



# PARKING

## **THE ISSUES:**

- The introduction of Civil Parking Enforcement has not been as successful as hoped. There has been a tendency to focus on easy targets e.g. Dinton Pastures rather than dealing with issues that local residents consider important, such as inappropriate, inconsiderate and dangerous parking, or parking that causes congestion as well as the impacts of commuter parking especially near railway stations and around schools.
- On & off-street parking is dealt with in an ad hoc manner with no clear strategy for ensuring parking is set up to meet the needs of local residents and businesses.
- Insufficient parking for residents or businesses in Wokingham town and some other centres.
- This is becoming an increasing problem for some residents as there is often no facility for local businesses working at a property, or parking for residents friends and family when they visit.

## **LIBERAL DEMOCRAT PROPOSALS:**

- Create an overall Borough-wide parking strategy which looks at the needs of both residents and businesses by consulting them on an early draft BEFORE it is finalised.
- This strategy to include on and off-street parking and includes a review of the car parks owned and/or operated by the council to ensure that the pricing, permitted lengths of stay, disabled, parent and child and motorbike provision are fit for purpose, as well as appropriate electric vehicle charging provision. This will include the introduction of Free 2 hours parking in our town centres and larger village centres on Saturdays.
- Provide free parking at Dinton Pastures and California Country Park on Bank Holidays (only) and after 6pm.
- Re-examine parking provision in new developments; some areas have insufficient provision especially areas close to Flats and in affordable housing areas.
- Overhaul all the existing resident parking schemes and add new schemes as required. This should include time limited parking during parts of the day and extended resident permit schemes which would include parking capabilities for visitors and local businesses with annual permits provided at minimal cost to residents.
- Ensures proper consultation would take place.
- Concentrate parking enforcement on areas around schools, railway stations and other areas where there is inconsiderate parking and where parking on yellow lines is causing congestion or found to be dangerous.