

Report to: Andy Smith – Transport & Infrastructure section Head

Date: 16 October 2017

Report of: Brian Scott – Traffic Engineer

**THE BOROUGH OF WATFORD (ST MARY'S, CHURCH STREET, WATFORD) (OFF-STREET
PARKING PLACE) ORDER 2017**

1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 The purpose of this report is:

1.2 To inform the Transport & Infrastructure Section Head of the need to implement the above Traffic Regulation Order (TROs).

1.3 To seek authorisation to publish a "Notice of Proposals" and:

a) ..., where no objections are received or where objections are subsequently withdrawn "Make" the TROs and:

b) ...where objections are received and not subsequently withdrawn, report the details of the objections together with Officer's recommendations so that further instructions can be obtained.

1.4 To seek authorisation to consult residents and businesses in the immediate vicinity of the proposal by means of a letter and plan drawing their attention to the published "Notice of Proposals" and explaining how they can obtain more details of the proposals and make representations should they wish.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Transport & Infrastructure Section Head authorises all as described in paragraphs 1.3 and 1.4 above.

Contact Officer:

For further information on this report please contact:

Brian Scott	Traffic Engineer
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3.0 DETAILED PROPOSAL

- 3.1 As part of the Council's programme of enhancements to the High Street, a number of on-street 'blue badge' parking bays have been removed. Although there is generous provision for blue badge holders in the town centre car parks along with the Shop Mobility Scheme, members requested that a review be carried out to identify locations for alternative street level provision to supplement the off-street provision mentioned above. As a result of that review, the Council identified a site on the public open space opposite St Mary's Church in Church Street where a 6 space car park could be constructed to accommodate additional blue badge parking. The site had previously been identified as a location for parking as part of a general enhancement of the public open space however that scheme had been put on hold as work on the large Cassiobury HLF project drew on both staffing and financial resources.
- 3.2 A planning application to construct the car park was submitted in August 2017 and planning permission was granted on 10 October 2017. Construction is proposed to commence towards the end of October with the work being completed before the end of the year.
- 3.3 In order to reserve the new car park for the exclusive use of blue badge holders it is necessary to process an Off-Street Parking Places Order (OSPPO). This report seeks consent to advertise the draft Order inviting objection with a view to confirming the order subject to the resolution of any objections received. The key elements of the OSPPO are as follows:-
- Car park to be for the sole use of holders of a valid blue badge
 - Maximum stay 3 hours during the operating hours of the car park of 8am to 6:30pm.

The OSPPO would also require cars to be parked wholly within the marked bays. A plan illustrating the proposals is shown at **appendix A**.

- 3.4 The Police and the Highway Authority (Hertfordshire County Council) have been consulted on the detail of the scheme and the content of the draft Orders. Neither has raised any objection to the proposal.

4.0 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial

- 4.2 The cost of promoting and processing the traffic orders is estimated at £700 to be met from code BEA 000 D1112.
- 4.3 The Director of Finance comments that the cost can be met from within existing budgets.

4.4 **Legal Issues** (Monitoring Officer)

4.5 The Watford Borough Council, pursuant to arrangements made under Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Government (Arrangements for Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2000 with the Hertfordshire County Council, and in exercise of the powers conferred on that County Council under Sections 1, 2(1), 2(2), 4(2) and 45,46,46a,49,51,53,55,61,99,100-102 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ("the Act of 1984") and of all other enabling powers, and after consulting with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act of 1984, may make traffic regulation orders and implement proposals to manage parking on public highways and other roads.

4.6 The Head of Democracy & Governance comments that if the recommendation is approved then the necessary statutory procedure will require consultation and may lead to a public inquiry should any objections not be resolved.

4.7 **Equalities**

4.8 A generic Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out for parking schemes which has been considered and approved by the Equalities Working Group. It is available to view on the Council's website.

4.9 **Potential Risks**

Potential Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Overall score
Some members of the public will perceive the proposed parking controls as an unnecessary imposition by the Council.	2	1	2
Failure to implement the new parking controls could result in criticism from interest groups and consequential damage to the Council's reputation.	2	2	4

Appendices

Appendix A Plan of proposals. (Drawing WBC0117-3 rev3)

Background Papers

Copies of:
The "Draft Order"
A statement of reasons for making this Order

NOTIFICATION OF OFFICER DECISION

THE BOROUGH OF WATFORD (ST MARY'S, CHURCH STREET, WATFORD) (OFF-STREET PARKING PLACE) ORDER 2017

Decision Summary

1. That a "Notice of Proposals" is published and for those proposals where no objections are received or where objections are subsequently withdrawn "Make" the Traffic Orders and where objections are received and not subsequently withdrawn, report the details of the objections together with Officer's recommendations so that further instructions can be obtained.
2. That residents and businesses in the immediate vicinity of the proposals be consulted by means of a letter and plan drawing their attention to the published "Notice of Proposals" and explaining how they can obtain more details of the proposals and make representations should they wish.

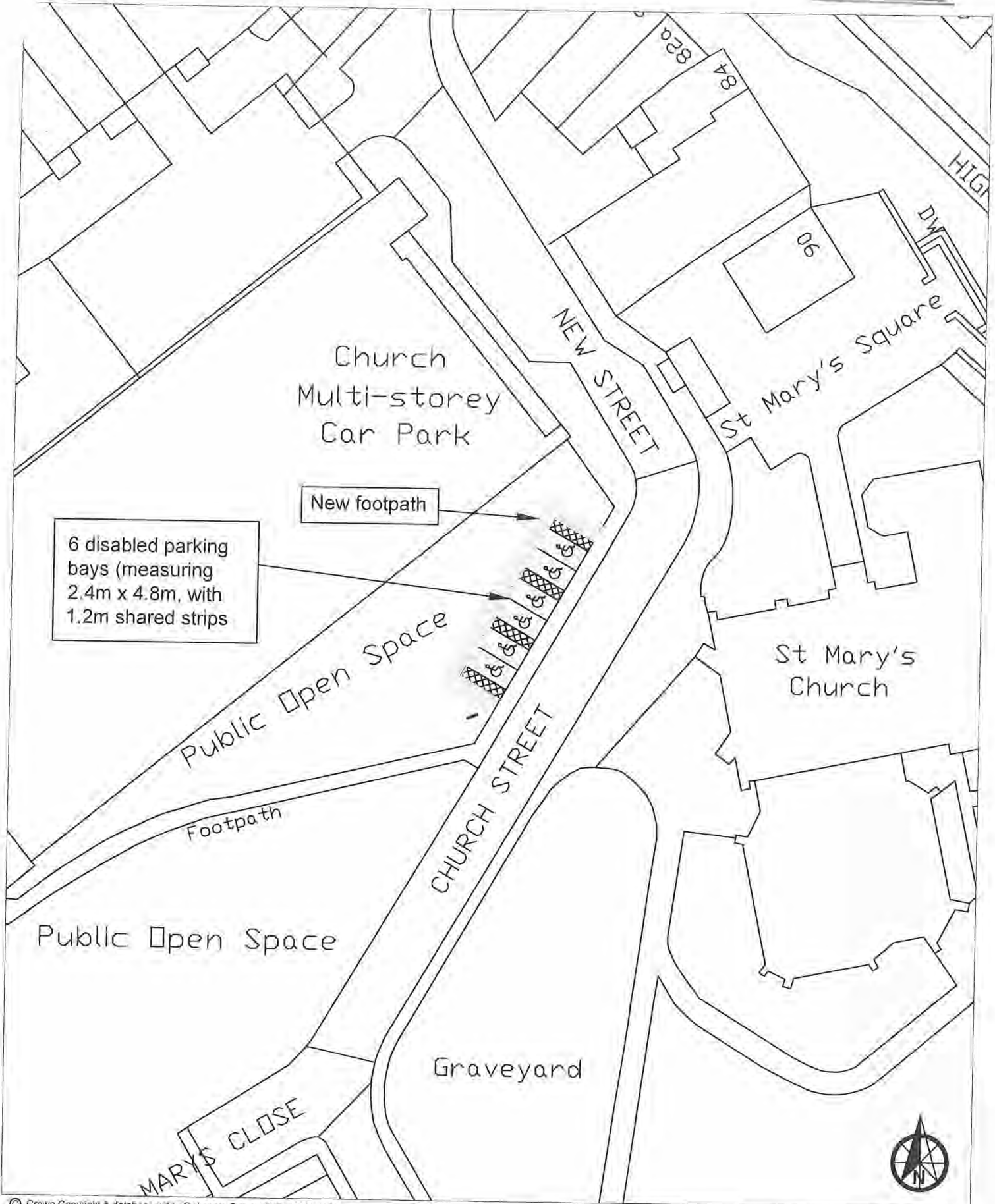
Name of Officer exercising delegated authority:

Andy Smith, Transport & Infrastructure Section Head.

Signature: A. J. Smith

Date: 18 October 2017

END



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Location: Church Street, Watford		Douglas Brodie 25 Park Crescent Elstree Herts WD6 3PT
Description: Disabled parking bays (proposed plan)		
Date: October 2017	Scale: 1 : 500 at A4	
Drawn By: DB	Drawing No: WBC0117-3 rev 3	