

Richards Field Car Park

Report of the:	Head of Customer Services & Business Support
Contact:	Joy Stevens, Richard Chevalier
Urgent Decision?(yes/no)	No
If yes, reason urgent decision required:	N/A
Annexes/Appendices (attached):	Richards Field Car Park Survey 2017
Other available papers (not attached):	Minutes of Environment Committee dated 31 Jan 2017

Report Summary

This report proposes the change of use of Richards Field Car Park to include 17 resident only permit parking bays and 14 free to use bays limited to 3 hours maximum stay between 08:30 hours and 18:30 hours Monday – Friday.

Recommendation (s)

That the Committee agrees to:

- (1) The introduction of 17 permit only bays in Richards Field Car Park**
- (2) The introduction of 14 maximum stay bays limiting parking to a maximum of three hours on a Monday to Friday between the hours of 8:30am and 6:30pm.**
- (3) The introduction of double yellow lines and necessary signage to prevent parking on the pavement of the Richards Field access road**

1 Implications for the Council's Key Priorities, Service Plans and Sustainable Community Strategy

- 1.1 The proposal supports businesses and our local economy in the Ewell West Ward by increasing available parking spaces for visitors to the nearby shops.

2 Background

- 2.1 Richards Field Car Park is situated on Chessington Road in the West Ewell Ward.

Environment Committee

30 January 2018

- 2.2 The car park currently has 31 parking bays with no associated parking restrictions.
- 2.3 The car park is very often full as it used by a combination of local residents and their visitors, traders and commuters. This is to the detriment of the local retail outlets and their customers.
- 2.4 As a result the access road running beside the car park is often susceptible to pavement parking with no restrictions to prevent this.
- 2.5 On 31 January 2017 Environment Committee agreed that, subject to public consultation, the layout of Richards Field car park should be altered to include a mix of residential permit parking and limited waiting bays for shoppers to visit the retail outlets in the area;
- 2.6 In July 2017 Epsom & Ewell Borough Council consulted with local residents regarding their own use of the car park and proposed the option of a dual use car park for resident only permits in assigned bays and a 2 hour limited waiting option.
- 2.7 125 properties were identified for consultation based on their proximity to the car park. The survey ran from 28 July to 1 September 2017. 55 responses were received (44%).
- 2.8 The results of the consultation are set out in **Annexe 1**.
- 2.9 In particular, the results of the consultation highlighted that 17 residents:
 - 2.9.1 usually park in Richards Field car park
 - 2.9.2 park in the car park at least four times a week
 - 2.9.3 park from 6pm onwards
 - 2.9.4 would find parking difficult if they were unable to use Richards Field car park
- 2.10 18 residents indicated that they would be supportive of a resident permit scheme being introduced.
- 2.11 The consultation also highlighted that a large number of visitors to local residents used the car park (n=33/55).
- 2.12 During the consultation period three residents of Oakdale Road contacted Epsom & Ewell Borough Council to voice their concerns regarding the proposal. The primary concern was that any vehicles displaced from the car park would relocate to Oakdale Road which has few parking restrictions.

Environment Committee

30 January 2018

3 Proposals

- 3.1 To convert the 17 parking bays within Richards Field car park, situated closest to Chessington Road, to be designated for permit use only. The permit would guarantee a parking space within the car park at all times.
- 3.2 To offer permits to all residents consulted. Successful applicants determined by the following criteria:
 - 3.2.1 The sum of the number of vehicles registered to residents at that place of abode minus the total number of off street parking spaces available to that place of abode
 - 3.2.2 The distance in metres from the car park with those being closest being given priority
 - 3.2.3 One permit per household. Additional permits can be issued to a household once all other properties have had their permits issued.
- 3.3 To charge residents £340 per permit in 2018/19, keeping the price in line with the rate charged to Hook Road residential permit holders.
- 3.4 To convert the 14 parking bays to the rear of the car park to a maximum stay of three hours between the hours of 08:30 hours and 18.30 hours Monday to Friday.
- 3.5 The maximum stay time has been increased from two to three hours based on feedback from the survey showing large numbers of residential visitors using the car park.
- 3.6 The number of maximum stay bays has been increased from 11 to 14 based on the number of residential visitors using the car park and the number of residents who have indicated support of the scheme.
- 3.7 To introduce appropriate signage within the car park to indicate the designated use of each bay and that parking should only take place in marked bays.
- 3.8 To introduce a double yellow line along the access road, which along with appropriate signage, will indicate that parking is to take place in parking bays only.
- 3.9 To improve the lighting within the car park by introducing LEDs to the existing lamp columns.
- 3.10 Should supply of permits outweigh demand a non-residential permit could be introduced and advertised, charged at £630 in 2018/19 in line with the Hook Road season card rate.

Environment Committee

30 January 2018

4 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 4.1 The cost to the Council for lighting, signage and lining works will be £5k. These are likely to be one-off costs with potentially a small ongoing maintenance charge.
- 4.2 The survey indicated that nine residents would be interested in purchasing permits. If these were sold at £340, in line with the Hook Road resident, then payback would be achieved within two years.
- 4.3 The signage and lining costs can be met from existing car parks budgets.
- 4.4 **Chief Finance Officer's comments:** *Any impact upon electricity and maintenance costs as a result of these changes will be contained within existing Car Park revenue budgets.*
- 4.5 *There is no estimate within the 2018/19 Budget for any income from this car park. Therefore, any income derived from these new resident permits would be additional income.*

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

- 5.1 None for the purposes of this report.
- 5.2 **Monitoring Officer's comments:** *There are no legal implications arising from this report*

6 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications

- 6.1 N/A

7 Partnerships

- 7.1 Working in partnership with local retailers to increase available space for customers to park.

8 Risk Assessment

- 8.1 N/A

9 Next Steps if Approved

- 9.1 The Epsom & Ewell Borough Council Off-Street Parking Places Traffic Order will need to be amended. Prior to this being formalised a 28 day public consultation period is required.
- 9.2 Any representations received within the 28 days would be brought back to Environment Committee.

Environment Committee

30 January 2018

10 Conclusion and Recommendations

10.1 That Environment Committee agrees to:

10.1.1 The introduction of 17 permit holder only bays in Richards Field Car Park

10.1.2 The introduction of 14 maximum stay bays limiting parking to a maximum of three hours on a Monday to Friday between the hours of 8:30am and 6:30pm.

10.1.3 The introduction of double yellow lines and necessary signage to prevent parking on the pavement of the Richards Field access road.

10.1.4 That any representations received are brought back to Environment Committee to consider any objections received prior to the implementation of the scheme.

Ward(s) Affected: West Ewell Ward;