

## **Agenda Item 4 Questions from the Public: Questions to Cabinet 14 December 22**

Re: St Mary's Street Resident's Association - Proposed On Street Parking Scheme changes

### **Background Information**

St Marys' St has a Residents' Association and an On-Street parking permit scheme. Residents can apply for up to 2 permits per household (permits cost £50.00 each). Visitors can park for free for up to 40 minutes and any time after 6pm until 8 am

Listley Street does not have a Residents' Association or an On-Street parking permit scheme. Listley Street has 51 eligible dwellings for permits

Residents in St Mary's Street purchased their dwellings in the knowledge they were eligible for 2 parking permits.

Listley Street residents purchased their dwellings in the knowledge no on-street parking is available.

The houses in St Marys Street vary from tiny cottages to large family dwellings, some with off road parking therefore permit requirements range from 0-2 permits

The properties in Listley Street are generally small cottages/flats.

All residents can purchase an annual parking pass for Innage Lane carpark (a band 6 car park >10 minutes walk from St Marys St for £182.00 per annum)

There are two band 3 car parks available in Listley Street

### **Council Proposals to change the existing scheme**

The Council's justification for the proposed changes both in the covering letter/website is to encourage residents *'to lead healthier lives'* and *'reduce congestion'*

The Council propose to:

1. Combine Listley Street with St Marys Street parking thereby increasing the number of eligible dwellings by 51.
2. Provide 14 extra spaces in Listley Street
- 3) Reduce the permits to one per household
- 4) Double the fee
- 5) Not provide access to the nearby Listley car parks for an annual fee despite resolving at cabinet to consult regarding the keeping of 2

permits and providing car parking in nearby available car parks in Listley Street

6) Not provide any information or details as to where displaced vehicles will park.

7) Not consult any neighbouring streets where the displaced cars will be forced to park

### **Precedent**

There are two car parks in Listley Street ( North and South – band 3 ). These car parks should have been subject to the consultation exercise which was agreed by cabinet in 2019 <https://shropshire.gov.uk/committee-services/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=130&MId=3934&Ver=4>).

Agenda item 9 and to date has not taken place. Residents contest that we should have access to these car parks for an annual fee. A precedent has been set in Shrewsbury where residents can purchase season tickets for any of the 3 town centre car parks which are bands 3, 4 and 5, namely St Julian's Friars ( band 3 ) , Frankwell and Abbey Foregate.

The situation is not equitable

In April 2022 prior to the parking consultation the Residents' Association requested that the permit scheme should exclude visitors parking for free. Further to a freedom of information request, Mr Mark Barrow stated *'there are 58 active/valid permits for St Mary's Street in Bridgnorth. 35 addresses on St Mary's Street hold a total of 54 permits that have been issued during the financial year 2021/22 and are still active as of today (29.4.22.)'*

**1 Please will the council explain exactly how the removal of around 15 cars ( those with 2 permits St Marys St ) and an increase of potentially 51 cars ( Listley St) will 'reduce congestion and pollution' when 100s of visitors also continue to drive up St Mary's Street to access free parking on the High Street ?**

**2 Please will the council explain why the availability of Listley Street North and South have not been considered simultaneously as part of this consultation to save the council money and in the interests of fairness, given the precedent which has been established in Shrewsbury ie residents in Shrewsbury town have access to bands 3, 4 and 5 car parks ?**

**3 Please will the council explain why they are asking residents of St Mary's Street to give up their parking spaces to Listley Street residents ?**

The inclusion of Listley Street to the St Mary's Street scheme will increase the number of people eligible to purchase 1 permit by 51.

There are approximately 60 residential households in St Marys Street which are eligible to purchase permits. At present there are 58 active permits with 35 addresses. The scheme is not used to full capacity as St Marys Street residents **have access** to other off street parking and do not all require 2 permits.

Listley Street does not have any off road parking.

Therefore the 40 households from Listley Street (note the Council figures are 105 households in both Streets combined) will wish to purchase a permit and the park on St Mary's Street as Listley Street only has 14 proposed parking spaces

**4 Please will the council explain why this decision is being made by 2 Cllrs and not through an open and democratic process of Cttee**

**5 Please will the council explain why the scheme for St Mary's Street cannot be restricted to St Mary's St residents ONLY as requested in May 22 prior to the consultation by The Residents' Association ?**

**6 Please will the council fully explain the reasons why Listley Street cannot have its own parking scheme for its own residents ? ( the changing of one scheme costs the same as introducing another scheme)**

Thank you

Kind regards St Mary's Street Cttee