

Parking in East Brighton Park Consultation Report

1 Background

Parking within East Brighton Park is currently unrestricted. The council has received a number of complaints that:

- the current levels of parking in the park are causing access problems for the South East Coast Ambulance Service and for the Brighton Caravan Club
- the volume of traffic is affecting the look of the park and eroding areas of grass where vehicles are unable to pass due to obstruction
- on-street parking and verge parking in the area has become dangerous for users of Wilson Avenue and residential access roads leading from it

In February and March 2014 Brighton & Hove City Council consulted with park users, local residents and businesses and sports groups who regularly use Preston Park about proposals to restrict parking in the park.

2 Methodology

Following approval at the January 2014 meeting of this committee a consultation on the proposals was carried out. The consultation was publicised through:

- A press release and information on the council website
- Promotion through the Park Ranger and Friends of Whitehawk Hill
- A display in the café
- Notices put on cars parked in the park
- A mail drop to properties along Wilson Avenue
- Display and information stand at ASDA in Brighton Marine
- Direct mail out to organisations operating in the park including the caravan club, the football club and Brighton College
- Ward Councillors helped promote the consultation which was also advertised through posters and post cards.

3 Headline Results

189 people responded to the consultation, almost 90% of these agree that parking in East Brighton Park needs to be addressed.

84.6% agree that parking on Wilson Avenue needs to be addressed.

69.6% of respondents drive to the park.

4 Full Results

189 responses were received, 83 paper questionnaires and 106 on-line responses. Respondents were asked whether parking in East Brighton Park needs to be addressed. Results are in the table below:

	No.	%
Yes	164	89.6
No	19	10.4
Total	183	100

Respondents were asked whether parking in Wilson Avenue needs to be addressed.

	No.	%
Yes	154	84.6
No	28	15.4
Total	182	100

Most respondents say that they don't park on the verges on Wilson Avenue:

	No.	%
Yes	16	8.6
No	171	91.4
Total	187	100

Almost 70% of respondents currently drive to the park as follows:

	No.	%
Yes	128	69.6
No	56	30.4
Total	184	100

Reasons for visiting the park are as follows:

	Number of responses	%
To visit the Caravan Club	86	45.5
To visit the park for leisure	38	20.1
To visit Sheepcote Valley Local Nature Reserve	26	13.8
To visit the cafe	25	13.2
To visit City College	1	0.5
Total	176	

Other destinations close to the park include:

- Steiner School (x2)
- Whitehawk FC (x2)
- Brighton College sports ground
- Astro turf pitches

- Hospital

Different reasons include:

- Healthwalks (x6)
- Dog walking (x3)
- Friends of Sheepcote Valley storage shed
- Brighton College Playing fields
- Attend events
- To go to work at Whitehawk Bus Garage
- To see friends
- To stay in the Caravan Club

Parking Income

Respondents were asked whether parking income raised should be ring fenced to the park?

	No.	%
Yes	158	88.8
No	20	11.2
Total	178	100

Respondents were also asked if they have any further comments about the proposals. These have been themed as follows with the most often mentioned comment at the top of the table:

In favour because of current inaccessibility to park/ current parking difficulties / danger of verge parking	36
Want flexible parking schemes (two hours free) (health walkers tickets)	14
In favour to improve safety/ current dangerous parking	13
General Positive Comments	13
Need double yellow lines /other traffic calming	12
Improve park facilities/general upkeep/ health and safety/ maintenance/litter	12
Needs enforcement of current illegal parking/ long-term caravans	10
Don't want to pay for parking	10
No need for a scheme	9
Concerned about displacement	8
Concerns that the scheme will adversely affect businesses in the area/ attendance to the parks facilities	7
Feel intimidated by long term residents blocking access	7
Restrictions need to allow parking for Brighton College coaches and use of the sports fields/ verge parking for residents should continue	6
Don't want double yellow lines	5
Don't want signs, P&D and additional parking in a conservation area	5
Need better Access for emergency vehicles	3
This is purely a money making exercise	3
Need better parking for park facilities	2
Concerns about disabled parking	2

6 Demographic Information

Gender	No.	%
Male	98	59
Female	68	41
Total	166	100

Age	No.	%
U18	0	0
18-24	0	0
25-34	10	6.3
35-44	13	8.2
45-54	40	25.3
55-64	38	24
65-74	46	29
75+	11	7
Total	158	100

Ethnicity	No.	%
White British	154	93.9
Any other White background	6	3.7
Asian or Asian British	2	1.2
Black or Black British	0	0
Arab	0	0
Mixed	0	0
Other ethnic Group	2	1.2
Total	164	100

Disability	No.	%
Yes, a little	17	10.7
Yes, a lot	8	5
No	134	70.9
Total	159	100

Disability Types	No.
Physical Impairment	15
Long-standing illness	9
Sensory Impairment	3
Mental Health Condition	4
Learning Disability/ Difficulty	0
Developmental Condition	0
Other	2
Total	33

Are you a carer	No.	%
Yes	15	9.7
No	139	90.3
Total	154	100

