



**Shere Parish Council  
Shere Car Park Charging**

**FAQs**

Some questions and concerns have been voiced by both residents and businesses. Answers to some of these are below:

**Q. When will car park charging begin?**

**A.** It will start as soon as possible but firstly, the car park driving area will be restored to a condition fit for charging. Then a car park management company will be selected and an appropriate system to best meet the Parish's needs, and then carry out the necessary installation work. This will take some months. We will keep everyone informed on our progress.

**Q. What will the basic charges be?**

**A.** The basic charging will be from 8.00am until 6.00pm at a charge of £1 per hour, or part of. However, for visits of 30 minutes or less there will be no charge.

**Q. Will the car park be patrolled?**

**A.** There is no plan to have a parking warden operating in the car park. The registered professional car park management company will use technology to collect the payment of charges due. Any enforcement will be handled externally.

**Q. I am a resident of the Parish. Can I park in the car park free?**

**A.** Yes, for any visit under 30 minutes but not if you stay more than 30 minutes in the main car park. However, there is currently the agreement with the Shere Recreation Ground Association (paid for by the Parish Council), where residents are permitted to use the parking area through the gate to the left of the main public car park. Also, there are still over 50 kerbside parking spaces available along Gomshall Lane and in the village.

**Q. Do we have to pay when dropping off children in the morning and picking up in the afternoon at the nursery and school, or just popping to the Co-op?**

**A.** Not if you restrict yourself to the 30-minute free parking concession.

**Q. What will happen to those who drive to the village to work all day?**

**A.** The Parish Council intend to establish a database of car number plates entitled to free parking in the car park (subject to space availability). We have spoken to most of the businesses in Shere about the number of their staff needing to park all day and our plans for organising free parking arrangements. They appreciate being consulted and much welcomed our proposals. Further details will be published after we have finished consulting with all the businesses/employers.

**Q. Are day time village hall users (e.g., Pilates), expected to pay for parking?**

**A.** For village hall users there is the possibility/availability of street parking or use of the overflow parking, for those who are parish residents.



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**Q. Will sports club members and match spectators pay for parking?**

**A.** No, it is expected that they will be able to use the overflow car park, as they do now.

**Q. Will museum and library volunteers be expected to pay?**

**A.** There is private parking for three vehicles alongside the museum for museum volunteers and library volunteers could also use this, as the volunteer days do not overlap. Also, drop off parking on the village hall side of the space could be used if the village hall committee granted permission.

**Q. How will charging for parking actually increase the ability to find a space to park in?**

**A.** Charging will not on its own make it easier to find a car parking space. We regularly have more cars coming to Shere to park than we have spaces. Charging for parking will provide us with funds to maintain and repair the existing spaces. The Parish Council does not own or control any land in Shere suitable for new parking. The Recreation Ground or Shere Manor Estate are the only land owners who may have additional space that might be suitable for allowing parking by private arrangement.

**Q. If charging is not expected to reduce the demand for parking in the car park, why is available road side parking being reduced by increasing the number of double yellow lines, so making parking even more difficult?**

**A.** The proposed new Surrey County Council double yellow lines are to stop the thoughtless and illegal parking which prevents emergency vehicles from getting through to houses they are needing to reach.

They are also to keep pavements clear so that pedestrians and wheelchairs are not forced into the road to get by parked cars. And finally, to reduce traffic gridlock and to maintain a functioning bus service through the village. This is a safety driven measure, separate from the issues of insufficient parking available in the village for both visitors and residents with little or no off-street parking.

**Q. Who gains and who loses from this move to charging for the public car park?**

**A.** The Parish Council hopes everyone involved with the parking challenges faced by our villages and communities will benefit.

- Residents will no longer have to bear the costs through the precept (money collected on our behalf through the council tax) of providing parking free for visitors
- Visitors will gain by having a safer well maintained car park and the additional funding will be used to improve the facilities such as the toilets and public areas such as the grass beside the river. The Parish Council will have the ability to invest in our community and environment.



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- The businesses will gain because tourists will have a more positive experience and hopefully our visitors will be welcomed by the community because they will be seen as contributing to the upkeep of the shared environment, rather than costing them as residents.
- All the voluntary groups and organisations (clubs, village halls, SALV, Recreation Ground etc.) will gain through grant applications to the Parish Council. The additional funding will hopefully allow the Parish Council to approve applications more often, for projects around the villages.

**If your particular concern has not been covered, please get in touch and we will try to answer it and include the answer for everyone to see.**