Sent: 13 February 2023 10:28

To: taxilicensing

Subject: Proposed new taxi rank Station Road East Oxted

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Hi

I am writing to you about the proposed alterations to the taxi rank outside the station on Station Road East Oxted.

As the Business Improvement District we represent over 180 businesses in Oxted Town Centre. As you will know, the high street is changing rapidly, with retail being impacted most by these changes. Businesses need all support available for people to easily and conveniently visit Oxted town centre, and on street parking helps facilitate this.

While we understand the safety improvements behind this proposal, local businesses are keen to retain on street parking spaces for shoppers.

We are therefore writing to enquire whether it would be possible to introduce herringbone parking in this area, rather than parking that is parallel to the pavement, thus increasing the number of spaces available and retaining some of the shopper parking spaces. Anything that can be done to minimise loss of on street parking would be welcomed.

Kind regards

Sent: 13 February 2023 20:56

To: taxilicensing

Subject: Moving taxi rank in Station Road East Oxted

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Hello

All I can say this is a ridiculous idea. If this proposal goes through Oxted lose more parking spaces. There will then be a huge waste of space from where the taxis were parked up. Why do TDC think it is sensible to change something that has worked well for years. Unless you build a pavement on both sides of the proposed new rank people are still going to get in and out on the road. If pedestrians can't be bothered to walk round the horse shoe that is their choice. Guess it won't be long before TDC decide to kill off the high street once and for all by making Station Road East pedestrian only. I despair to be honest.

Yours

Sent: 14 February 2023 10:56

To: taxilicensing

Subject: Proposed change to taxi rank Station Rd East.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

As a resident for over 25 years.

I disagree with your proposal to change the rank to the kerb, will limit the parking space for locals who are currently already restricted to eat nearby and bring in more revenue which is needed at this time.

Are you proposing to allocate the four bays in the middle of the road to the public or just remove them all together.

Families use those bays by lorimers during periods and spend more in our high street shops than on a single taxi journey. Taxis cater for a limited number of people and are stationary most of the time until the trains arrive or depart.

It is up to both the passengers and taxi drivers to ensure they can depart from the vehicle safely. They can assist their passengers out of curtesy. Taxi drivers are either in their cars or having a chat with each other for lengthy periods of time. The public are unable to use their bays out of hours.

Pedestrians have always walked around on the pavement with exception to commuters who automatically walk across the road like at any other active station. Their are waiting bays were taxis can drop off their passengers safely in front of the subway or drop them off on station road west instead.

Kind regards,

Sent: 14 February 2023 11:43

To: taxilicensing

Subject: Change of taxi rank location on Station Road East, Oxted

Hello,

I am concerned with this proposal as by moving the taxi rank we will lose valuable car parking spaces. This will undoubtedly have an impact on local business as without car parking people often chose to space at out of town locations.

In addition I don't agree with the assumption that it is difficult to exit or enter a car there and have never seen any issues.

Thanks, REDACTED

Sent: 18 February 2023 00:28

To: taxilicensing

Subject: Proposed re-location of taxi rank outside Lorimers, 129-131 Station Road East, Oxted -

Objection

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

I have seen the plans and drawings for the proposed re-siting of the taxi rank and wish to register my objection to these proposals.

- The current arrangement seems to work very well so why does it need to be changed. Nothing is going to be perfect but there are many good reasons for keeping things as they are.
- Parking spaces on the street are at a premium and the shops need all the help they can get. We should be preserving on street car parking spaces, not taking them away.
- The loss of these car parking spaces on the street will be a blow for those who do not want to park in Morrisons or Beatrice Road as they are only going to the shops for a short while or who are elderly or infirm and the walk from these car parks is too far. We have lost far too many spaces from the High Street already.
- There are not many spaces to park at this side of the station and the spaces outside Lorimers are used by others collecting people from the station particularly late at night. It will not be satisfactory to have those people trying to find their lifts too far from the station particularly if it is dark, they have heavy luggage, they are managing children or they are elderly or infirm.
- The presence of the taxis in the middle has the effect of slowing down the traffic in this area which is a great advantage for the many pedestrians who use it and who are funnelled into the tunnel under the railway / the station.
- The presence of the taxis in the middle also provides added safety for those crossing the road between the pavement near Hammonds and the pavement in front of Lorimers as they act as a sort of island/midway point. To have to negotiate the whole of this stretch in one crossing could be quite hazardous not only because the island of the taxis in the middle won't be there but also because without that island, the traffic in that area is likely to be sweeping in and driving out much faster.
- The taxis are not always there so when they are not there, it will be particularly galling to have wasted parking spaces outside Lorimers that others could use.
- The car parking spaces outside Lorimers are very popular and are rarely free. The community and many shoppers' use of them should not be sacrificed for the commercial operation of the taxis who are used by very few of the community.
- The excess space given over to taxis in Station Road West has made dropping off and collection there very difficult now and car parking spaces have been lost. Please do not do the same in Station Road East.
- The taxis do not operate all the time and when they are not operating, the car parking spaces will be empty and completely wasted.
- All possible on street car parking for shoppers and the wider community use should take precedence over the
 commercial activities of taxi firms who serve only a very small minority of the community and who are not
 spending money supporting local shops and services in Oxted.

This proposal is misconceived and has not been properly thought through. I sincerely hope that you do not proceed with it.

Regards,