

## Car Parking in Droxford.

Issues are often raised in the village relating to parking, traffic speed and road safety. This report attempts to address concerns about parking.

Most people would like to be able to park on their own property or at least in the street nearby. Very few want to park somewhere remote from their home; It is not convenient and insurance companies don't like it. In Droxford a large number of residents are forced to do this however as their property is either some way from anywhere accessible by car or is on a road where stopping is not an option. With this in mind a survey has been conducted in an attempt to better understand the problem and attempt to quantify it.

It was recognized that many areas within the village have adequate parking space within properties but nevertheless the survey was distributed to all residences regardless of this.

The following pages contain the following:-

The survey form.

The survey results.

Notes on the results.

Map showing the location of parking sites identified by respondents.

Description of parking sites identified by respondents.

Conclusions.



Droxford Parish Council

[www.droxfordweb.co.uk](http://www.droxfordweb.co.uk)

October 2016

Dear Droxford Resident,

Concerns are frequently expressed in and around the village relating to parking, highways, traffic and road safety. The Parish Council is committed to a long-term strategy to make improvements where possible. An important first step in this process is to identify shortfalls in available parking spaces and what – if anything – can be done to improve the situation.

Whilst it is acknowledged that a number of areas within the Parish have sufficient off-road parking within properties, in order to provide evidence of need to Hampshire County Council, this survey is being distributed to ALL residents. If no response is received, the assumption will be made that current provision is considered to be entirely satisfactory within a given area.

Please answer the 4 questions below before returning your completed survey to the collection box at the Post Office. If you prefer to complete it electronically, you may download it from the website – [www.droxfordweb.co.uk](http://www.droxfordweb.co.uk) - and email it to the Parish Clerk at [clerk.droxfordpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.droxfordpc@gmail.com) . Please accept the assurance of the Parish Council that all information provided will be used solely for the purpose of defining the requirement for public parking spaces. Return of completed surveys by 31<sup>st</sup> October would be appreciated.

NAME OF YOUR STREET/LANE/ROAD:

.....  
.....

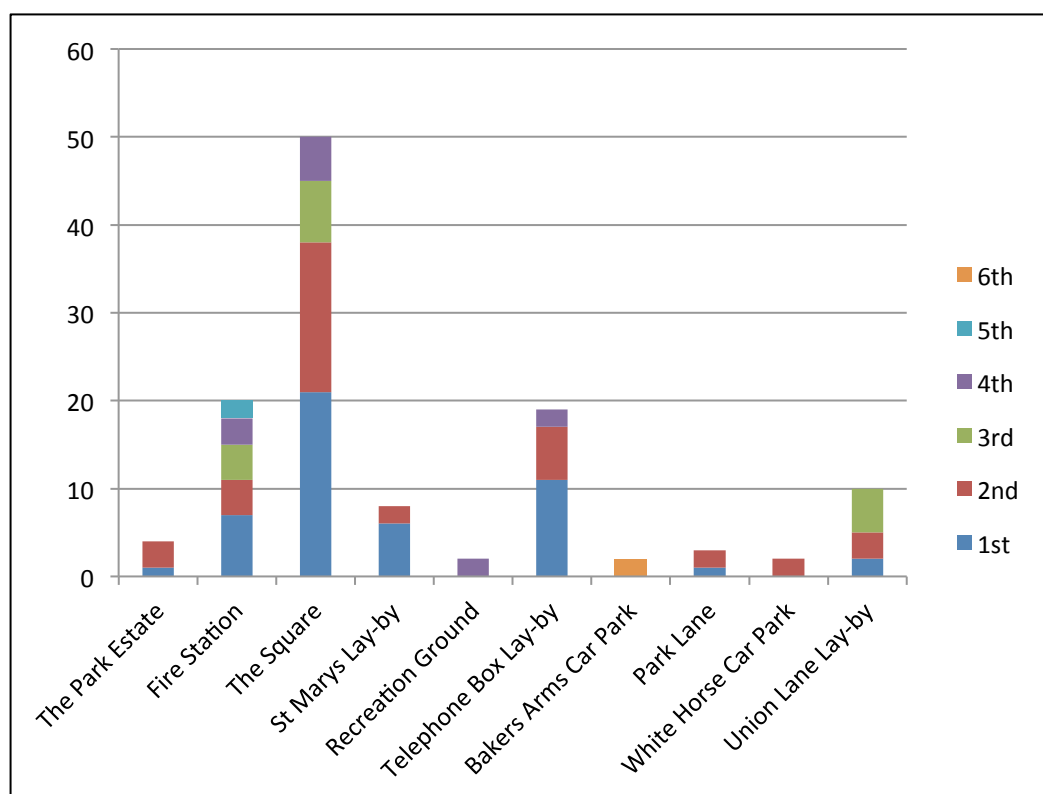
1. How many vehicles are registered at your address?
2. How many vehicles (including work vans) are ordinarily parked/garaged within your own property?
3. How many regularly require parking beyond your boundary on a public road, delineated parking space or 'off-road'?
4. If you park outside your property boundary, please state where and the preference order for seeking a space (eg within The Park , Fire Station, The Square)?

If you are unable to return this to the Post Office and would like it to be collected, please telephone the number below. Thank you for your cooperation in assisting the Parish Council to improve our village.

## Droxford Car Parking Survey

Area	Number of returns	Number of vehicles	Parked on own property	Parked in road or car park	Preference	Car Park Location									
						The Park Estate	Fire Station	The Square	St Marys Lay-by	Recreation Ground	Telephone Box Lay-by	Bakers Arms Car Park	Park Lane	White Horse Car Park	Union Lane Lay-by
Chestnut Rise	6	14	14	0											
Garrison Hill	2	3	3	0											
High Street	14	26	15	11	1st			2	1		8				
					2nd			7	2						
					3rd			2							
					4th						2				
					5th		2								
					6th							2			
St Marys Close	5	7	0	7	1st			1	5						
					2nd						4				
					3rd			4							
					4th										
Midlington Road / Hill	5	12	10	2	1st			2							
Mill Lane	7	13	13	0											
Northend Lane	8	18	18	0											
Police Station Lane	3	6	6	0											
The Park Estate	10	17	16	1											
The Square	3	9	7	2	1st			2							
South Hill	12	23	16	7	1st			10					1		
					2nd	2							2	2	
					3rd		4								
					4th					2					
South View	4	7	0	7	1st		2	2			3				
					2nd			4			2				
					3rd										5
					4th		3								

Swanmore Road	3	7	7	0											
Union Lane	9	18	8	10	1st	1	5	1							2
					2nd		4	1							3
					3rd			1							
Waltham Close	2	5	4	1	1st			1							
					2nd	1									
Unidentified	4	5	5	0											
						Car Park Location									
Area	Number of returns	Number of vehicles	Parked on own property	Parked in road or car park	Preference	The Park Estate	Fire Station	The Square	St Marys Lay-by	Recreation Ground	Telephone Box Lay-by	Bakers Arms Car Park	Park Lane	White Horse Car Park	Union Lane Lay-by
Totals	97	190	142	48	1st	1	7	21	6		11		1		2
					2nd	3	4	17	2		6		2	2	3
					3rd		4	7							5
					4th		3	5		2	2				
					5th		2								
					6th							2			



Notes on the return.

There were 97 survey forms returned.

Returns from the High Street, Mill Lane, South Hill and Union Lane look quite high. Possibly as high as 70%. These are difficult parking areas. South View has no readily available parking space either but the return from there was a disappointing 45%. The fact that responses from these areas list a number of potential parking places suggests time spent looking for one.

The response from Northend Lane was 50% with no parking issues recorded.

St Mary's Close returned 83% and there are clearly some difficulties here. There are 7 cars owned by residents and 3 people are disabled badge holders.

A response of 20% came from The Park with only 1 car being identified as not being parked on own property. This is a little surprising as the estate has at least 20 vehicles parked there every night.

The response from other areas canvassed appears to be around 25% but these are clearly locations which have no parking difficulties.









## Existing Car Parking Areas Identified by Survey Respondents.

### Recreation Ground Car Park.

This car park can hold as many as 14 cars if they are parked well but often this is reduced to as few as 8 as a result of poor parking. There is scope for extension of this area and it would benefit from having marked bays to improve parking discipline. The car park is little used at night as it is not conveniently placed and is a little exposed. The feeling is that vehicles are therefore vulnerable. It is however well used during the day by staff of the two schools and visitors and is usually full and overflowing.

### Union Lane Lay-by.

This contains 8 marked bays and is full every evening and for large parts of most days. This is the car park of choice for 10 of our responders. It has to serve numbers 1-8 The Park, most of Park View and most of South View. Potentially 22 houses.

### Fire Station Car Park.

This has 20 marked bays and sometimes has a spare space or two at night. This is a heavily used car park which serves as a drop off and collection area for the schools. It is therefore often not available for residents in the early evening when they need to park which can result in spaces later on when the school traffic disappears. This tends to be an overspill car park for those who would ideally like to park in the Union Lane lay-by.

### Telephone Box Lay-by.

This is not really a lay-by, it is actually a wide entrance to Mill Lane. The area can accommodate 14 cars but this number can often be reduced to as few as 8 if the parking is poor. This is the parking area of choice for 19 of respondents and potentially serves most of the High Street and several in South View. This area would benefit greatly from having marked bays.

### Village Green.

Used extensively for car parking and is the area of choice for 50 of our respondents. In addition to residents parking the area also serves the church and the village hall. It is also used as a park and ride terminal for the community bus on weekdays. Evening functions in the hall can be seriously hampered by the limited parking. It is also used by walkers and visitors to the village. It can accommodate approximately 30 cars but again poor parking can significantly reduce this number. Poor parking can also quite often cause obstruction to the entrances to The Old Rectory and The Manor House. Marked bays would be of major benefit in this area.

### St. Mary's Lay-by.

There is space for 4 cars here. This includes one marked disabled space. The survey shows there to be 3 disabled badge holders in St. Mary's Close and 7 cars owned by the residents. There is no sign to say that the lay-by is for the exclusive use of the residents but as the properties are clearly older persons bungalows it is usually recognized as such.

### Baker's Arms Car Park.

This is for the pub and during the day the post office. It is sometimes use in

desperation by residents who can find nowhere else to park.

The White Horse Car Park.

This is a pub car park and is again sometimes used by residents who can find nowhere else to park.

Park Lane.

Offers street parking for approximately 8 cars and is usually full.

The Park Estate.

The estate offers lay-by parking for 5 cars. In addition there is street parking for approximately 10 cars and a further 6 or 7 park on the pavements. A number of these vehicles cause obstructions which force utility and delivery vehicles to take to the grassed areas. This produces an unsightly and dangerous mess and creates ill-will amongst the residents. A number of residents park on their own property but access to this can also get obstructed at times. The Park gets full at night and at school delivery and pick up times.

There is scope for extension to existing lay-bys and the churned up areas could also be converted to parking. This would have the added benefit of improving estate access.

School Lane.

This parking area was not highlighted by any of the respondents but as many as 10 cars park there at any time of the day. It is used by residents of The Park, school staff and visitors and walkers. It is unmarked. Some parking is on the pavement and the rest is in the hedge.

## Conclusions.

It is clear from the survey returns that residents of High Street, South Hill, South View and Union Lane have a hard time parking. The fact that several parking sites are listed suggests time spent driving around looking for a space.

The elderly occupants of St Mary's Close are in a particularly difficult position. Between them they have 3 disabled badges and 7 cars. There is one disabled parking bay in the 4 space lay-by at the Close. This lay-by is not for their exclusive use either.

From the survey the preferred parking place by far was the village green. The next most popular were the fire station car park and the telephone Box Lay-by. Of these only the fire station car park has marked bays. The other two parking areas would benefit greatly from being marked out in some way.

The recreation ground car park is clearly shown as not being particularly popular for residential parking. However observation shows the car park to be heavily used during the daytime and increased capacity here would be welcome. There is scope for expansion of this area and again marked bays would be very beneficial.

The Park has limited lay-bys and areas of street parking. There is some parking done on the grassed areas and on the pavements. Parked vehicles often obstruct access for utility and delivery vehicles causing them to drive over and churn up grassed areas. There is scope for extending the lay-bys and converting the churned up areas into parking space. This would improve access, increase parking space and reduce future estate maintenance costs.