

**AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET**

**Name of Committee** Nuneaton and Bedworth Area Committee

**Date of Committee** 20th September 2006

**Report Title** Proposed Event Day Residents Parking Scheme in Ash Green

**Summary** It is proposed to introduce a Residents Parking scheme to operate on days when events occur at the Ricoh Arena. Two amendments to the scheme are proposed in response to objections. It is recommended to introduce the scheme as advertised, with the amendments detailed in the report.

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**Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?** Yes/No

**Background Papers** Location Plan  
Objection Letters

**CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-** *Details to be specified*

Other Committees  .....

Local Member(s)  Councillor F McCarney – supports the proposals.  
(With brief comments, if appropriate)

Other Elected Members  .....

Cabinet Member  .....  
(Reports to The Cabinet, to be cleared with appropriate Cabinet Member)

Chief Executive  .....

Legal  I Marriott – comments incorporated.

Finance  .....

- Other Chief Officers  .....
- District Councils  Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council – no comments
- Health Authority  .....
- Police  .....
- Other Bodies/Individuals  Warwickshire Fire and Rescue, Nuneaton Ambulance Station, Automobile Association, Road Haulage Association, Freight Transport Association, Disabled Drivers Association

**FINAL DECISION**                      **YES/NO**      (*If 'No' complete Suggested Next Steps*)

**SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS :**

*Details to be specified*

- Further consideration by this Committee  .....
- To Council  .....
- To Cabinet  .....
- To an O & S Committee  .....
- To an Area Committee  .....
- Further Consultation  .....

**Nuneaton and Bedworth Area Committee -  
20th September 2006**

**Proposed Event Day Residents Parking Scheme  
in Ash Green**

**Report of the Strategic Director for  
Environment and Economy**

**Recommendation**

That the Ash Green Event Day Residents Parking Scheme be implemented as advertised, with the amendments as detailed below.

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Controlled Parking Zones are proposed in the Ash Green area of Bedworth to discourage intrusive parking when there are events at the nearby Ricoh Arena.
- 1.2 The plan in **Appendix A** shows the proposed boundaries of controlled zones AW1 and AW2.
- 1.3 There were six objections to the scheme, three of which have since been withdrawn. There was also one significant comment that would have become a formal objection if amendments to the boundary had not been made.
- 1.4 This report seeks the approval of the Committee to implement the scheme as advertised, with the amendments detailed below.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The Ricoh Arena in Coventry opened in August 2005. Events that take place include music concerts and matches of Coventry City Football Club.
- 2.2 From August 2005 temporary road closures in the Ash Green area were implemented on event days to discourage parking by visitors to the Arena. This was a temporary measure while consultation with residents on introducing a permanent parking scheme took place.
- 2.3 Informal consultation was undertaken with residents in early 2006. Letters were sent out to all properties in the Ash Green area, 47% of which responded, and 81% of responses were in favour of the scheme.

- 2.4 Coventry City Council have implemented a similar scheme near the Arena in residential areas which are generally considered to have been successful.
- 2.5 In common with the Coventry City Council scheme there are no proposals to charge for residents permits, visitor permits or other types of permits. Funding for implementing the scheme is from developer contributions.
- 2.6 Until such time as the parking enforcement in Ash Green is decriminalised, enforcement will be carried out by the Police. A contribution will be made to Warwickshire Police to ensure this takes place.

### **3. Objections**

- 3.1 The proposals were advertised in the Coventry Evening Telegraph on 3rd August 2006. Details were sent to all properties in Ash Green and a number of comments and objections have been received.

#### **3.2 Objection**

The £20 administration charge each time we change our vehicle(s) is unacceptable. If permits were registered per house rather than per vehicle this would be avoided.

#### **Comment**

Whilst it was proposed to issue the permits free of charge, it was proposed to make a charge for administration changes. In light of these comments, this proposed charge has been removed. In most permit schemes, the permits are issued for individual vehicles rather than for properties. This is consistent with County Council policy.

#### **3.3 Objection**

Parking problems have not been seen in our road (Vicarage Lane, Ash Grove) so far, including the two large music concerts which both had a very large attendances.

#### **Comment**

The majority of parking issues on event days have been in the nearest roads to the Arena. People will naturally park the shortest walking distance away. However, if a permit parking scheme were introduced in these roads only, it is likely that match day parking would be displaced into roads that may not currently experience any problems. The scheme covers an area within comfortable walking distance of the Arena.

The vehicles that are most likely to park in nearby residential areas are regular visitors to the Arena for football matches, so music concerts are unlikely to cause the same degree of problem, despite the high number of people attending.

### 3.4 **Objection**

I don't always know in advance if I will be receiving visitors. How do I deal with this? Do I have to send them away?

#### **Comment**

Residents can apply for a free book of 25 daily visitor scratchcards when they first apply for their permit. It will only be necessary to use these if their visitors need to park in the area at the same time as events. Further books of permits will be issued if required.

### 3.5 **Objection**

The scheme will force more people to concrete their front gardens for additional parking, which will have an adverse affect environmentally.

#### **Comment**

There is no evidence to suggest that controlled parking or permit schemes encourage more people to have off street parking. This scheme aims to allow residents to be able to park on street more easily without being in competition with visitors to the Arena.

### 3.6 **Objection**

The Police will not have the resources to enforce the scheme.

#### **Comment**

Arrangements will be made with Warwickshire Police to give more attention to this area during match days. In the long term, when decriminalised parking enforcement is introduced in the Nuneaton and Bedworth area, it will be possible to deploy Local Authority Parking Attendants in the area.

### 3.7 **Objection**

It will be very difficult for visitors to St Giles Church to attend certain events, especially on Saturdays. The area outside the Church should be exempted.

#### **Comment**

The boundary at the North East end of the zone has been reduced around the Church in order to allow for some parking by non residents near the Church, but still includes most frontages to residential properties.

The proposed change in boundary directly affects three residential properties. The occupiers of these properties and a further 58 occupiers in the area who may be affected by this change were notified on 23rd August and asked to respond with any comments by 8th September. One comment has been received from one of the occupiers who will now be outside the zone expressing

concern about unregulated parking taking place here by Ricoh Arena visitors. We have agreed to review the situation once the scheme is implemented.

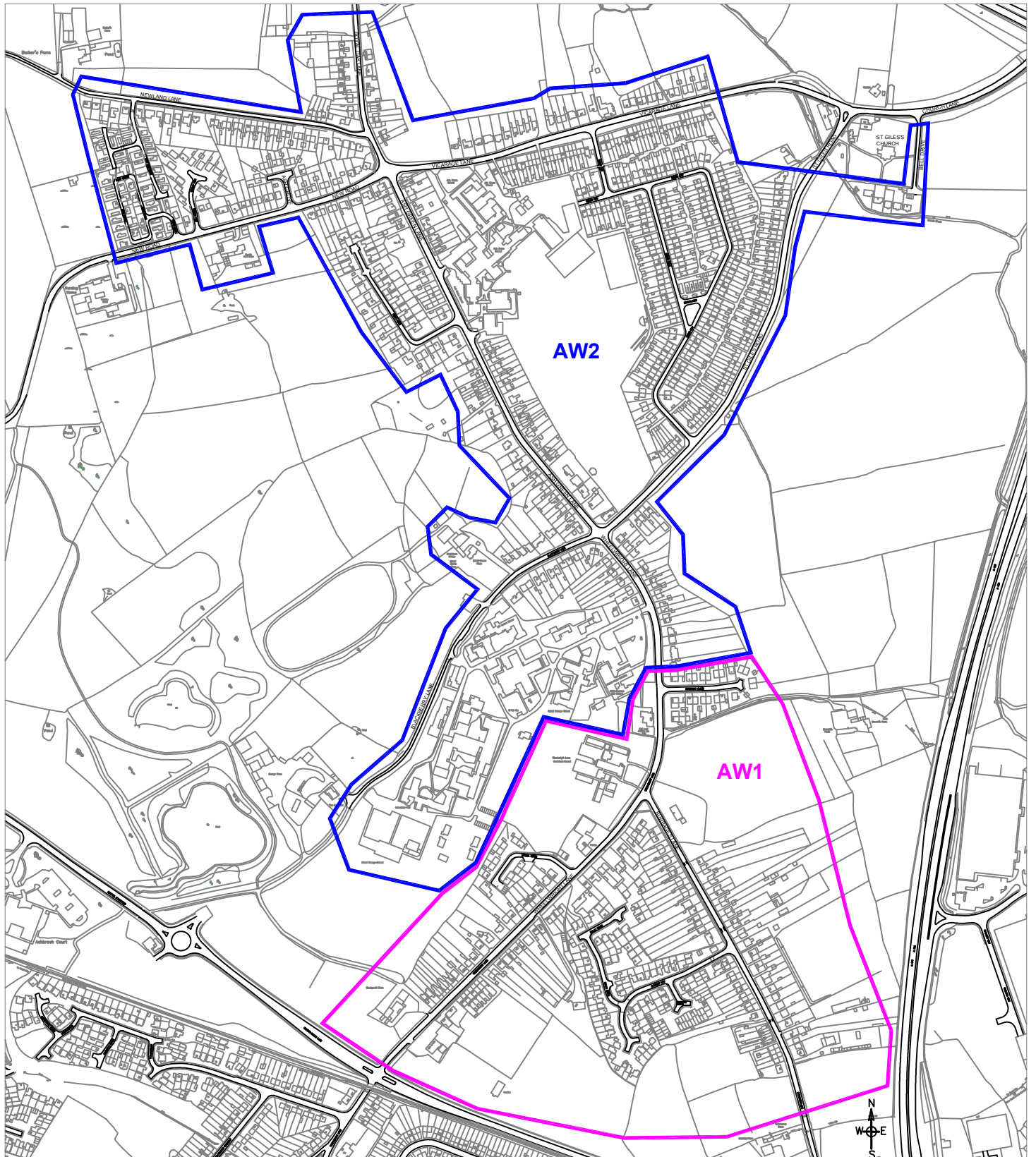
#### **4. Conclusion**

- 4.1 The proposed boundaries of the zone cover the majority of residential frontages in the Ash Green area, and in doing so minimises the possible impact on residents of parking for the Arena in the long term.
- 4.2 The informal consultation showed a large majority (of those that replied) in favour of the scheme. Most of the objections to the scheme have been resolved or clarified.
- 4.3 The two proposed amendments to the scheme are a removal of the administration charge for lost/amended permits, and a reduction in the boundary of zone AW2 near St Giles Church.

JOHN DEEGAN  
Strategic Director for Environment and Economy  
Shire Hall  
Warwick

6th September 2006

# APPENDIX A OF AGENDA NO.



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Nuneaton and Bedworth Area Committee  
20th September 2006

Drawn RE Checked SR

Proposed Event Day Residents' Parking Scheme  
Ash Green

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