

Cabinet Member for City Services

24 September 2025

**Name of Cabinet Member:**

Cabinet Member for City Services – Councillor P Hetherton

**Director Approving Submission of the report:**

Director of Regeneration and Economy

**Ward affected:**

Sherbourne

**Title:**

Petition – Community and Residential Parking Provision, Spon End

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**Is this a key decision?**

No

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**Executive Summary:**

A petition (via paper and e-petition) with 201 signatures was received requesting 'sufficient parking promised to the community and residents as part of the Spon End road widening scheme'.

The Cabinet Member had considered the petition prior to this meeting and requested that the petition was dealt with by determination letter rather than a formal report being submitted to a meeting, to be able to deal with the matter more efficiently. On receipt of the determination letter, the petition organiser requested that the issue be considered at a Cabinet Member for City Services meeting.

The determination letter advised that the Council remains committed to the commitment that it made to provide parking to replace the previous provision on Spon End. A replacement temporary parking provision on old Godiva Carpets is to be provided. The new provision is larger and has targeted access arrangements involving restricted access spaces for residents and a short stay 'pick up' area to support local businesses. It is proposed that the car park will be temporary for up to three years, and an application will be required to the Council's Planning Authority for approval. The site has potential for future development but the commitment to provide parking would remain, even if the site is developed.

**Recommendations:**

Cabinet Member for City Services is recommended to:

- 1) Note the petitioners' concerns.
- 2) Endorse the actions detailed in the determination letter to the petition organisers.

**List of Appendices included:**

Appendix A – Text of the Determination Letter

Appendix B – Copy of Street news for car park proposals

**Background Papers:**

None

**Other useful documents:**

None

**Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?**

No

**Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?**

No

**Will this report go to Council?**

No

**Report title:** Petition – Community and Residential Parking Provision, Spon End.

**1. Context (or background)**

1.1 A petition (via paper and e-petition) with 201 signatures was received requesting 'sufficient parking promised to the community and residents as part of the Spon End road widening scheme'. The petition is sponsored by Councillor J Gardiner.

1.2 The petition reads as follows:

"We the undersigned petition the Council to urgently provide sufficient parking promised to the community and residents as part of the Spon End Road widening scheme that was completed nearly two years ago. Previous on-street parking outside residential properties and shops on Spon End was taken away to allow for the widening of Spon End as part of the air quality works the Council undertook. These plans included provision of replacement car parking on the site of Godiva Carpets, Unit 5, Arches Industrial Estate, CV1 3JQ which has not materialised. It's lack is now causing extreme pressure in the area and a major nuisance to the functioning of the community including shops, businesses and Bethel Church".

1.3 In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those relating to parking and road safety are heard by the Cabinet Member for City Services. The Cabinet Member had considered the petition prior to this meeting and requested that the petition was dealt with by determination letter. On receipt of the determination letter, the petition organiser requested that the issue be considered at a Cabinet Member for City Services meeting.

1.4 The recently completed demolition of Godiva Carpets has created the space required for the parking provision committed to as part of the Spon End Air Quality scheme. That scheme displaced approximately 10 spaces on the carriageway. Those spaces were time restricted during the day, to encourage short term usage associated with the businesses in that area, and unrestricted after business hours.

1.5 A commitment was made to provide a replacement parking facility (envisaged to be on the Godiva Carpets site) during the engagement process with business owners and residents. In the interim, spaces for residents were facilitated in the Coventry Rugby Club Car Park nearby until the site became available.

1.6 Since completion of the Spon End Air Quality project, takeaway and delivery activities associated with the food outlets in that area increased, therefore, the proposed car park now also includes a pick-up and drop off facility.

1.7 The car park will be split with a fence and gate to provide a private 10 space car park for the affected residents. Access will be via a locked gate that only residents will have access. Outside the gates the facility will include five freely accessible, short term drop off and pick up spaces.

1.8 Appropriate signage will indicate the expected usage for the two areas.

1.9 The pick-up and drop off area is small and short term – should there be a delivery or collection drivers need such a facility the usual dispensation to park on restricted parking areas on the carriageway remains immediately outside the businesses.

## **2. Options considered and recommended proposal**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the proposed 15 space car park is constructed in accordance with the commitment made together with the addition of a short term 'pick up and drop off' facility.

## **3. Results of consultation undertaken**

- 3.1 No formal consultation has been undertaken as part of the car park proposals. Engagement in the form of a Street news has been delivered to residents and businesses, see Appendix B, and consultation was undertaken on the Spon End Air Quality scheme
- 3.2 A planning application has been submitted for the car park proposals.

## **4. Timetable for implementing this decision**

- 4.1 The necessary planning application has been submitted, subject to approval construction will commence in October 2025.

## **5. Comments from the Director of Finance and Resources and the Director of Law and Governance**

### **5.1 Financial implications**

Coupled with some items of work associated with the demolition works the cost of the car park proposal is anticipated to be £70k. The car park proposals will be fully funded from the remaining Air Quality grant. In the unlikely event of costs exceeding the grant available, additional funding will be provided by the Transportation and Highways Service area budget.

### **5.2 Legal implications**

There are no legal implications.

## **6. Other implications**

### **6.1 How will this contribute to the One Coventry Plan?**

(<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/one-coventry-plan>)

The agreed actions will contribute to the priorities of the One Coventry Plan completing a previously made commitment and reducing antisocial and or dangerous parking.

### **6.2 How is risk being managed?**

There are no significant risks associated with the proposal.

### **6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?**

None

**6.4 Equalities / EIA?**

None

**6.5 Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment?**

The agreed actions will contribute to an improvement in road safety because the car park is completely off road with direct access to the carriageway for straightforward access and egress.

**6.6 Implications for partner organisations?**

None.

## Report author

### Name and job title:

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### Directorate:

Regeneration and Economy

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<b>Names of approvers: (officers and members)</b>				
Tina Pinks	Finance Manager	Finance	05/09/2025	12/09/2025
Rob Parkes	Team Leader, Legal Services	Law and Governance	26/08/2025	27/08/2025
Councillor P Hetherton	Cabinet Member for City Services	-	15/09/2025	16/09/2025
Andy Williams	Director of Regeneration and Economy		09/09/2025	15/09/2025
Julie Fairbrother	Communications Lead		05/09/2025	05/09/2025

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## **Appendix A – Text of Determination Letter**

I am writing with regard to the above petition(s) and your request for the Council to consider the proposed changes explained in the above subject matter.

The matter was discussed with Councillor Hetherton, Cabinet Member for City Services, who has requested that this be dealt with by way of letter rather than a formal report being submitted to a future meeting, so that it can be dealt with more quickly.

The Council can confirm that it remains committed to the commitment that it made to provide parking to replace the previous provision on Spon End. That provision included time restricted spaces for day-time use and no restrictions in the evenings.

A temporary parking provision on the now cleared Council owned site nearby will provide a similar provision (albeit in a different format due to restrictions in relation to enforcement) until a permanent use for the site is established.

I would be grateful if you could please confirm in writing, either by email or letter, that you agree that the petition be progressed by way of this letter. If you do not agree, a report responding to your petition will be prepared for consideration at a future Cabinet Member meeting. You will be invited to attend this meeting where you will have the opportunity to speak on behalf of the petitioners. If no response is received within four weeks of the date of this letter, we will record this as your acceptance of the determination letter and the petition will be closed.

## **Appendix B – Copy of the Street News for Car Park Proposals**

July 2025

Dear occupier

The demolition of the former Godiva Carpets site is now complete, and we will soon be submitting a planning application to provide parking to replace the parking previously available. We are also aware of more recent issues caused by 'pick up and drop off' drivers.

We plan to allocate a proportion of the site for parking, and this will be split into two areas - shown on the plan on the back of this letter:

- a gated and locked (using a padlock with a code) area for ten vehicles. This will only be accessible to residents and businesses currently allocated a space at the Rugby Club
- a section immediately inside the existing gate which will be for 'drop off and pick up' drivers

Notices will be displayed to indicate who can park or pick up. We will monitor usage and if need be we will lock the main gates to discourage people from parking in the drop off / pick up zone for longer periods of time.

Residents will have access to the car park at all times.

If planning permission is granted, we will quickly start work to provide the parking.

If you have any questions, please contact John Paterson:

email – [transportprojects@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:transportprojects@coventry.gov.uk) tel – 024 7697 1967



Plan to show parking locations

