

Dear Neighbours,

We are writing in response to your letter about the Morley parking proposals. We are all in favour of making sure we get the best possible scheme for our area and certainly share some of your concerns about the proposals, as with any change, but we question some of your conclusions:

-- You state that the scheme does not allow space for visitors, but presumably the average figure reported (291) does include visitors, and 287 spaces for an average of 291 people seems like Nirvana compared to what we currently have!

-- You say 'many residents have applied/approved for dropped kerbs which are not reflected in the scheme' but we understand that there are normally only one or two requests a year for the whole of Queen Edith's so this seems unusually high. Please can you be more specific about this, and the source of your data.

-- It is a very good point that the city-wide City Deal scheme is proposing to subsidise the set-up costs for future schemes, although we do not believe they will also cover permit costs. We have written to ask Francis Burkitt if it would be possible for the City Deal board to subsidise our scheme in the same way, but remember that their proposals are subject to approval by the County Highways Committee and may change before they come into being, and this may take time.

-- You suggest waiting a 'relatively short time' to be part of a wider, more integrated solution. First, don't forget that the city-wide scheme has not yet been approved, and consultations will not start until after the May elections at the earliest. Even then, the whole city will not be surveyed simultaneously, but in phases with Newnham, Accordia and Coleridge scheduled to go first. Second, although the new rules are being referred to as city-wide, they will still be neighbourhood specific. It is just not practical to allow all Cambridge residents to park all over Cambridge.

It has taken years of research and thought and planning to define the current proposal to suit conditions in our particular area. Which bits of the City Deal proposal do you believe are different and attractive enough to be worth waiting for?

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Nicki and Christie Marrian