



Mr Daniel Goodwin
Chief Executive
St Albans City and District Council
District Council Offices
St Peter's Street
St Albans
AL1 3JE

7 June 2011

Dear Mr Goodwin

We are writing as residents of Culver Road (AL1) regarding the parking situation on our Road, and enclose a petition signed by residents in favour of introducing residents-only parking.

In sending the petition and this letter, we would like to make you aware of the significant problems we face in trying to park on our road. As a result of its proximity to the city centre, Culver Road is full of cars throughout the day. As soon as someone that lives in the road leaves for work in the morning, someone from outside the road arrives to park. A large number of those using the Road as a free car park and are going into town to work, to college or go shopping. This often then means that residents are forced to park some distance from their house, and often not on the road at all. Obviously, this can result in significant problems, for example when we have visitors or workmen arriving during the day. It also means that unloading shopping or children from the car can become a very stressful experience.

We have raised this issue with both Steve Deakin and Councillor Rod Perks. The advice we received was to conduct a petition which would then be considered should we receive 30 signatures or more. We were also advised that the Council would conduct a more detailed questionnaire about the parking options on our Road.

In conducting the petition we visited all of the houses on Culver Road (number 2 to 92). We also included 13 Sandpit Lane as, given the location of the house, the residents have to park on Culver Road. In total we managed to speak to 62 households (we were unable to get in touch with some of the residents). We excluded the two blocks of flats with access onto Culver Road as they have their own parking. Of the households we visited, 50 were in favour of the introduction of parking restrictions on Culver Road (57 petition signatures in total).

A number of specific issues were raised during our discussions with residents that we wanted to you to be aware of when compiling your own questionnaire:

- What are the charges likely to be and what protection do residents have against significant increases in these charges once introduced?

- Would there need to be road markings if residents parking was introduced, and if so what (eg individual marked bays)? Some residents were concerned that new road markings could actually make the problem worse by reducing the overall space available for parking. In order for residents to be able to give an informed response to the Council's questionnaire, the Council will need to set out in the questionnaire exactly what road markings would be needed, and how they might affect the overall amount of space available for parking on the Road. In particular, the questionnaire would need to explain whether or not double yellow lines would be needed at the junction between Culver Road and Boundary Road. We understand that this has been discussed in the past and that the council accepted residents views that markings on this section of the road should NOT be introduced.
- What are timing options for restrictions? (eg. all day, 2 hours a day, week only, 7 days a week etc)
- How would permits for visitors and workmen work (eg. would one permit cover all the hours of restricted parking)?

We would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt and keep us updated on progress in taking this forward. We can be contacted on

Copies of this letter (without enclosures) have been sent to Councillor Rod Perks and Steve Deakin in the Parking Services Team at the Council.

Yours sincerely

Suzanne Steadman and Gwen Morgan

cc. Cllr Rod Perks, 10 Jennings Road St Albans Herts AL1 4NT
Mr Steve Deakin, Parking Services, St Albans City and District Council
Democratic Services Manager, St Albans City and District Council