# APPENDIX 5

**Quorn Parish Council – 2nd February 2021 Report of the Car Parking Working Group**

RE: STATION ROAD CAR PARK – INTRODUCTION OF A TIME RESTRICTION

Purpose of the report

To update Council on plans to introduce time restrictions at Station Road Car Park to improve availability of spaces.

For Council to approve the introduction of parking restrictions and the necessary work and costs required to do so.

Background

# May 2019

At the Annual Parish Meeting Borough Councillors reported that village centre parking was the most frequent complaint made to them by Quorn residents. Parish Councillors Thornborow and Clayton have found the same when speaking with local residents. Further to comments from the public at the meeting, the Borough Councillors offered to form and lead a small working group to look at the problem.

# May 2020

The working group concluded its work in April 2020 with a report to the May 2020 Council meeting which approved the following recommendations:

1. To introduce a time restriction at the car park from Monday to Saturday between 7am and 7pm, with parking limited to 3 hours (with a no return period as recommended by Charnwood Borough Council officers).
2. Introduce a similar time restriction for on street parking, as detailed in this report.
3. Make parking permits available to residents (but not to business staff), as detailed in this report.

The report at the time stated that there would be no cost to the Parish Council for implementing the recommendations.

# October 2020

Council’s October meeting reviewed a response from Charnwood Borough Council.

* + Legal confirmation would be required that Quorn Townlands Trust would amend the lease.
  + Signage would be required at the car park. Cost approx. £1,000
  + Ad hoc enforcement would be provided.
  + Parking Places Order will need to be amended. Cost £1,500-£2,000 (mainly for advertising the changes).
  + QPC will be required to at least part fund the above costs. The details of proportionate funding was not identified or confirmed.

Council again agreed to proceed.

# November 2020

Further communications with Quorn Townlands Trust and Leicestershire County Council as follows:

* + Quorn Townlands Trust have identified there will be costs of approx. £700 + VAT to amend the lease between the Trust and CBC. The Trust cannot cover these costs.
  + LCC: LCC e mail circulated to councillors 2/11/20. Summary - Parking restrictions will be difficult and costly to implement (£20k+). The implication was that none of the cost would be borne by LCC.

Council agreed that Borough and Parish Councillor members of original working group should meet to agree next steps.

Proposal

The Car Park Working Group propose that the restrictions previously agreed should proceed at the car park only. While not ideal, this recognises the difficulty and high costs of introducing restrictions for on street parking.

There should be a review one year after the introduction of any changes.

QPC will need to request CBC to amend the parking places order and Quorn Townlands Trust to amend the lease with CBC. QPC will need to cover costs of both. A suggested cost would help the decision making needed by QPC in Feb 2021.

QPC will need to develop a system (online) and charges for a residents parking permit scheme.

QPC to inform Business/health centre and advise them to make alternative arrangements, possibly with owners of private car parks for staff parking.

QPC should consider how many spaces at VH car park it can make available to one or more businesses/health centre and at what cost (if any).

QPC to inform private car park owners and suggest that it is an opportunity for them to consider offering spaces to one or more businesses/health centre.

Residents as follows should be notified and informed of details of the permit scheme.

* Station Road between Quorn Cross and Nursery Lane
* Nursery Lane
* High Street between Quorn Cross and Quorn Court
* Meeting Street from the Royal Oak to number 7 Recommendations

(i) The restrictions previously agreed for Station Road car park should be implemented as detailed in this report.

Financial Implications

Direct costs for the above are estimated at between £3-4,000.

There will be a cost of staff time to introduce the changes and to administer the resident parking permit scheme.

Some of these costs should be recoverable from charges for the residents’ parking permit scheme.

Risks Assessment

Some businesses may respond negatively to the change. A clear explanation should be communicated of the reasons for the change, highlighting the benefits to customers/patients is required.

Current users of the car park that are displaced may move to adjacent streets - just moving the problem. Businesses/health centre should be asked to assist in avoiding this by making arrangements for their staff to use private car parks and/or to make alternative travel plans to and from work to reduce the number of cars requiring parking during the day.

Residents may object to a charge being introduced for a parking permit. A clear explanation should be communicated of the reasons for the introduction of the scheme and transparency in what the charges cover is required.

If the changes are not made, complaints may continue about the lack of spaces, that customers/patients choose not to come to Quorn and that the Council is seen to be unresponsive to the biggest complaint of residents.

Once introduced, parking restrictions may being ignored. “Ad hoc” enforcement will need to be requested to be more frequent during the first few months after the scheme’s introduction.