



BELPER
TOWN COUNCIL
Working for the community

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SEPTEMBER 2024

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION FOR CAR PARKING ORDERS FOR THE COPPICE, ST JOHN'S
AND GIBFIELD LANE CAR PARKS**

CONSULTATION RESPONSES TO BE RETURNED BY **FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2024**

Background

Belper Town Council owns the Coppice, along with St John's and Gibfield Lane car parks, all of which are free to use with no time restrictions.

On the Coppice Car Park there are five car parking bays for Blue Badge holders, five bays for the use of electric vehicles only (plus six mixed use), and two bays for the community-led car club.

In order to prevent misuse of these identified bays, the areas would need to be officially designated as a car park under the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984, without which there can be no enforcement. Belper Town Council intends to apply for a Car Parking Order (CPO) so that proper use of the designated bays can be enforced.

The car parks would continue to be owned by Belper Town Council and would still be available for events such as the Fairs.

Annual costs (2024/2025)

	Coppice (£)	St John's (£)
Business rates	18,336	2,864
Maintenance budget/rent	4,250	7,800
Total	22,586	10,664

Total costs for managing these car parks are substantially over £32,000 per year before considering any improvements, such as resurfacing or updating the lighting.

The Council has agreed to apply for a chargeable Car Parking Order so that in the future it can levy car park charges, *if it decides to do so*. **There has not yet been a decision to levy car park charges.**

Charges (if levied) and other options

This public consultation is asking whether people agree that The Coppice, St John's and Gibfield Lane should be designated as car parks (to enable the above enforcement to happen).

However, since Belper Town Council proposes to apply for a CPO that would allow charging to be applied in the future, we think it is only fair to give an idea of what charges may be levied ***if the decision to charge is made in the future.***

For the Coppice Car Park, the Car Parking Order would designate a **short-term area** (the part nearer to the town centre) for daytime shoppers etc., and a **long-term area** (further from the town centre).

The charges considered so far relate only to the Coppice (not St John's or Gibfield Lane) and *may* be:

Short term area (for daytime shoppers):

- Up to 2 hours 80p
- Up to 3 hours £1
- Up to 4 hours £2.50

Long term area:

- £5 for each 24-hour period
- *Amber Valley Borough Council-issued Standard Residents Permit parking would be accepted i.e. free after 4 pm until 8 am for Amber Valley residents.
- *Amber Valley Borough Council issued Enhanced Residents Permit parking would be accepted. i.e. free after 2pm Monday – Thursday, after 4pm until 8am daily and free on Sundays.
- *Amber Valley Borough Council-issued Season Tickets allowing individuals and businesses to park their vehicle within any Amber Valley long stay car park.

Subject to agreement with AVBC, including costs and terms. For further information, please see; <https://www.ambervalley.gov.uk/roads-and-parking/parking/residents-and-business-parking/>

Alternatively, all car park users could be asked for a **voluntary donation** using an “honesty box”, which could raise money towards running costs. Other revenue to supplement this could be sought, for example through business sponsorship of the car park.

It must be stressed that Belper Town Council **has not yet decided** whether to either:

- a) raise money to pay the running costs by charging motorists to use the car park
- b) keep the car park “free” but ask for a contribution to costs through voluntary donations and other measures such as business sponsorship
- c) keep parking free and raise the money through the council tax paid by all residents of Belper and Milford.

Consultation Questions

Do you agree that Belper Town Council should apply a Car Parking Order to the Coppice Car Park?	YES	NO
Do you agree that Belper Town Council should apply a Car Parking Order to St Johns Car Park?	YES	NO

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Do you agree that Belper Town Council should apply a Car Parking Order to Gibfield Lane Car Park?	YES	NO
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How do you think the costs of managing the car parks should be covered? <i>(Select one option only)</i>	<i>Please tick</i>	
Raise money to pay the running costs by charging motorists to use the car park		
Keep the car park “free” but ask for a contribution to costs through voluntary donations and other measures such as business sponsorship		
Keep parking free and raise the money through the council tax paid by residents of Belper and Milford		
Other <i>(Please specify)</i>		

Do you wish the accessible bays to be dedicated to blue badge users and protected for those in need, who are eligible to use them?	YES	NO
Electric Vehicle Charging Bays and Mixed-Use Bays are currently available to support action against climate change and provide power to those visiting the town and for residents who do not have access to driveway facilities. Do you wish EV Charging Bays to be dedicated to those vehicles who require charging facilities?	YES	NO
The Belper Car Club Service is an important community facility providing accessible transport to those in need. In order to operate this, two dedicated car parking bays are required to allow the vehicles to be safely parked when not in use and allow users to access these vehicles. Do you believe this is a beneficial use of the parking bays?	YES	NO
Do you feel that it is important that the car parking spaces are available for the users of the town and should be turned over regularly, rather than allowing the public to park permanently in spaces and block these for other users?	YES	NO

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CAR PARKS

Do you feel that nearby residents should have permanent spaces in the area where they can store their vehicles permanently?	YES	NO
In order to manage the car park and protect these spaces; the car park must be visited regularly by an Enforcement Officer to inspect the site and issue Fixed Penalty Notices to those who are using the spaces in an unsuitable manner. Do you agree that this should happen?	YES	NO
Overall, do you agree that Belper Town Council should manage the spaces in its car parks?	YES	NO

Do you have any additional comments to make on this consultation?

Additional Information Required

<p>Please provide your full address and postcode</p> <p><i>(To prevent duplicate responses and so that we can break down results by resident and visitor. This information will only be used for analytical and verification purposes and will be kept in accordance with General Data Protection Regulations.)</i></p>	
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Do you have a Blue Badge?	YES	NO
Do you manage a shop, business or other organisation based in Belper town centre?	YES	NO

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CAR PARKS

Do you park in the Coppice, St John's or Gibfield Lane car parks?	YES	NO
If so, how often? <i>(Please circle)</i> a) Several times a week b) Two to four times a month c) About once a month d) Less often		
For what purpose do you park in these car parks? <i>(Please select one answer only)</i> a) Mainly visiting shops or other businesses in the town centre b) Mainly to work in the town centre c) Mainly to take the bus or train elsewhere d) Mainly to visit people or some other activity e) Other reason <i>(Please specify)</i>		

If you would like to be contacted with the results of this consultation, please provide your email address: <i>This will only be used to communicate with you regarding the consultation and will not be linked with your responses.</i>

If you require this document in an accessible format, please contact the office on 01773 822116 or by email to admin@belpertowncouncil.gov.uk

Please send the completed form to:

Belper Town Council
St John's Chapel
The Butts
Belper
Derbyshire
DE56 1HX

All completed responses must be received by Friday 25th October 2024

Thank you for taking part in this consultation.
We value your views.