

## RAC FOUNDATION REPORT

The following are selected extracts from a recent RAC Foundation report entitled 'Motoring towards 2050: parking in transport policy'. I have picked out sections in bold which I feel are relevant to our deliberations.

- Parking is, quite simply, just about the hottest issue in motoring and **one of the subjects most likely to cause ill-feeling towards local authorities.**
- **Parking is fundamental to the lives of motorists: not only does parking (or lack of it) generate strong feelings, but it can also determine where we live, work, shop and play.**
- **Unless more on-street and off-street parking spaces are provided, there will not be adequate capacity to cope with the growth in car demand by 2030.**
- Councils capital spending on parking was only £29m last year, compared to £48m on cycling and £75 on pedestrian facilities.
- Typically, drivers spend around 6 minutes driving in the centre of town actively seeking a parking space.
- **As many cars as possible should be parked off-street to reduce danger and obstruction.**
- **For new housing developments, 1.5 spaces per residence should become a minimum standard rather than a maximum.**
- **If parking is provided under buildings, high densities can still be achieved.**
- The objective of parking enforcement should be to reduce dangerous and obstructive parking not to raise revenue.
- More on-street bays should be designated for use both by residents and visitors, to encourage optimum use of space.

**Parking is an essential part of not just transport planning and policy but social and economic policy too. Local authorities should not underestimate its importance to their residents.**

One assumes that the RAC Foundation may have a partisan view but its conclusions should not be ignored.