have been a number of regular incidents where at drop off and pick times for the School there have been incidents of cars parking inappropriately. Invariably this has caused blockages to the main access road, affecting park users.
- 2.9 Councillors are receiving an increasing number of complaints from residents about the behaviour of drivers and badly parked cars.
- 2.10 To begin to address this, the Chair of the JMC has written to Sutton's Head of Pupil Based Commissioning to propose staggered school hours to ease congestion and to request details of any School travel plan arrangements.

3 Future measures to reduce impact

- 3.1 As the park continues to become more popular and vibrant, the pressure on the current car parking facilities will need to be considered.
- 3.2 As a priority, visitors should be encouraged to come to the park on foot, by bicycle or to use public transport.
- 3.3 In the future, the Committee may wish to consider the introduction of parking enforcement, similar to the trial currently being undertaken at Beddington Park.
- 3.4 The parking enforcement trial encourages visitors to park in designated car parks only and not on other areas such as grass or access roads. Parking in designated car parks remains free of charge. Parking elsewhere in the park may result in a Parking Charge Notice of £100.
- 3.5 It is therefore proposed to invite members to attend an on-site meeting at Beddington Park with Officers from the London Borough of Sutton to discuss how a similar trial could be implemented at Nonsuch Park.
- 3.6 The information gained from this exercise could form the basis of a future report to the JMC at their January meeting.

4 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 4.1 In conclusion, Members are asked to note the current car parking facilities and consider if they wish to conduct further research into the introduction of car parking enforcement.

Ward(s) affected: Nonsuch Ward; (EEBC)