

12. November 2010.

Liz Banner.
SKDC.
Property and facilities manager
St. Peters Hill.
Grantham.

Dear Liz Banner.

With reference to Consultation on Car Parking Charges, at Wharf Road Stamford and Welton Street Grantham.

I attend Stamford Art Centre one morning a week, and do the rest of my business afterwards, so I usually pay for 4 hours at parking at £2.50, or £3.00 for all day, then I have time to do the extras, without having to cut short my time in Stamford. This makes for 1 journey time covering more activities in one go, and better environmentally.

A £5.00 increase in car parking will make me question if I still take part at the Art Centre one morning a week, as this will be an extra £20.00 per month.

May I suggest the following charges, to also take notice of people that work in town, being faced with such an increase. £1 = 1 hour, £1.50 = 2 hours, £2.00 for 3 hours, £2.50 for 4 hours and £3.00 all day. Preferably a big decrease in car parking charges will be the best for both towns.

Hoping the points made in this letter are taken into account.

Yours sincerely

15th November 2010

Liz Banner
Council Offices
St Peter's Hill
GRANTHAM
Lincs
NG31 6PZ

Dear Ms Banner

RE: Proposals for Short Stay Wharf Road Car Park, Stamford

I am writing to lodge a complaint over the proposal to make Wharf Road Car Park in Stamford a short stay car park.

My reasons are as follows:-

I am a season ticket holder and I park in Wharf Road because it is at the right end of town for my work. I start work at 6.00am and in the dark mornings have to walk on my own from the car park to the top end of the High Street.

If I had to park in the Cattle Market car park it would firstly take me much longer. Secondly I would have to walk across the meadows in the dark and then through town, which often has, at that time in the morning, drunks from the night before walking the street. Thirdly, in the bad weather it would be more treacherous for walking to work.

I would like to see the council doing something for the workers of Stamford. A lot of people I work with park in Wharf Road and by making it a short stay car park it would force a lot of them to find spaces on the street.

A way around this issue is for the council to consider continuing the issue of long stay permits at Wharf Road for bona fide workers in Stamford Town Centre even though Wharf Road will be designated short stay for all other users.

My season ticket for Wharf Road does not run out until the end of March 2011.
Would I have to move car parks after January 3rd?

Yours sincerely



November 9, 2010

Mrs L Banner
Service Manager Property & Facilities
South Kesteven District Council
Council Offices
St Peter's Hill
GRANTHAM NG31 6PZ

Dear Mrs Banner

Re. Notice of proposed car parking order for Wharf Road, Stamford

I am writing to you following the alarming proposition detailed within the Stamford Mercury on 05/11/10 concerning a new parking order which is proposed at the Wharf Road site with effect from January 3, 2011.

I find it totally unacceptable that the council wish to make such an order at a time when the majority of households are trying their best to save money. I speak as a local person who both lives and works in Stamford. Unless you are using the train station the majority of local permit holders opt to use Wharf Road over the alternative site at Cattle Market. By purchasing a long stay parking permit this is the most cost effect way of being able to park in town during weekday business hours. The reason why Wharf Road remains so popular is it's location; speaking personally it would take me an additional 10 minutes to weave my way through rush hour traffic and then a further 10 minutes to walk all the way back through town to our offices, I simply do not have the capacity to do this, as working mum I have other commitments prior to getting to work which mean I cannot simply leave home earlier.

These changes will only make local peoples busy lives more complicated and result in less money in their pockets to spend in our High Streets. We are all trying hard to find ways to save and make more money I appreciate that, but it always seems that councils and government organisations take the easy route and target those who actually get off their back sides in the morning, go to work, pay their council and other taxes. I would be interested to see what revenue the council loses in parking permits, my office colleagues alone equate to £1,080 in parking fees per year! If this proposal goes ahead we will not be renewing our permits.

I assume you have considered that you will simply be forcing motorists to dump their cars in residential areas close to town at the annoyance of homeowners and be upsetting a lot of local people in the process.

Yours sincerely

A faint, illegible signature or stamp, possibly in blue ink, located below the closing text. It appears to be a horizontal line with some irregular, darker patches above it, but the text is too light to read.

November 9, 2010

Mrs L Banner
Service Manager Property & Facilities
South Kesteven District Council
Council Offices
St Peter's Hill
GRANTHAM NG31 6PZ

Dear Mrs Banner

**Re. Notice of proposed car parking order for Wharf Road, Stamford
(Change from Long Stay to Short Stay)**


I am writing to you following the alarming proposition detailed within the Stamford Mercury on 05/11/10 concerning a new parking order which is proposed at the Wharf Road site with effect from January 3, 2011.

I find it totally unacceptable that the council wish to make such an order at a time when the majority of households are trying their best to save money. I speak as a local person who both lives and works in Stamford. Unless you are using the train station the majority of permit holders opt to use Wharf Road over the alternative site at the Cattle Market simply because it is more convenient to the town centre. By purchasing a long stay parking permit this is the most cost effect way of being able to park in town during weekday business hours. The reason why Wharf Road remains so popular is because of its location to the town centre and it is reasonably easy to get to the car park without being stuck in too much traffic. If I were forced to use the Cattle Market (*as this will be the only car park in Stamford where I could park using my permit*) it would take me an additional 20 minutes to add onto my journey in the morning and probably even longer in the evening. Have you actually tried to get over the town bridge and to the Cattle Market in peak travel time.... I suspect not. The location of the Cattle Market is simply too far away from my place of work as apart from the traffic issues in getting to/from the Cattle Market I would have a 10 minute walk to my office. It is simply not practicable or worth paying £90-00/quarter for the privilege.

We are all trying hard to find ways to save and make our money go a little further and I appreciate that the council feels that by hiking up the parking fees they stand to make a few extra pounds (*unless there is some underlying objective by making it too expensive for people to park at Wharf Road to enable the Council to say it is not being utilised so the land can be sold*). I am of the opinion that councils and government organisations take the easy route and target those who actually get off their back sides in the morning, go to work, pay their council and other taxes etc. I would be interested to see what revenue the council will lose from people who choose not to renew their parking permits. I am confident that I will not be

the only one not renewing my permit if I am going to be unable to use Wharf Road. I will have to take the option of parking in a residential area close to the town centre where I can park for free. I will still have a bit of a walk but at least I will not be queuing in traffic twice a day. If the Council chooses to go ahead with this proposal you will simply be forcing motorists to dump their cars in residential areas close to the town centre at the annoyance of homeowners.

Yours sincerely



Liz Banner,
SKDC
Council Offices
St Peter's Hill
Grantham
Lincs.
NG31 6PZ

10 Nov 2010

Dear Ms Banner,

Wharf Road Car Park, Stamford.

Regarding plans to add entry and exit barriers to above car park, can you please consider the following:

- The top of _____ is so narrow that 2 cars cannot pass.
- During busy traffic times direct access to _____ is effectively blocked at the junction with Wharf Road by a queue of cars, which have exited the car park. At these times, the only way that residents of _____ can access their properties is to enter Wharf Road Car Park and exit on to the lower part of the road.
- This is a regular occurrence i.e. weekdays between 0800-1000 and 1600 – 1800 and 0900-1600 Saturdays.
- If the exit of the car park remains _____ and a barrier system is installed, it will be necessary to widen the top of _____ to allow residents free access at all times. If this is not done then it is inevitable that Wharf Road will be completely grid-locked at peak traffic times by residents _____ being unable to pass by traffic exiting the car park.

I trust the proposed new scheme takes the need for direct access for _____ residents into account.

I look forward to your comments.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Banner
Service Manager Property & Facilities
South Kesteven District Council
Council Offices
St Peter's Hill
GRANTHAM NG31 6PZ

November 15, 2010

Dear Mrs Banner

Re. Notice of proposed car parking order for Wharf Road, Stamford – change to Short Stay Car Park

I am writing to you following the proposition detailed within the Stamford Mercury on November 5, 2010 concerning a new parking order which is proposed at the Wharf Road site with effect from January 3, 2011.

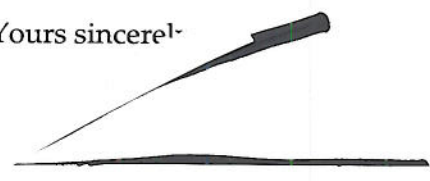
I am absolutely horrified that the council are planning to proceed with a proposal that will affect so many small businesses. I work at a small business in _____ and use a quarterly permit to park at the Wharf Road car park. I have used this car park for 7 years.

As an _____ regularly need to carry and transport very heavy files and papers and find that the Wharf Road car park is quite far enough to be carrying quantities of files. I often need to go out to clients at short notice and the extra 10/15 minute walk to the Cattle Market car park would seriously encroach on productive business time. It would also add at least 10/15 minutes to my journey time to get to the car park from home due to the usual congestion Stamford Town bridge traffic lights *(if indeed I can find a space when I get there as you will be squashing all the local permit holders into one car park!)*

I am in a serious predicament if these proposals go ahead. I can see that I may be forced to park in residential streets as even the car park in Wharf Road is often close to full if I arrive during the working day. I am sure your local council tax payers will be most impressed as I am sure I am not the only person that works in Stamford that will be forced to park outside their house. I am sure in desperation many will be forced to park illegally.

I would be very grateful if you would reconsider your course of action and let me know how you would advise me park.

Yours sincerely



14th November 2010

Dear Mrs Banner,

Wharf Road Car Park Stamford

I would like to strongly object to the proposal to change Wharf Road Car Park in Stamford to short stay. I work full time in Stamford but live in the Deepings. I usually park all day in Wharf Road Car Park, This currently costs £3 per day.

Under the proposal I would have to pay £8 a day or park in the cattle market car park, which becomes the only long stay car park in Stamford.

The problems with the cattle market car park are;

- If all the all day parking is in cattle market the traffic queues at the traffic lights near the town bridge will be worse. Traffic is already often backed up along Wharf Road often as far as St Leonards Street, even to Priory Road between 8.30 to 9.00am.
- There will be no long stay provision for cars coming into Stamford from Bourne or Deepings making the above problem much worse.
- When most all day parkers are leaving the cattle market between 5.00pm to 6.00pm the queues to get through the traffic lights and turn from Station Road over the town bridge will be worse. They are already bad.
- I often work until 7pm or 9pm, it is unsafe for a lone female to walk across the meadows to the cattle market car park. Which is also quite dark.
- There will be more all day street parking on incoming roads to Stamford.
- There will be more cars parking long term in Morrisons or Homebase car parks, causing problems for these stores.
- It will discourage visitors to the town from staying all day; No one will pay £8 to park in Stamford. Peterborough is cheaper.
- The Cattle Market car park is too far for elderly visitors to walk to the town

When Wharf Road car park was closed due to contamination a few years ago, I parked in the Cattle Market Car Park and found all the above problems.

I agree that Stamford needs more short and long stay car parking mainly on Fridays but making Wharf Road short stay is NOT the answer. I do hope that the council will reconsider.

Yours sincerely

Liz Banner
Property and Facilities Manager
SKDC
Council Offices
St Peter's Hill
Grantham
NG31 6PZ

15th November 2010

Dear Ms Banner

WHARF ROAD CAR PARK STAMFORD

I am writing to express concerns regarding the proposal to change the above car park from long stay.

I work in Stamford twice a week and alternate between Cattle Market and Wharf Road car parks. I consider there is a need for both to remain as long stay as, they are busy and the prohibitive cost of short stay car parking will put even more cars onto side streets etc. Has consideration been taken as to where and at what cost, cars will be parked when the yearly fair is in town and that living accommodation located on Cattle Market car park? I find it interesting that yet again Stamford has to pay more for parking while the towns of Bourne and Market Deeping have, as far as I am aware free parking, can you explain this anomaly to me? If the council considered the reduction of car parking fees and left Wharf Road as a long stay, it may well find that people would use the car parks rather than park on side streets and the revenue would increase. Is this something to be thought about?

In conclusion I would mention that you obviously want people to submit comments, but the article in the Stamford Mercury accidentally or deliberately, did not give the full address to write to, just your name and St Peter's Hill, Grantham. I was concerned enough to look the details up, but would other people bother? I would also suggest that a flyer to all households in Stamford could have been a method to obtain comments.

Yours sincerely

LIZ BANNER

From:
Sent: 10 November 2010 17:09
To: LIZ BANNER
Subject: Wharf Road Car park Price Increases

Dear Mrs Banner

I am writing to express my complete horror regarding the changing of Wharf Road car park in Stamford from a long stay to a short stay.

I work in Stamford and hold a permit for this car park. Whilst I appreciate that Cattle Market car park is a long stay, this is on the opposite side of town and I will not be carrying shopping from the High Street that far, Wharf Road is closer to the High Street for this purpose. Therefore this will any encourage me to shop out of town to the demise of the local shops.

SKDC are a money grabbing, short sighted organisation and I am sure funds can be raised/saved in alternative ways other than penalizing the local work force with increased parking charges.

Forget the speed humps in the town centre would be a very good starting point.

LIZ BANNER

From:
Sent: 10 November 2010 12:26
To: LIZ BANNER
Subject: Wharf Road car park charges

Dear Mrs Banner,

I was very surprised to notice that the council are proposing to significantly increase the parking charge at the Wharf Road car park. I am assuming that this is an increase in charges across all car parks? As far I can recollect, this is the second increase in a short space of time.

I do appreciate that we are in difficult economic times. Stamford has been hit significantly by the economic downturn, which has been all too evident by the vacant shops around town. Thankfully this does seem to be turning around with the introduction of new shops, even if they are major chains. I am concerned that this apparent small measure may deter people from visiting our town. Even though I live in Stamford the charges will come into the equation when deciding to whether I shop in Stamford, or Peterborough, where there are a greater selection shops. Although I may be more inclined to stay in Stamford I will no doubt be visiting less, and spending less. For people from outside Stamford I fear that the decision will be easier, and they will simply go elsewhere. At this fragile time, I am concerned that this small change could compound with other factors to reverse the apparent recovery.

My second concern is for individuals who work in Stamford. There are many jobs in Stamford that are low paid. Only a few years ago my mother in law worked in a shop in Stamford on minimum wage. The £2.50 parking charge a day from her net salary was not good. The new charge of £8 would only be hurting individuals at the bottom of the economic scale further, as they will be working 2 hours just to cover the car parking.

At this fragile time, I am concerned that this small change could compound with other factors to reverse our economic recovery. I am sure the council are under significant pressure financially, but I would hope that the potential repercussions have been evaluated based on due consideration, and evidence. This may appear a quick fix to raise revenue, but there may be problems for the town. In my experience the car park in question is generally not used to capacity. I may be wrong, but at the rates advertised the utilisation may be reduced, with the effect that your revenues are not increased greatly, but the town is economically hindered. I am sure that you will have assessed the risks. Certainly the rates are higher than I believe people will generally tolerate, and even if they come I am sure there stays will be shorter, with a resulting impact town's economy.

I hope that you can allay my concerns. I look forward to hearing your response.

Kindest Regards

LIZ BANNER

From: PLANNING POLICY
Sent: 12 October 2010 09:01
To: LIZ BANNER
Subject: FW: Wharf Road Car Park, Stamford, Lincs.

Margaret Parr
Planning Officer
Planning Policy Team
South Kesteven District Council
01476 406466

From:
Sent: 11 October 2010 11:34
To: PLANNING POLICY
Subject: Wharf Road Car Park, Stamford, Lincs.

FOR THE ATTENTION OF LIZ BANNER

I have just tried to call you but of course got voicemail which was hardly a surprise to me as it is impossible to actually speak to anybody.

I object very strongly to Wharf Road Car Park being made into a short term car park. I and many others use that car park while working in Stamford and to change this will not help anyone on that side of town. The traffic through town at 8 ish in the morning is horrendous and this would mean travelling through this to the other side of town to park. How stupid is that.

The car park is full in the morning so where you get the idea from that most people only park there for 2/3 hours is quite beyond me.

You people sit in Grantham making all these rules and regulation affecting our lovely town without having the first idea of what is actually happening. If you want to create a ghost town in Grantham go ahead but leave Stamford alone. All you seem to do is try to make it as difficult as you possibly can for businesses to prosper creating mindless and stupid rules without understanding anything about businesses in the town and the logistics of our beautiful town. Your business rates are ridiculously high and what do we get for that ?????????? nothing but hassle for employers and employees it seems to me.

Your comments and clarification would be greatly appreciated before I go to the press and let them know exactly what you intend to do this time to try and cause as much upheaval as you can in Stamford again.

It seems to me as if you are hell bent on destroying Stamford so please just stop all this nonsense immediately and leave Stamford alone.

LIZ BANNER

From:
Sent: 21 November 2010 10:34
To: LIZ BANNER
Subject: Car park Wharf Road, Stamford.

I am e-mailing you to object to the proposed changes to classification of car parking at Wharf Road, Stamford.

I think the decision to change Wharf Road to a short stay car park is very short sighted and it is obvious that the people who are proposing this change do not live, work or shop in Stamford. If this goes ahead it means that the only long stay car park will be on the other side of the river at the cattle market. When making this proposal the only thing the Council seem to have considered is the fact that two-thirds of users are short stay and the cattle market car park is under used. I think you will find that the other short stay car parks are never full at any time of day Monday through Thursday and Saturday. The only day when there is a lack of parking all round in the town is on a Friday, which is market day, and even on this day if you come into town by about 9.30 a.m. or in the afternoon a spot can usually be found.

I live at _____ and work in the _____. I use public transport to travel into town as much as possible but this is very limited especially early in the morning, i.e. to get to work and later in the day. It is non-existent after about 6 p.m. I, therefore, have no choice but to bring my car into town to get to work some days. At the moment I pay the £3 to pay in Wharf Road rather than try and find a spot on the side roads around the town centre, as many people already do as parking is expensive and already inconvenient, as the only long stay car park is at the other end of town. This situation will only be worse if everyone from my end of town plus those coming into town from Ryhall Road and Uffington Road direction will all have to cross over the town bridge to get to the only long stay car park in Stamford.

The town is already grid locked on many mornings between about 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. and again between 4 p.m. and 5.30 p.m. and it comes to a complete standstill if there are any problems on the A1. I also feel that the junction and traffic lights on the town bridge, as you turn right into Station Road to travel to the Cattle Market Car park will become even more of a problem than it is now. At the moment there is no filter arrow to turn right here, you just have to wait until the lights turn red and nip round the corner when they do. There is an accident waiting to happen here if the volume of traffic increases. At the moment by about 8.30 a.m. on a week day morning there are about 60/70 cars parked in Wharf Road. The majority of these are obviously people going to work who will be parking all day. These 60/70 cars will need to cross over the town bridge to park if the proposal goes ahead.

I feel there is also a safety issue with regard to the Cattle market car park. I work in the town until 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. on some days. I do not relish the thought of walking alone across the Meadows and to the bottom of the car park on these dark evenings. The other route to walk into town across the town bridge has no safe crossing point. I also think the location of this car park will deter people from lingering in the town. They will become "hunters", i.e. they will park in the short stay car parks and just come into town to get what they need. There will be fewer "gatherers" who will linger, browse, stay and have a coffee or meal and therefore, spend more money.

I have already decided should this proposal go ahead that I will not use the Cattle market car park. I will use the buses, park on the road, and do more of my shopping in Peterborough or Leicester and on the internet.