

Report to the Cabinet

Report reference: C/100/2005-06.
Date of meeting: 19 December 2005.



Portfolio: Civil Engineering & Maintenance.

Subject: Quaker Lane Car Park, Waltham Abbey.

Officer contact for further information: John Gilbert (01992 – 56 4062).

Democratic Services Officer: Adrian Hendry (01992 – 56 4246).

Recommendations:

- (1) That in accordance with the resolution of Council 24 free car parking spaces be provided in the Quaker Lane car park, Waltham Abbey, as set out in the attached plan;**
- (2) That the Head of Environmental Services be authorised to arrange for the publication of a draft traffic regulation order to:**
 - (a) give effect to the free parking proposals within the Quaker Lane Car Park; and**
 - (b) make consequential minor amendments to the Epping Forest District (Off Street Parking Places) Order 2002 as required to enforce the proposals;**
- (3) That subject to no objections being made the Head of Environmental Services be authorised to arrange for the making and sealing of an appropriate Traffic Regulation Order; and**
- (4) That should the Council receive valid objections, the Epping Forest District Council Portfolio Holder for Civil Engineering and Maintenance be delegated to consider and determine objections made under the order; and**
- (5) That budgetary provision be made as follows:**
 - (a) supplementary estimate of £9,000 for 2005/06; and**
 - (b) CSB provision of £19,000 for 2006/07.**

Report:

1. At Council on 13 December 2005 it was resolved to provide 24 “free” car parking spaces in the Quaker Lane, Waltham Abbey car park. Given the usage of the car park to date this will result in a loss of income to the Council of around £18,500 per annum. The loss in the current 2005/06 financial year will therefore be £4,625.
2. In addition to the reduction in income there are also costs associated with making the changes, including changes to the existing traffic regulation order (TRO) and changes to the signage so that the public are fully aware of the status of the different parts of the car park. A plan is attached indicating that part of the car park which will be free parking. The costs of the TRO and associated works are estimated at £4,000.
3. The proposed estimates for 2006/07 do not include this change to the car park and therefore provision will need to be made in next year’s budget. Allowing for inflation at 2.5%

this will require provision of £19,000.

Statement in support of recommended action:

4. These proposals implement the wish of Council to provide 24 free car parking spaces in the Quaker Lane car park in Waltham Abbey. This limited free parking is being provided to support the local trading situation which has suffered since the opening of a new local superstore which has free parking associated with it.

Options for action:

5. Given the request of Council there are no viable alternatives to the recommendations set out in this report.

Consultation undertaken:

6. None specifically but these proposals meet the concerns of local members and traders who have expressed concerns regarding the difficult trading situation in Waltham Abbey.

Resource implications:

Budget provision: Supplementary estimate of £9,000 for 2005/06 and provision of £19,000 in 2006/07

Personnel: Nil

Land: Nil

Community Plan/BVPP reference: N/R

Relevant statutory powers: Highways Acts

Background papers: Motion at Council, 13 December 2005

Environmental/Human Rights Act/Crime and Disorder Act Implications: N/A.

Key Decision reference (if required): Will advise when key decisions have ref nos.