

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, TONBRIDGE and MALLING) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS & ON-STREET PARKING PLACES)**

(Amendment 58) ORDER, 2023

Statement of Reasons

In the Town of Tonbridge

Changes to parking bays in Avebury Avenue

Parking in Avebury Avenue has always been contested between those wanting short-stay parking near to the town centre, and residents who wish for parking close to their homes.

The existing parking bays in Avebury Avenue allow both permit and Pay & Display parking, and this causes problems for the differing users to find appropriate spaces and the Pay & Display facilities are significantly underused.

The Council is proposing that the Avebury Avenue bays to the west of Holford Street are no longer Pay & Display, and that the bays to the east of Holford Street are 2 hour limited waiting and D1 permit holder parking as this should better meet the needs of town centre visitors and residents.

In the Parish of West Malling

1 hour free parking to become pay and display in West Malling – High Street and Swan Street

West Malling High Street and Swan Street has 93 on-street shared-use parking bays that currently provide 1 hour free parking, as well as unlimited resident permit parking.

However these 1 hour parking bays are often abused by all-day parking, reducing the opportunities for shoppers visiting the town centre.

The Council is proposing introducing Pay & Display parking charges for on-street parking, allowing parking for up to 4 hours, to concur with the parking charges in the nearby High Street car park.

It is also proposed to extend the times of operation of the parking bay restrictions to operate every day, and to extend to 8pm, to reflect the changing on-street parking demand based on increasing Sunday and Bank Holiday trading.

Alteration to loading bay outside Tesco in West Malling High Street

The existing loading bay outside Tesco in West Malling High Street currently operates as a loading bay until noon, Monday to Saturday. However, this has caused significant problems with obstructive parking, as drivers frequently chose to park across the loading bay and obstruct the neighbouring bus stop, and ignored the loading times which prevents deliveries and collections.

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We are proposing that the loading bay become a loading bay that operates from 6:30am until 8pm every day, and be restricted to goods vehicles over 3.5 tonnes.