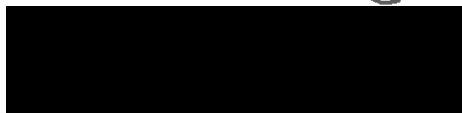




Dear Sir/madam,

I object to the order for disabled Persons parking bays in both East Abbey St and Clova Ave Arbroath, both these streets I use a lot and both already have very limited parking spots for most of the day, many of these so called "disabled" bays lay empty for long periods and appear to be more about private parking rather than real disability, its not fair when tax paying residents cant get parked after a long day at work when disabled bay remain empty, this whole blue badge system is corrupt to the core and something needs to be done about it, I dont have a problem with genuine disabled people who need a spot, but the road needs to be suitable first.

yours Sincerely



CH/DAM/GK

14 February 2019



CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Margo Williamson

Dear [REDACTED]

**ANGUS COUNCIL (DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACES) (STREET PARKING PLACES)
(DECriminalISED ENFORCEMENT) (No. 2) ORDER 201X**

I refer to your letter dated 10 February 2019 in which you raise an objection to the above Order.

Under the terms of the Disabled Person Parking Places Act 2009 it is the duty of local authorities to promote the proper use of parking places in its area that are provided for use only by disabled persons' vehicles.

Prior to the above Act all disabled persons' parking places were advisory only and were unenforceable. Local authorities may no longer provide advisory bays but must now undertake the statutory process to promote an Order to make disabled persons' parking places enforceable.

Anyone who is the holder a disabled person's badge (Blue Badge) is eligible to apply to the Council for the provision of a disabled persons' parking place which provides convenient access to the address of the person holding the Blue Badge.

If a suitable parking place can be identified then the local authority may provide a 'temporary' disabled persons' parking place which is unenforceable pending the completion of the statutory process to promote an Order to make disabled persons' parking places enforceable.

The disabled persons' parking places in East Abbey Street and Clova Avenue, Arbroath to which you have objected are currently at that stage.

The residents for whom these bays have been provided have met the necessary disability requirements to qualify for a Blue Badge. As such the Council is obliged to provide an on-street disabled persons' parking place in instances where the applicant has no alternative parking provision such as a private driveway.

[REDACTED]
14 February 2019

The disabled persons' parking places in East Abbey Street and Clova Avenue to which you object are the only such parking places in those streets and as such I do not consider that the provision in these streets could be considered to be excessive. In fact, in terms of the Order, the actual practice and custom with respect to parking in these streets will not change to any material extent as the bays have been on the ground for some time now and no additional bays are proposed at this time.

There is no evidence of significant abuse of these disabled persons parking places and in terms of disabled persons' parking places, generally, the Council continues to monitor them and where we are made aware that they are no longer required, for whatever reason, arrangements are made for them to be removed in order to maximise on street parking space for other residents and road users.

As you will appreciate the provision of a disabled persons' parking place in a street or location where kerbside parking is at a premium may be vitally important for a disabled Blue Badge holder who may be unable to walk any significant distance.

I hope the above clarifies the situation and on that basis I would be obliged if you would advise me if you wish me to continue to consider your representation as an objection to the current draft Order or that you are willing to withdraw your objection.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Craig Hudson
Traffic & Transport Manager

Email from objector dated 24/2/19

Dear Craig,

Thanks for you letter dated 14 February 2019 in response to my objections to the disabled bays in Clova Ave and East Abbey street Arbroath, yes I appreciate all the rules and regulations that the council has to follow and I'm sure the council works for the best interests of the people who qualify for a blue badge and perhaps a disabled persons parking place.

But lets step into the real world for a moment, I would say that there is a huge proportion of blue badge holders who's alleged disabilities are self inflicted through life style choice, I think it is wrong that such people should be rewarded for their actions when the rest of society, who make an effort regarding their health, have to pay for it.

The spot in Clova Ave is [REDACTED], so no surprises there then, the spot in East Abby Street is less straight forward, I park there every day and I have never seen anyone who even looks remotely disabled coming or going from that spot, in fact most of the time that spot is empty, when it is used, its is usually a [REDACTED] that parks there, surprise surprise again! so again the majority of other residents lose at least a car and a half of parking space to a spot that at the very least is used for the convenience of having a private...ish spot for one's nice new car or at worse, yet another case of a perhaps self inflicted mystical disability by someone who has yet to be seen by the general public!

But the best one's are by far located in Dishlandtown street, the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I'm sure what I've mentioned in my email is only the tip of the iceberg regarding blue badge and parking spot abuse in Angus and beyond and I'm sure you can see why myself and many others are annoyed at the shambolic state that this system is presently in!

As for my objections regarding the two spots in question, do I want to withdraw the objection or not, does it really matter? will it really make any difference anyway? are you going to sent me proof of the disabilities of the people who applied for them? seems like I've got to pay for them, but I don't have any say in the matter! I don't have any problem with blue badges or spots for genuinely disabled people, but the present system is a disgrace and everybody seems to know this except the people from the top to the bottom who are actually paid to deal with it.....welcome to the public sector!

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Email reply to objector dated 7/3/19

Dear Sir

Thank you for your email reply to my letter dated 14 February 2019 regarding the above.

Firstly in respect of one of the disabled bays which you referred to in your original objection at Clova Avenue Arbroath please note that we have been made aware that the person that this bay was provided for no longer requires it and as such this bay will be removed in the near future.

Your comments in your most recent email appear to be mostly relating to the abuse of disabled bays and I appreciate that it may be frustrating for road users struggling to find suitable parking places to witness what appears to be abuse of the privilege provided by these bays.

In order to obtain a Blue Badge applicants must meet certain criteria which is assessed by others.

I cannot state that such abuse does not occur but if the applicant for such a bay is in possession of a valid blue badge then generally we must provide a bay for them if a suitable location can be identified and they have no other nearby parking options such as driveway.

The enforcement of these bays is also a Council responsibility and if there is clear evidence that a bay is being abused then action can be taken to issue a penalty notice or in certain circumstances to withdraw the Blue Badge.

I cannot directly resolve the issues which you have with the Blue Badge scheme rather than the above. On that basis I ask again if you are willing to withdraw your objection to this Order.

If you do not withdraw your objection then the current Council procedures dictate that a report is placed before the Communities Committee for determination. Please note that a copy of our correspondence will be made available to the Members for consideration in advance of the meeting.

You may attend and can also apply to address the Committee.

Yours

Daniel Munro ▪ Traffic Engineer ▪ Roads & Transportation ▪ Place Directorate ▪ Angus House
▪ Silvie Way ▪ Orchardbank Business Park ▪ Forfar ▪ DD8 1AN ▪

Email from objector dated 9/3/19

Dear Mr Munro,

Thanks for your email, I know the councils hands are tied regarding the issuing of these blue badges and a lot of the blame on this lax system sits fair and square with these GP's of whom seem to issue them at any cost just to make their daily life easier, not to mention those up the food chain in central government, but you can see my point here, nothing ever changes unless people speak out, it really is a joke and many people I know just shake their head in disbelief at the current system and at many of the individuals that posses these badges and what they get up to.

As for the Clova ave bay, then I'm sure most of the residents of that street will be glad to see the back of it, this will then give them more parking opportunities during busy periods and whilst we're on the subject of that street, for your attention there is constant parking on double yellow lines that were put there due to the bus route, this takes away a lot of on street parking, what is needed is for the council to reduce the size of the pavement on the corner, as it is way to big than it needs to be and in doing so will then allow the bus to take a much tighter line and reduce the need for so much double yellows.

As for the East Abbey Street bay, I just don't get this, it sits empty 99% of the time, so what is the point in having it? if there is a disabled person there, then what is wrong with them getting picked up or drooped off on the double yellow lines that sit next to the bay outside the sea cadet club? or even just on the road itself, the road is wide enough for this.

I don't want to withdraw my objection for this bay as I feel it is totally unwarranted, if I saw a wheel chair user or someone with clear difficulties for instance going and coming from that bay and the same vehicle using in on a regular basis, then I would have no problem with it whatsoever, as that is what the original system was design to cater for, but in this instance I see none of that.

Regards,

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