ANGUS COUNCIL (OFF-STREET CAR PARKS) (DECRIMINALISED ENFORCEMENT) (VARIATION) (No. 2) ORDER 201X

REPRESENTATIONS
Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to you with regard to your proposals to introduce parking charges in Kirriemuir.

I am an occasional visitor (up to 6 times a month) to Kirriemuir, both for work and as a visitor.

I am writing to you to object to this proposal on several grounds.

1. The Car Park I use, on Bellies Brae, could rarely be called busy, I doubt I have seen the car park more than one third full in the last 5 years.
   I cannot imagine what economic benefit to the council will be when the cost of parking meters and the associated costs of monitoring payments are taken into account.

2. The effect on Kirriemuir - the introduction of charges will undoubtedly have a negative impact on visitors to the town.

3. The effect on business - Kirriemuir, like a lot of small towns, is currently seeing retailers struggle and the addition of any deterrents to visitor numbers could have a significantly negative effect - surely not what Angus Council want.

4. On street parking - As I have stated before, the car park is lightly used and I would guess a significant number of users will seek on street parking, most likely in more residential areas. I would imagine that local residents would not be happy about this either.

I am amazed that Angus Council could take such a short-sighted view on parking in small towns, such as Kirriemuir. In my opinion there is absolutely no justification for such charges.

Yours sincerely
From: [Redacted]
Sent: 06 August 2018 12:49
To: ROADS
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Car parking charges Objection

Hello

I am emailing to object to the proposed car parking charges within Angus. I work full time in Forfar 08:30am – 17:30 Monday to Friday for Turning Point Scotland and this will have an enormous detrimental affect on my income.

Having to pay £4 per day to park 5 days a week, 48 weeks a year will cost me £960 annually which is not affordable.

What is Angus council proposing for the employees of Angus who have no alternative but to park in the car parks? Will we see an alternative tariff for employees if they can prove their working contracts? Or will businesses be provided with car parking annual passes to provide to employees at a set cost?

This will not only affect me but all other employees of the company who support several people in one day within the Angus region, thus using numerous car parks and the cost multiplying daily. What is Angus council proposing for those who work in the community? Are there plans to ensure that all community workers to have some kind of car parking pass to allow them to do there job and park for the half hour or 2 hours whilst supporting people in their own homes?

Place of employment
Turning Point Scotland
74 Castle Street
Forfar
DD8 3AB

I look forward to hearing from you

Kind Regards
Service: Parking tickets and enforcement

Request Type: Enquiries & Requests - Roads Traffic  
Source: Web Site

Responsible: Roads - Traffic  
Office: ACCESSLine

Request Cat: Service Request

Service Request Details

Originally received via website FS-Case-83032786 and sent to Comm Safety who have requested this is also sent to Roads - I THINK THIS DESERVES AN ANSWER!!!

Angus Council, you are penalising town centre residents who have zero alternative options when it comes to safely parking their vehicles, and as one of those town centre residents, I pretty much feel I am being held to ransom. I am REALLY interested to learn more about your scoping exercise when coming up with the £260 price tag. A quick Google search on my lunch break reveals: Aberdeen City Council - max £170 (and that is for 2 permits per household) Dundee City Council - Â£62 (estimated) Fife Council - max £100 (St Andrews & Dunfermline only) Glasgow City Council - £50-150, with City Centre permits between £135-285) Borough of Westminster - £135.

SERIOUSLY?!?!???? The demand for parking in Angus is nowhere near the level of demand in large city centres, yet your proposed permit charges are frankly unjustified. Have some decency. Think again. Quickly.
My wife and I would object to these proposals for the parking charges, as other car occupants will now start parking up our street in Newmonthill, which is bad enough as it is with cars that belong to the volunteer group at the bottom of Coutties Wynd, park in that car park (bottom of Newmonthill / St James Rd) as well as up our street. The car parks up Newmonthill, towards the cemetery was originally made for the occupants of Newmonthill only as a sign at the car park states. Therefore bringing these parking charges back will make matters worse for people that stay up Newmonthill especially after a day’s work. Also if we were to purchase a permit do you get a designated space at my car park at the above stated or is it first come first served, meaning if there’s no spaces left, try to find a space somewhere away from my home. Others councils I know of give out permits for their residents which are free of charge, plus there is not efficient parking up our street as it is.

Parking spaces in front of my property get used by others as well as residents so how do you control this.

Yours sincerely
I understand the need for charges in Angus car parks. I require my car to get me to work as I suffer from tendinitis in my legs. Working as a sales assistant my wages are not massive and £260 will take a good percentage out of them. I would appreciate if Angus Council could review the cost of a yearly permit.
Dear Sirs

Please can I lodge an objection to the proposed car parking charges in Forfar. My home address is [redacted] for your records.

I work full time in Aberdeen and commute from Douglastown just outside Forfar. Its actually easier for me to pick up various bits of shopping in Aberdeen city centre during my lunchtime. However as I like to support my local community I’m in the habit of going into Forfar on a Saturday morning to visit the library, butchers, chemist, bakers etc in the High St and surrounds. If I am going to have to pay for parking including the inconvenience of finding coins, apps and planning in advance how long I am going to be then quite frankly I won’t bother - with the obvious knock on effects for local businesses. If you want to send a message that “shoppers are not welcome in Forfar’” then this is a sure way to go about it.

Please can you acknowledge that you have received my comments.

Many thanks
Dear Sir/Madam

I write to vent my objection to the implementation of car parking charges at Leonard Street Car Park. I use this car park regularly and if I have to put money in the meter to shop in the butchers or the chemist I will no longer use these shops. You have already stopped parking outside these shops and so have given me no option but to use the car park. At least give half an hour free parking so we can use these shops without having to pay parking.
Original Message-----
From: [Redacted]
Sent: 14 August 2018 12:49
To: ROADS
Subject: Objection to Parking Charges Leonard Street

Dear Sir/Madam

I write to object to the introduction of parking charges in the car park at Leonard Street. I am a local business owner and as the main road in front of my premises is so busy and there is no off road parking directly in front of my shop, my customers depend on the car park. They rarely spend a long period of time in my shop and feel it would be detrimental, not only to my business, but other small businesses along Fisheracre. Where are my staff to park? Money is tight for everyone and to add parking charges to their outgoings is unfair. If these charges are to go ahead I feel it would be fair to give the public the first half hour free to bring it in line with off street parking in the High Street, Keptie street and the West Port to name a few.

In an ideal world these charges should not be implemented. The impact on my business will be huge. People will not use small independent businesses if they have to put £1 in the meter to park for 10 mins. They will just use the supermarket where there is no charges.

I hope you take my opinions into consideration.
Dear Sir/Madam

I object to the planned charging at Leonard Street car park. It is unnecessary and unfair for those who work, live and shop in the vicinity.
From:  
Sent: 14 August 2018 19:33  
To: ROADS  
Subject: Car parking charges in Leonard Street, Arbroath

I wish to oppose the introduction of charges in the above car park. As a frequent user of shops in fisheracre, the introduction of these charges will be detrimental to this local shopping area, mainly small businesses owned and operated by local people. It will also lead to people parking in the already congested Leonard Street to avoid parking charges. Angus Council seems intent on strangling local businesses to the point that shoppers will be forced to go elsewhere. Will these charges also be levied at the numerous campervans which park overnight at the Inchcape Park????
From: 
Sent: 16 August 2018 07:46 
To: ROADS  
Subject: parking charges, leonard street.

I am disappointed to learn that you are considering the introduction of parking charges in the leonard street car park.

We often park there while using the local shops, we feel it would be detrimental to the local businesses there. There are currently no parking charges in the centre of town and people have the opportunity to use the non-council car park there free of charge,

car parking charges in leonard street would only exacerbate the already clogged montrose road and surrounding streets, and make an unfair disadvantage to the local traders there.

kind regards
Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to register my opposition to parking fees being levied at the car park in Leonard St in Arbroath. The local businesses there depend on people being able to park there. It is already a congested area in Fisheracre so surely having cars park in the car park is preferable to the streets being awash with cars chancing stopping for a few minutes to pick up meat from the butchers or a prescription from the chemist. Why not allow 30 mins free parking so people can still go about their business if there sadly has to be a charge at all. We must at all costs support our local community - too many businesses have already closed, much to the detriment of the High St. Decisions like this impact massively on the business community who work hard to offer quality services and employ local people. I sincerely hope that views such as mine are taken on board.

Yours respectfully
I write to vent my objection to the proposed parking charges in the Leonard street car park. There are many small businesses in the area that depend on customers being able to park and feel that charging would just drive them to the supermarkets. It is also unfair for the staff who work in these small businesses to have to pay to park while working also the local people who live there who have nowhere else to park.
I write to you to object to the proposed parking charges for the Leonard street car park. As I work on Fisheracre I would have to pay everyday to park my car not to mention the effect it will have on customers visiting all shops in the area. It is a ridiculous idea and one I hope does not happen.

Thanks.
I write this to voice my objection to the proposed parking in the small car park off Leonard street. There are so many small businesses in the Fisheracre area in which that depend on customers being able to park. I feel charging them to park will drive them to supermarkets.

Many thanks.
To whom it may concern,

I write to vent my objection to the proposed parking charges in the Leonard street car park. There are small businesses in the area that depend on customers being able to park there to go to the small businesses to shop.

I feel that charging would just drive them to the supermarkets. Also the workers from the small businesses that have to use a car every day to get to work, it will cost them a small fortune on a weekly basis just to get to their work.

Thanks
From:  
Sent: 16 August 2018 20:51  
To: ROADS  
Subject: parking charges  

I wish to disagree with parking charges at leonard st car park
I feel that the council is being very short sighted introducing parking charges in Forfar and the other Angus small towns. I make a 25 mile round trip to shop in Forfar each week when I could just as well go to Dundee or Perth. The great attraction of shopping in Forfar is that I can relax and shop without the stress of having to keep my eye on the time. It is very stressful to find yourself in a big checkout queue just as the time on your parking ticket is running out.

The shops in these small towns will suffer badly if parking charges are introduced and shoppers desert them for the big cities, the high streets will decline and businesses will close.

I understand that the council is short of money. Will the parking revenue not be eaten up with the cost of installing the necessary infrastructure, replacing signage and the employment of traffic wardens to monitor the parking?

Consequently I object to the plan to introduce parking charges in Forfar and the other small Angus towns for the reasons stated above.

This address is in Angus despite the Perthshire post code.
Dear Sir or Madam

I would like to formally object to the introduction of parking charges in the Leonard Street Car Park in Arbroath. Although I do not live in the area I travel very frequently to the car park as I use the butcher shop at Fisheracre due to it’s quality. If parking charges were introduced in this car park I would rather park my car illegally on the single yellow line outside the shops at Fisheracre and use up the grace period currently allowed to me by Angus Council, rather than pay for parking for such a short stop. I feel a large number of others will do the same. The congestion this will cause will be a major issue plus the fact that local residents who have nowhere else to park but in the car park, will clog already full nearby streets. I hope that common sense and thoughts of traffic flow override any money making aspirations.

Regards
-----Original Message-----
From: 
Sent: 17 August 2018 23:57
To: ROADS
Subject: Re: Leonard Street Parking charges

I wish to submit my objection to the proposed introduction of charging for parking in Leonard Street Car Park.

I am currently employed by DH Robertson’s Butcher and I am concerned that these charges will have an impact on our customers and the business in general. Many people may decide it’s not worth paying to park there and take their business to the larger supermarkets, where parking is free, instead. If this is the case, it will affect business and subsequently cause job losses - mine included. There’s also the matter of staff having to pay to park there while they work, we have members of staff who stay out of town and have no option but to drive to work because there isn’t any suitable public transport available before their 7am start time.

There is also a new housing development being constructed in Smithy Croft: and this has already caused congestion with parking in the nearby streets. If parking charges are reintroduced, my fear is that cars will be parked all around the nearby streets with the possibility of accidents being caused because of inconsiderate parking and limited visibility for pedestrians to see oncoming traffic. This will also have an impact on local residents who may also be frustrated at not being able to park their cars outside their houses.

I implore you to reconsider your decision and the affect this will have on the local residents and businesses.

Regards
Dear Sir / Madam,

With reference to the proposal announced regarding the introduction of car parking charges at Park Avenue Carnoustie I hereby wish to formally object to this proposal.

My name is [Redacted]

Address: [Redacted]

As I live on the High Street in Carnoustie without car parking available at my house, I have to utilise the off street parking at Park Avenue. Being retired the introduction of the proposed charge for parking will cause me financial hardship. I also believe that introducing this car parking charge will also reflect on the value of my house when/If I come to sell.

This car park in question is also used daily by a number of people who work in the shops and offices in the High Street. What I think will happen is that many current users will try and locate parking in some of the streets such as Queen Street, Phillip Street, Terrace Road, Collier Street etc. These are within a hundred yards or so of the High Street but others parking there will cause possible congestion and friction with residents of these streets. In fact I may consider parking outside houses on these streets myself to save paying the proposed car parking charge.

Can I suggest that if this proposal is introduced that residents within a certain catchment area of this car park are provided with a free of charge permit.

Many thanks, regards
Hello

I am writing to express my objection to the proposed car park charges referred to in the above order.

I cannot see the advantage of penalising businesses and shoppers in this way, and I cannot see any justification for doing so. It appears to be far too restrictive for shoppers/visitors to the Angus towns, as much of the appeal of these towns is the freedom to browse for as long as one wishes, and to sample what the towns have to offer. By forcing shoppers to commit to how long they think they may need is ridiculous, and will have a detrimental effect on all the shops and businesses, as people will just stop coming. If you think that introducing parking charges will have any benefits to the businesses or visitors to the towns, you are very much mistaken. If you are trying to kill off the High Street, however, then you are going the right way about it!

In this current harsh economic climate, when other towns across Scotland, Wales and England are scrapping car park charges, the fact that you want to introduce them seems absolutely insane.

After vandals destroyed the pay and display machines in Cardigan, Wales, booming sales at shops were reported. The article in their local paper stated "We are finding people are staying longer in town and spending more money. They tell me they feel more relaxed not having to worry about getting back to their cars before the tickets expire."

Angus Council, please take note before it is too late!
Hi,

My name is [REDACTED] and I live at [REDACTED].

I am objecting to the proposed charges for parking in the car park on West High Street. I have a 3 year old and a 3 month old and if I can’t park in that car park the next close reliable place I can get a space is Laurel Bank. Which is up many stairs.

Or if you are going to charge is it possible to get a permit without it costing £200 per year?

Thanks
TRYING TO WORK OUT IF IN THE FUTURE I WILL HAVE TO PAY FOR SHORT STAY CAR PARK IN
MARKET STREET BRECHIN

NOTICE ON LAMP POST TOO LOW TO READ COULD NOT MOVE IT UP

ONLY GO UP INTO CAR PARK FOR ABOUT 10 MINUTES ONCE A WEEK TO FOR BUTCHER MEAT

HIGH ST BIT TOO STEEP FOR ME NOWADAYS SO £1 WOULD BE TOO MUCH ONTO MY BILL AND SO
I JUST WOULD NOT GO ANYMORE

WEB SITE DOES NOT MENTION CARS SO DOES THAT MEAN NO CHARGE
Hello

I wish to object to the above and hope that the council will reconsider the possible consequences of this action to all the businesses and local people concerned.

Surely, in this precarious economic climate, the council should be considering better options as to encourage people in to the towns of Angus, not putting them off even further.

Obviously the council are attempting to generate more income but I feel this option is very short-sighted and the council are not looking to the future. If our high streets die due to the decreasing footfall, then what was the point of introducing charges in the first place? When businesses close we will not get them back.

If charging means better maintained car parks then people may not object, but then the council will need to spend the money on this which, I am sure, is not what the council wants to do.

A small charge of £1 for up to 3 hours and then £2 for 4 hours and above may have seemed reasonable, but having an hourly charge will only put people off as I, and I am sure many others, will not want to guess how much time they need. If I underestimate I would not go back to the car to put

I know many people who come to the Angus towns because of the free parking as they can relax and enjoy their time browsing etc. without the need to keep clock watching. I do not go to Dundee due to the high prices charged in the car parks so I hope I do not have to resort to the internet full time!!!

Let’s hope the council will listen to what the local people want.
Dear Sir/Madam,

I hereby give you notice of my objection to the proposed order detailed in the subject above.

I live in Arbroath, at [redacted] and work at Strathmore water in Forfar. The area in which I live, is already congested with cars. Thus car parking for the residents in Bank Street and the surrounding streets off of the West Port is already at crisis point, due to either Angus Council parking restrictions and the volume of vehicles.

Residents of Bridge Street Arbroath are restricted to 30 minutes with no return within 30 minutes at their own front doors, so I presume they have to use the Millgate car park. Albeit that parking at your own front door is not a statutory right, however I think it would be reasonably acceptable to expect that you could park your own car in the street that you reside in as you go about your daily business.

The congested parking is caused by very limited space for vehicle parking for its residents, due to the nature of the streets housing and number of car owners. This is further impacted by retail owners, their customers and their employees who travel in from out of town, whilst they are at work all day, parking in these said small streets. Adding to this, are the daily commuters who also leave their vehicles due to insufficient parking at Arbroath Train and Bus Stations for weeks at a time. The Car park at Millgate Arbroath is mainly full daily as are most car parks in Arbroath which would suggest there is insufficient provision for car parking.

Imposing charges to use off street parking will force some to park elsewhere and are likely to choose the already congested local residential streets, either out of objection to paying or through hardship on their limited personal budget. Resulting in the local residents, who are already frustrated with the on street parking situation, feeling further enraged to a point of conflict already an occurrence with some residents involving the police.

As a resident I do not need the added expense or want to buy an off street parking permit in the event I can not park on my street. I use Millgate car park when I can not park in Bank Street and would suggest that the Millgate car park is a much needed residential requirement, as will other car parks be of service to others.

Presently, I work a shift pattern of two weeks days and two weeks nights as an HGV driver working long hours. Public transport does not fit my working hours, so I have no other option other than to use my car, given the distance to travel to work. Once at work I do make use of the public car park for the duration of my shift. I am not in a position to pay the daily charge and will find myself seeking elsewhere to park in Forfar and will no doubt frustrate those local residents close to where I work.
In summary, I think the blanket approach of off street car parking charges are detrimental to local residents and businesses. I would therefore encourage Angus Council to re-think the plans to introduce off street parking charges and would support the introduction of additional parking areas (like the old coal yard in Arbroath) for the good of residents, commuters and local businesses.

Yours Sincerely
From: 
Sent: 23 August 2018 14:32 
To: ROADS
Subject: Parking charge introduction

OBJECTION TO PARKING CHARGE INTRODUCTION AT VARIOUS SITES IN KIRRIEMUIR.

The Officers and Committee of Kirriemuir And Local Business Association, (KALBA ) on behalf of its members and the wider community, are writing to you to protest at the reintroduction of charges for on and off street parking in Kirriemuir.

Kirriemuir businesses have not recovered from the regeneration of the town centre, when we experienced scaffolding covering shops and other business premises, parking places blocked by builders vans all day, road closures and constant building works during the past 5 years. The town looks great and we are very proud of it. However we need people to want to live, work and visit for it to survive and thrive. Business in Kirriemuir is adversely affected by Council policies such as numerous rubbish bins on the street making access difficult, reduced opening hours of the recycling centre, increased rates and unnecessary road closures. We understand maintenance works are necessary, but we feel that it is unacceptable to close a town centre road while there is no work force actually in action. We experienced this at the start of the Easter holidays. When a telephone call was made to the Council we were assured that the road would be opened for the weekend. It was not. Local business was yet again badly affected with less visitors and customers than usual, coming to the town. We need Angus Council to listen to the business community who know how the local economy works and what is required to develop our town.

As previously stated Kirriemuir’s economy is under extreme pressure with businesses closing down due to a lack of foot fall and a general decline in high street shopping, with more people shopping and paying for services, such as banking for example, on the Internet. There are several research reports available regarding the effects on town centres and Kirriemuir is only a small town, so if we acknowledge that the issues reported in larger towns are similar, then the smaller ones have no chance of thriving.

A report by Christopher Hope, Senior political correspondent written in 2013 says that, “research found that smaller town centres were charging more to park than larger retail locations where more people visited, which in turn meant that fewer people were going shopping.”

The Association of Town & City Management and the British Parking Association surveyed off-street parking tariffs in 90 towns and cities across the UK based on footfall, spend and centre quality.
The report - ‘Re-think! Parking on the High Street’ - found that “some mid-sized and smaller town centres may be overcharging for car parking in relation to the amenities on offer and suggests that this is contributing to their decline”.

Shopping streets which were visited by between 200,000 and 250,000 people a week were charging an average of £2.57 to park there, 18 per cent more than larger and more popular retail locations. The smallest centres attracting fewer than 70,000 people a week were charging more for parking on average than those locations attracting up to 199,999 people a week. Part of the problem was councils using higher parking charges to stop people driving into the middle of towns on streets which pre-dated cars and common car ownership. This had a knock-on effect because fewer people were visiting the shops, forcing some outlets to close.

Ojay McDonald, policy manager at the Association of Town & City Management, said: “Ultimately, local government must begin to view health of the local business community as the health of their own organisation and implement policies that support local businesses.

“There are concerns that fees are being introduced in areas where congestion is not an issue, or being raised to levels which stifle local trade. “Concerns also surround the diversion of funds away from car parks, not allowing for the necessary reinvestment to take place.”

He added: “Confusion has been problematic for policy-makers at numerous levels. The problem is most acute for local authorities who have to balance the sometimes conflicting needs of multiple stakeholders and develop accessibility and transport strategies, choosing between sometimes conflicting objectives.”

MPs welcomed the report. Marcus Jones MP, chairman of the Town Centres Parliamentary Group, said: “Parking has become a very emotive topic for many people. The high street is fragile and accessibility has become a vital issue. “Clarity and guidance for councils, private car park owners, consumers and traders is critical if we are to increase the attraction of town centres.

“I see this report as an important step in providing evidence that will ultimately support town centre regeneration.”

Last month law firm Begbies Traynor, which specialises in corporate recovery, said that 2013 will see a rising number of high street shops facing an uncertain future, with “critical” financial issues now facing 140 retailers.

Book retailers, off licences and independent chemists were facing particular pressure, Julie Palmer, a partner at the law firm, said. She added that “thousands of smaller and specialist retailers struggling to stay afloat in today’s Austerity Britain”.

Although this report was produced in 2013 there is little evidence that shopping trends have since changed, and indeed The Scotsman reported recently that research carried out for accountancy giant PWC, identified that during 2017, 290 High Street stores closed in Scotland, equating to 5.5 shops every week. If Angus Council bring in these parking charge policies, then it has the potential to kill our town centre by deterring shoppers and visitors from using local services. If parking charges are implemented people are going to avoid stopping in the town and head to a place with a supermarket or shopping centre with free
parking. Kirriemuir, as a small rural town does not have the same geography / demographics as a larger town. Many people come into the town from the Glens and surrounding very rural areas. Most are not on bus routes and have no option but to bring their cars. These people depend on the services available to them in the town, which is vital for healthcare and provisions. People frequently need to access several places during one visit such as the chemist to pick up prescriptions, attend hairdressers or stop for coffee or lunch in our coffee shops, pay bills and attend social activities. Charging for parking will stop them doing this and we do not agree that this is an acceptable way of generating revenue for the Council, and in fact will prove detrimental to the local economy. We believe that the decision of the Council is based on research which is incomplete and biased and we feel that a stand alone assessment at the very least, is essential to obtain a fair and true account of the impact on our town. Angus Councils meeting report from February 2017 says the decision to implement parking charges was based upon 'general' information from RAC and other bodies. We question how relevant this is to Scotland let alone Angus, and in particular Kirriemuir?

We are appealing to the council to think again and put a stop to the whole parking charge scheme. Angus Council say they want to work with the local business community and if this is true we invite representatives to attend a meeting with our members and engage with us directly on this matter.

Yours Sincerely

Chairperson
Kirriemuir And Local Business Association
(KALBA)
To whom it may concern,

I am raising an objection to the proposed parking charges.

Myself, [REDACTED] and my partner, [REDACTED] reside at [REDACTED] and are a 2 car household within the Glengate Car park.

I am objecting on the terms:

A season ticket pass, of £260 per year, is not even a guarantee that there would be a space available to park.

The season pass proposed is only car park specific - so if there are no spaces available, outside our own front door, we will need to pay to park in one of the other 2 car parks in Kirriemuir.

We have one space outside our house that belongs to our property but due to the pass being license plate specific we would need to invest in 2 permits due to our shift patterns. Again, with absolutely no guarantee of a space.

I hope that Angus Council reconsiders the enforcement of these parking charges.

Many thanks,