

Improvements in Traffic Management for Walberswick Car Parks

Over the last few summers, the Car Parks have become increasingly busy. On occasion, this has caused major traffic jams at Cliff Field, as cars are trying to enter and exit at the same time – with some users reporting that they have been unable to exit for over ten minutes. The Car Park Attendants find it very difficult to manage this situation as they are restricted to staying near the huts to collect money and look after the money already in the kitty. They also find it difficult to intervene and manage drivers who are frustrated and angry and sometimes quite aggressive.

In busy times, the Ferry Road Car Park can also have problems, with cars backed up the road, as the attendants struggle to take the money at the entrance.

All in all these delays can be particularly frustrating if you are a local resident enjoying a day at the beach and you just want to nip back home to pick something up.

To gather ideas on how to improve the traffic management, the Directors of WCPL have undertaken a review of neighbouring car parks, particularly the car park at Orford which is run by Orford Town Trust. We have also consulted traffic engineers Mervyn Lambert. As a result, for the 2017 season we are proposing to introduce the following changes.

- In the busy spring and summer months, to install two sets of traffic lights on Cliff Field, either side of the bridge, to manage the cars entering and exiting. The lights will work on motion sensors and will be activated as cars approach the bridge.
- To install solar powered pay machines in both car parks. This will give the attendants more time to manage the traffic and assist drivers by directing them to vacant spots.

Residents will still be issued with permits and be able to park for free as will any driver with a disabled parking permit.

We believe that these changes will result in smoother and safer operation of the car parks and hopefully easier and less stressful visits to the beach for local residents.

If you have any queries or concerns about these changes please send me a note at 7 Church Lane Walberswick

Kate Goodchild
Chairman
Walberswick Car Parks Ltd