

## PARKING ALERT

Following the public meetings held by Cllr Ian Manning in July he asked us to conduct a survey of vehicles parked in and around Hurst Park Estate (HPE). Volunteers counted the number of cars parked on the road in each street in the evening or early morning, and again mid-morning, in an attempt to differentiate between commuters' and residents' vehicles – details are available here: <https://bit.ly/2m3MSyD>

The data showed that there are more than twice as many cars parked in Hurst Park Avenue during the daytime compared with overnight (incoming commuter/tradesmen effect) and in some parts of the estate there are more parked in the evening/early morning (returning resident effect). On weekday mid-mornings Hurst Park Ave is well over the estimated safe capacity, although there is still spare capacity elsewhere in the estate. In the evenings and early mornings, the picture changes, with cars spread more evenly across the whole area. Overall there was an average of 45 more cars parked in the whole estate mid-morning compared with overnight.

As many people have noted, congestion has got much worse in the HPE since the introduction of the parking scheme in the Ascham zone, because commuters and some residents of the Chesterton Triangle\* area are now unable to park in Ascham Rd/Gurney Way between 9.30am and 3.00pm. There is likely to be further displacement of vehicles once the parking spaces on Milton Road are lost.

There are two possible options for a residents' parking scheme.

Option 1: HPE and the Triangle join the existing Ascham scheme, with the same design, operating hours and so forth, meaning that all residents can park anywhere in the larger area. The residents of Ascham will need to agree for this to go forward.

Option 2: HPE joins forces with the Chesterton Triangle only. This would allow us to operate differently from Ascham if we wish, but it also means that cars displaced from the Triangle will park in HPE, rather than being split between Ascham and HPE. Triangle residents who commute using their cars during the daytime will still be able to park overnight in Ascham from 3.00pm until 9.30am as they do now.

Of course another option is to do nothing, but funding is available now for the introduction of residents' schemes and may not be later.

County Cllr Ian Manning is writing to all households and has designed a survey to ascertain our views once more before he decides how to proceed.

**We strongly encourage you to read his letter and then participate in what is an important decision for the neighbourhood. You can find his survey at:**

<http://bit.ly/wchparkingcombined>

\*The Chesterton Triangle comprises Herbert St, George St, Chesterton Hall Crescent, Hawthorn Way, Springfield Rd, Chestnut Grove, Milton Rd (s-east side from the roundabout to Mitchams Cnr)

P.S. Plse go to [www.bit.ly/2kBzbXk](http://www.bit.ly/2kBzbXk) to join our email list for quicker and more eco-friendly communications.