

Free parking in West End of Dundee car parks must be extended #dundeewestend

As reported recently in the Courier (see below), I have called for the City Council to extend its free parking period in Dundee's West End car parks given that the coronavirus health emergency situation continues.

The council took the sensible decision during the lockdown in the spring to make all its car parks free to use to assist key workers in the city centre and also people working from home in other car parks that charge across the city including in the West End.

However, it now intends to bring back car parking charges into seven West End car parks next Monday – 19th October – at a time when many local workers are still working from home and may well continue to be doing for weeks to come.

The point about the West End car parks is that they all cover residential areas and so the council is charging people to park near their own homes when they are being encouraged by Scottish Government to work from home. That is a totally ridiculous situation and contrary to the Scottish Government message to work from home where possible during the health emergency.

I therefore wrote to the Director of City Development at Dundee City Council asking for an extension to take place and received the following reply :

"As you are aware, the original aim of the introduction of charges was, as well as generating income, to prevent abuse of the car-parks by commuters and to promote turnover of spaces to support local shops.

As charges in the rest of the city have been reintroduced, I do not think we could justify further suspension of charges in the West End. We did extend the moratorium on charging until the University started back.

I have reviewed and whilst I understand the issues that you raise, we have a committee remit to introduce charges, and now require to discharge that remit."

I think at a time when the Scottish Government is trying to encourage people to work from home where it is possible, the City Council charging people for the privilege of parking near their homes in the West End is not responsible and sending the wrong message.

These are car parks in residential areas and I think that would be a common sense and helpful thing to continue the parking charges moratorium at this time.

Courier article :

Councillor's anger over parking charges

Off-street car parking in the West End of Dundee should remain free for the duration of the coronavirus emergency, a councillor has said.

Councillor Fraser Macpherson said the local authority should extend its period of free parking.

Charges are due to be reintroduced at seven car parks in the West End of the city on October 19.

He said: "The council took the sensible decision during the lockdown in the spring to make all its

car parks free to use to assist key workers in the city centre and also people working from home in other car parks that charge across the city.

"The point about the West End car parks is that they all cover residential areas and so the council is charging people to park near their own homes when they are being encouraged by Scottish Government to work from home.

"That is a totally ridiculous situation."

[Weekly Road Report – West End Ward](#)
[#dundeewestend](#)



DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL – WEEKLY ROAD REPORT

Forthcoming Roadworks for West End Ward

Blackness Road (at junction with Bellfield Street for a distance of 25m or thereby in an easterly direction) – closed from Monday 19 October for 3 days for BT work.

Blackness Road (at Bellfield Street) – temporary traffic lights from Monday 19 October for 3 days for BT work.

Riverside Drive (at Mayo Avenue) – off peak temporary traffic lights on Tuesday 27 October for maintenance work to DfT traffic sensors.

Glamis Drive – closed from Monday 9 November for 2 weeks for carriageway surfacing.

[At Home library service](#)

THE At Home Library service

For people residing within Dundee who are either in their own home, sheltered housing or care home.

They may be convalescing, have difficulty getting out independently or would simply benefit from getting library resources delivered to their door.

We can provide ordinary, large print books, talking books, educational DVDs and music CDs.



Staff from the library will visit you initially to discuss your interests and reading preferences.

For more information, please contact the At Home Library Service on 01382 431537 or e-mail connections@leisureandculturaldundee.com

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[Tay Road Bridge & V&A #Dundee](#)

My many thanks to the West End resident for these superb Dundee photos!





[Getting things done – Blackness Road](#)
[#dundeewestend](#)



Many thanks to the residents who recently highlighted concerns that a TV aerial on a tenement on Blackness Road was hanging precariously. Given the potentially disastrous consequences if it fell onto the busy road and pavement below, I immediately contacted the City Council about this.

A Building Standards officer very promptly updated me as follows :

"I attended the property ... (and) it was noted when on site that the aerial attached to the tenement building appeared loose and was hanging over the footway.

I contacted the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to allow access to the aerial and review the condition.

On closer inspection the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service confirmed that the aerial was firmly attached to building with wires at the base.

The fire brigade rotated the aerial back over the building."

I am grateful to both the City Council officers and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for its very prompt response in resolving this.