

Appendix 1 Parking Issues in Great Shelford and Sawston, evidence from parish councils

Great Shelford is a busy South Cambs village, with around 5,000 residents. It is also something of a local hub for villages such as Little Shelford, Stapleford, Hauxton, Newton, etc. It has a bank, building society, two 'express' size supermarkets, dental surgery, health centre, butches, bakers, deli, library, as well as a busy recreation ground (football, cricket, tennis, bowls, etc.). It also has a mainline rail station and is a through traffic route into Cambridge from many of the surrounding villages. Traffic is often very busy and parking difficult/impossible (in addition to on-street parking, the Parish Council provides two no-charge off-street car parks, with a total of around 100 spaces).

Parking issues are concentrated in two areas in the village:

- Woollards Lane/High Street (the main shopping area). Issues here are parking on double yellow lines, parking on a zebra crossing and in an HGV loading bay, obstruction of the road.
- Residential streets around the station. Issues here are obstruction of pavements and driveways, parking on junctions.

Complaints from residents are frequent and Police enforcement action close to non-existent. There have been accidents attributable to bad parking and reasonably frequent episodes of 'road rage'.

Parking enforcement is the single most important issue for the village.

The issue has been highlighted by two accidents in Woollards Lane earlier this year:

- On 12 June a four year old boy crossing the road at the junction with Robinson Court was hit by a car turning into Robinson Court. Fortunately, he wasn't seriously injured (kids of that age tend to bounce), but his scooter was damaged.
- On 5 July there was a collision between two cars and a subsequent 'road rage' incident.

In both cases, you could blame 'bad driving'. However, in both cases, there are reasons to believe that illegal parking, leading to vehicles driving on the 'wrong' side of the road, contributed to the accident.

Charging for parking (added 18 Feb 2019; please note this has not been adopted as GSPC policy yet)

- All parking in the centre of Great Shelford is full M-F 0900-1700.
- There are around 45 car parking spaces in the Memorial Hall car park, which is owned by GSPC.
- There are a similar number in the McColl's car park, which GSPC leases from a commercial landlord at an annual cost of £20,000 plus business rates.
- There are a further 30-odd legal on-street parking spaces in Woollards Lane, plus 50-odd in High Street and Ashen Green.
- There are no other feasible locations to increase parking provision in the village centre. We have approached one landowner who might have space for 50 cars. He would sell us the land, but for £2M+.
- No charges are currently made for parking.
- To provide additional parking in the village centre GSPC is conducting a feasibility study into the possibility of building an underground car park (maybe 100 spaces). Prerequisites for

doing this would be adequate parking enforcement and charging for on- and off-street parking.

Some late news from Sawston. There is an off-street car park there with probably 100 spaces on land owned by SCDC. For many years Budgens rented the land, most recently for £7,000p.a and parking there was free. The Coop have taken over the store and will now be charging for stays longer than three hours in the car park (no details on how they are going to implement this yet).

Also, I think we need to stress that pressures on parking in Great Shelford will continue to increase:

- I've just been notified by NHS Property Services that they are moving 20 mental health staff from Fulbourn to Great Shelford health centre. These staff do home visits, so will all have their own cars and will also have patients visiting them in the health centre.
- Expansion of the CBC is bound to lead to more commuter parking in the village.

Sawston suffers in three principle respects from uncontrolled parking.

1. At the Post Office junction (High Street/Mill Lane) double yellow lines, recently refreshed, are ignored – this causes minor chaos every day, and occasional “road rage” incidents.
2. Parking in Budgens (the primary) car-park is frequently at capacity, due to use from all day High Street office/shop workers. This displaces parking to nearby streets, particularly Mill Lane.
3. Many roads in the village suffer from inconsiderate parking practices, particularly people parking opposite each other and restricting the ability for larger vehicles (incl Blue Light) to pass.