

Parish Office Link Road Great Missenden Bucks HP16 9AE Tel: 01494 864792

Email: clerk@greatmissendenpc.co.uk

Parking Manager
Bucks Council
c/o parkingtro@buckscc.gov.uk

15<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Dear Parking Manager

I am writing on behalf of the Parish Council to express their objection to the proposed changes to car park chargeable hours and introduction of Sunday charges within our local area. The consultation regarding extending the chargeable hours from 8am-6pm to 7am-7pm on Monday to Saturday and implementing a daily charge on Sundays in the parish car parks, has raised significant concerns among the community.

First and foremost, the proposed changes represent a severe blow to the already struggling high streets in the parish. In an era where local businesses are fighting tooth and nail to survive amidst online competition and economic uncertainty, the last thing they need is an additional barrier to footfall. By extending chargeable hours and introducing Sunday charges, Bucks Council is effectively placing another financial burden on the shoulders of local businesses and residents by making it less attractive for visitors to all areas of the parish including cycling groups, footballers and the monthly Sunday market visitors.

Furthermore, the parish council strongly doubt that the revenue generated from these increased charges will adequately cover the cost of additional enforcement. It is incredible to suggest that the proposed fees will be sufficient to offset the expenses associated with extended monitoring and enforcement. Any surplus revenue is likely to be minuscule compared to the potential damage inflicted upon the high streets and community cohesion.

It is imperative that Bucks Council reconsiders this ill-conceived proposal and prioritises the welfare of local businesses and residents over short-term financial gains. The high streets are the lifeblood of the local community, and it is the responsibility of local authorities to nurture and support them, not to impose punitive measures that threaten their very existence.

Bucks Council must listen to the voices of the community and scrap these proposals. Failure to do so will be met with opposition from the parish council and the residents they represent.

Kind regards
Jane

**Clerk to Great Missenden Parish Council**