

Parking proposals for Trowse – an explanatory note from the Parish Council Chair.

In the last couple of days, a map showing potential parking solutions for Trowse has been circulated in the village and been posted on social media. I thought that, in consultation with Parish, District and County Councillors it would be helpful to explain the providence of the map and reassure parishioners of the consultation process that would be gone through before any changes could legally be undertaken in the village.

We all know parking has been an issue in the village for decades and is steadily getting worse as more of our neighbouring villages restrict parking within their parishes. County Hall have closed a number of their satellite premises increasing the number of employees travelling into County Hall. Norwich City Football Club continue to fill their ground to capacity for every match.

About two years ago the District Council started consulting with parishes about restrictive parking schemes. The Parish Council nominated me as their lead. The first option on the table at this stage was a permit parking scheme for the whole of the village. A number of parishes (ours included) expressed a view that this wouldn't work and was unlikely to have the required take-up to support the scheme.

The Parish Council concerns were listened to and authority was given by District Council members to expand the parking options to allow parishes to suggest bespoke parking solutions. Meetings have continued since then and the map in circulation is one of a number of working options under review. Considerations have been discussed concerning the need for refuse collection in certain parts of the village which have been frustrated by parking obstructions. In addition, long lines of parked cars cause considerable dangers for vehicles travelling through the village so consideration needs to be given for double line intervals to prevent these 'pinch-points'

The process going forward was for the Highways department to hold an open day in the village where residents will be encouraged to discuss any concerns they may have to Council Officers. Once we know that date, it will be posted on here and in the village.

Following this, proposals will be brought to the Parish Council where the options will be discussed and either supported or have suggested amendments put forward. Once a confirmed proposal is developed the council will be asked to contribute to the scheme and it would then take a route similar to planning applications where comments and objections can be aired.

There is a real opportunity here for the village to have a parking scheme that works for residents. I urge everybody to work together; ask any questions you may have to your elected councillors (County, District or Parish), to ensure that we achieve the best solution for the village.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

