

## Redacted consultation responses

Name	Response Method	Response	Comment
Not given	Online	Object	I don't see why I'm subsidising free car parks in other parts of the borough so they can retain free parking. We either all pay or not at all.
Not given	Online	Object	Further increases to parking costs discourages people from using our rather sad looking high street...an hour in Tonbridge high street most certainly isn't worth £1.70, it's just a handful of charity shops and barbers. How about encouraging people back to the high street by introducing free parking for short periods. Introducing free parking at lunchtime so that people can enjoy what's left of the coffee shops whilst working from home. First half hour free allowing people to nip and do what they need to do without continually making life difficult for people
Not given	Online	Object	I think it unfair that residents in Tonbridge pay car parking charges but those elsewhere don't. I thought that in order to address the climate emergency and also to improve air quality and health people were to be encouraged to use active travel and/or public transport. TMBC is effectively subsidising car drivers to park on their land by not charging.
Not given	Online	Object	Parking charges are applied inconsistently across the Borough. All council car parks should be subject to parking charges on a basis that is comparable between locations. So town centre parking in Aylesford or Tonbridge should be comparable, as should countryside parking charges at places like Leybourne Lakes and Haysden Country Park (which appears consistent from a quick view but I have not looked at all equivalent car parks).
Not given	Online	Object	The rise in cost of parking is just ridiculous. There are people who have no choice but to travel to Tonbridge for school or working commitments. After the covid pandemic putting many people out of work for months on limited money, plus the increase in household bills asking someone to pay nearly £10 to park for work is daylight robbery. Also asking people to pay this to visit a dead town with nothing to offer. You should be ashamed of yourselves.
Not given	Online	Object	Because there is no provision to introduce car parking charges in the north of the borough.
Not given	Online	Object	Every time you need money you treat motorists as cash cows. This has to stop. This is the council that can't even take our garden waste away after nearly 8 months

Name	Response Method	Response	Comment
Not given	Online	Object	Charges in Tonbridge are ill thought through. The town economy is struggling. It needs free or low short term parking for say 3 or 4 hours but then hefty longer term charges to discourage commuters etc. abusing them.
Not given	Online	Object	Excessive rise in the cost of 2 and 3 hour parking in Group 1. Unfair that Tonbridge town is paying much higher charges than other area in the Borough (including some areas that do not get charged at all) Why should Tonbridge town users subsidise areas like Larkfield?
Not given	Online	Object	Whilst not usually being a Green Party supporter, I wholeheartedly support the views recently expressed by our Tonbridge Green Party councillors. We should be ensuring that the cost of parking is shared equally across the borough and all communities and their local economies should be treated fairly. If it is correct that Cllr Matt Boughton has performed a u-turn on plans to introduce charging for car parking in Aylesford, Larkfield or Snodland, which would have raised £95,000 a year and would help prevent some of the cuts to services being implemented - why? In essence while the borough council is paying for the maintenance of all our car parks it is only being financed by charging in three of our towns. The cost of parking in Tonbridge is far higher than elsewhere leaving residents there under the impression they are subsidising the rest of the borough. This is unacceptable. Times are tough for everyone in 2022, but all should share the burden equally. If it is true that Cllr Boughton has claimed that the local economies in the north of the borough needed to be protected in the wake of the pandemic which begs the question, why are residents and visitors in Tonbridge, West Malling and Borough Green being charged when other well-used car parks elsewhere are not? The pandemic has affected all of our communities and local economies including those where charges are now being increased. I would prefer no additional charges were being levied but if there is a funding gap which needs to be addressed because of cuts in funding by the Government over the past 12 years, then we all need to contribute to that, but more equally than proposed.
Not given	Online	Object	Why does the cost to park in tonbridge continuously go up yet other towns still have free parking? Why should we pay for everyone else?
Not given	Online	Object	Parking charges should be applied to all council owned car parks.
Not given	Online	Object	The car park charges should be the same right across the borough, not penalising Tonbridge and Malling

Name	Response Method	Response	Comment
Not given	Online	Object	If TMBC are really keen to raise money to fill the budget shortfall, they should penalise car drivers across the whole council area for driving and adding to the climate emergency with their filthy polluting vehicles and should put up the car parking fees by at least 20% which is what KCC have done to the Secondary school bus pass. The poor children have no choice to use the bus but all of these car drivers probably do have a choice. The prices for parking vary widely, with Tonbridge getting the highest fees. Why can't you charge some fees in others car parks that are currently free? I suppose it's too expensive for to patrol those village sites, but it is therefore unfair to charge more to those who are already paying most.
Not given	Online	Object	I feel it's wrong for some part of the council's area to effectively subsidise other areas.
Redacted	Online	Object	Tonbridge area should not be taking the brunt of these increases. Car parking charges should be shared across the whole of tonbridge and malling council areas
Redacted	Online	Object	Far to costly at the moment. An increase is unjust. How are people expected to shop on the high street
Redacted	Online	Object	Living in a flat above a shop on the high street we have no where to park as it is. Our local car park is Bradford Street. Persons who live above commercial businesses should have preferential treatment by being given FREE parking. As a nurse the last thing I want to do after a long day at work is to park at a church hall car park, walk home then walk back to the car in the morning the next day. Free parking at Bradford Street would assist so much as I would only be parking there one or two days on my days off.
Redacted	Online	Object	I don't mind paying a fair price for parking IF EVERYONE IN THE BOROUGH paid their fare share. ALL of Tonbridge & Malling car park should be included in the charging regime. Already Tonbridge is expensive for parking and that is why we travel to Bluewater to shop or use the shops on the industrial estate where parking is free. Tonbridge town centre is dying and part of the reason is the cost of parking.

Name	Response Method	Response	Comment
Redacted	Online	Object	Why has the borough council done a U turn to introduce car parking charges in Aylesford, Larkfield and Snodland when the borough council pays for the maintenance of all car parks? Why is it being financed by only 3 towns, one of them being Tonbridge, of which I am a resident? To add insult to injury, why is the cost of car parking far higher in Tonbridge? It leaves me with a nasty taste in my mouth that we are being taken advantage of and subsidising the rest of the borough. Please, no excuses about hardship in those 3 towns, we are all in the same boat with hikes in food, car fuel, gas and electricity prices. Please treat Tunbridge fairly so that all towns in the borough pay the same car parking charges
Redacted	Online	Object	Once again the few pay for the many
Redacted	Online	Object	Every town in the borough should be treated equally, and some shouldn't be free while others' are having the already charges increased.
Redacted	Online	Object	Tonbridge is being disproportionately hit by cost over other areas in Kent not even inline with need
Redacted	Online	Object	Outrageous, reduce the parking charges in Tonbridge and start charging in other areas. Utter disgrace that you use Tonbridge as the cash cow and us residents get nothing in return.
Redacted	Online	Object	Parking fees are much too low currently. Fees should be charged in all parts of the borough at higher rates. Fees should be charged on Sundays. Shoppers who drive to supermarkets should not be refunded their parking. People who walk or cycle to supermarkets who currently incentivise drivers should receive a benefit.
Cllr Paul Stepto	Online	Object	I think it unfair that parking charges should be increased in Tonbridge, West Malling and Borough Green, but not in Aylesford, Larkfield or Snodland, and residents of the South of the borough should effectively subsidise those in the North. It has been claimed elsewhere that the local economies in the North of the borough need to be protected in the wake of the pandemic but surely all of Tonbridge & Malling has suffered from the economic fallout of Covid? Also, we are told that the Council's finances are in a parlous state so where is the sense in ignoring a potential annual revenue of some £100,000, which could be realised if the three areas noted above were not to be exempted from the increase in parking charges? Is this some kind of reverse-Midas policy?

Name	Response Method	Response	Comment
Redacted	Online	Object	Parking charges should be fairly increased in all areas to ensure that proper funding is there. Other towns and villages should not have to subsidise the areas that don't have parking charges increased. Additionally as the council is much in need of funds this cost should be shared equally.
Redacted	Online	Object	Why should Tonbridge be subject to higher charges when when other towns pay nothing? This does not seem fair.
Redacted	Online	Object	Parking charges should be made across the borough, not just one town. That way the increase can be kept relatively low as it distributed more widely.
Redacted	Online	Object	Living in Tonbridge costs the same as elsewhere in daily living - let the other boroughs share the cost of parking - it's not fair that we are penalised! Everyone should be treated equally and Tonbridge should not suffer or support other areas.
Redacted	Online	Object	Parking charges are already too high
Redacted	Online	Object	ALL Towns pay, or NONE at all. This is only fair. You cannot expect one area to subsidise the other, unless of course, you are refusing the monies gained to be only used in the increase areas. I expect this is not the plan. We do not need this divisionary policy.
Redacted	Online	Object	Why are parking charges so high in Tonbridge yet free elsewhere? Putting parking charges up higher will kill the town, people will not be able to afford to park here. I already only visit the town on Sundays when it is free. Why not charge to park in other areas rather than raising charges in Tonbridge again? Why isn't Tonbridge treated fairly?
Redacted	Online	Object	Fair treatment is needed across the board. Share the cost. Everyone is struggling financially.
Redacted	Online	Object	Day light robbery. Just pushing shoppers out of the high street and then the council wonder why there are no shops in the High street
Redacted	Online	Object	Why only three towns and not every town in the district?
Redacted	Online	Object	Parking charges must be standardised across the borough. It's not fair that costs are rising in tonbridge while remaining free in other areas

Name	Response Method	Response	Comment
Redacted	Online	Object	TMBC seem intent on increasing costs significantly in Tonbridge, a small amount in other areas, and not introduce charges elsewhere in the Borough. To be fair and equitable (and in line with the Public Sector Equality Duty), people from different communities should not be treated differently. All car parks owned by TMBC should be charged on the same scale (one for short stay, one for long stay), including those currently free to park in. Tonbridge town centre is suffering due to covid, inflation and the coming recession; pushing up prices to park even more will drive another nail into the coffin. There are better shopping facilities in Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks, so customers will be pushed to travel there, further damaging Tonbridge retail.
Redacted	Online	Object	Surely that's very unequal in an area where many residents do not fall into 'we can afford to live here' bracket. With petrol in Tonbridge being the highest in the area (it's cheaper to fill up in London). Do something nice for the residents and visitors of Tonbridge. Don't believe that we are all super rich that live here. !!!! Very 'area' ism.
Redacted	Online	Object	We have already had a recent price hike in Tonbridge and are taking on a disproportionate share of the parking charges for the borough. I would prefer you start to monitor and charge for unlawful parking in loading bay or have more speed cameras in the area to support your funding needs. Having to pay above residents in other areas just to shop on the high street is unfair.
Redacted	Online	Object	Every town/area should pay for parking. This council cannot afford for some parts of the Borough to be exempt . We all use parking across the Borough at some time or other ,whether it be for shopping, recreation or residential purposes and we should all pay for it.
Redacted	Online	Object	Parking charges in Tonbridge are much higher than in other areas of the borough. They should be brought into line.
Redacted	Online	Object	Every town should be paying the increase
Redacted	Online	Object	I believe the current charges are fair. And to give us the best chance of attracting people to the town and using our local businesses is to keep the prices as they are. We are at a moment in time where there are price increases on many basic and necessary products, let's not keep people away by adding cost to parking. And remember this was free of charge not too long ago.

Name	Response Method	Response	Comment
Redacted	Online	Object	As a local business owner, there has been a decrease in trade especially at lunchtimes. After talking to various customers, the main issue is trouble with parking. Raising the price and any other restriction will just add further pressures on the local businesses.
Not given	Online	Object	There is limited parking in West Malling and charging on a Saturday for parking is ridiculous. The cost of living and inflation is going up. I am very upset.
Not given	Online	Object	I object to the off-Street Parking charges proposal for the town of West Malling, Group 16, covering High Street car park & Group 10, covering Ryarsh Lane car park. Especially the suggestion of charging people to pay to park in Ryarsh Lane car park on a Saturday. I would also like to propose no change whatsoever to the High Street car park increases as this is already a deterrent for people visiting the town and will have a direct effect on the shops, pubs and restaurants in the town.
Not given	Online	Support	It's still far too cheap. Cheap parking is directly correlated with congested roads and bad air. Up the price more and use the money to fund alternatives, cycling and public transport
Not given	Online	Support	I think parking charges should be higher to deter people driving.
Not given	Online	Support	With inflation the way it is, it can't really be avoided. The increases don't effect a short trip to the shops. I know a lot of people will complain as cost of living is going up, but TMBC have staff to pay who face the same costs as the rest of us.
Redacted	Online	Support	West Malling needs to become more attractive to cyclists and walkers. We should be discouraging short car journeys and encouraging electric vehicle parking and cycle parking
Redacted	Online	Support	The out lying carparks ate pop on shops as opposed to long stay style shopping carparks. Charles for the small local shop carparks would devastate local businesses.
Redacted	Online	Support	I propose to use yellow lines throughout the close and just leave 4 parking spaces at the very end of the close for visitors, see attached drawing, this will also stop people parking with 2 wheels on the grass verges and ruining the grass when wet
Redacted	Email/letter	Object	I write with regard to the proposed rise in parking charges in Tonbridge, West Malling and Borough Green. I note that one reason advised for the increase was that the other areas covered by TMBC were hit harder by the pandemic and would like to know how the effects of the pandemic per town were measured. Was it loss of income to traders, loss of income per household etc.? I would also like to know how the affect of the pandemic has an impact on parking charges.? As you will be aware Tonbridge is a commuter town and commuters have been hit year after year with huge fare hikes and these parking charge increases will

Name	Response Method	Response	Comment
			add further to travel costs. Tonbridge residents were also affected by the Pandemic but appear to being penalised. I cannot understand, when the council is in need of funds, why only these three towns have been singled out.
Redacted	Email/letter	Object	As a business in West Malling we are horrified to see that there will be potentially parking fees charged in the West Malling Carpark- please confirm that business permits will cover Saturdays - we have never had to ask this question previously but there are a lot of businesses in West Malling that open at weekends and the current permits must cover the weekends. Are you intentionally trying to cripple businesses in West Malling- this is yet another nail in the coffin for the village. Visitors will stay away from West Malling and travel just a little further up the road to Kings Hill where they have a Dr's surgery (we do not any more) restaurants, pubs, shops etc and ALL FREE OF CHARGE TO PARK.
Redacted	Email/letter	Object	I have just read in the West Malling Bulletin no 99, that you propose parking increases for car parking, particularly in the main West Malling car park, behind Tescos. I object to this, as car parking charges disincentivise people to visit - indeed it would make more sense to make the first 30 minutes free. This would have the added benefit of reducing the amount of selfish/illegal parking when people drop children off for school or nursery, with obvious road safety issues as a direct consequence.
Redacted	Email/letter	Object	I am a resident on Ryarsh Lane and also a REDACTED who works for the REDACTED. As you are hopefully already aware there are insufficient parking spaces on Ryarsh Lane meaning that residents make use of the Ryarsh Lane car park from 3.00pm to 8.00am and at weekends. I work from home often on weekdays and it is often difficult for me to find a space on the lane. The carpark is often fairly empty on weekdays - which makes this a little frustrating. Please could residents - especially those who work from home - be given the opportunity to apply for parking pennits in the carpark? This could bring in more revenue to the council and make it easier for keyworkers to do their work. if possible these residential permits could include Saturdays - especially if charges are going to be implemented. If a parking charge is implemented on saturdays this could mean that shoppers are more likely to attempt to find free parking and ty to park on Ryarsh Lane which means a residential permit would be more important and free up space for residents on lane who havn't got a permit. I do not feel I was fully info1med about this review by the council and found out via another neighbour. I hope that in future we are consulted more fully. I hope that an

Name	Response Method	Response	Comment
			arrangement that meets the needs of all residents/business owners and shoppers can be found as I do not feel there are conflicting interests but there is a need for some thought and coordination to make this work.
Redacted	Email/letter	Object	I am a resident of Ryarsh Lane, West Malling. Due to lack of parking on the lane and nearby permitted streets, I frequently use the Ryarsh Lane Car Park after 3pm on weekdays, and over the weekend period. I cannot of course park here during the hours of 8am to 3pm, as it is Business Permits only. I believe there is currently a review taking place regarding parking charges across the borough, and that potentially, there will be a new charge introduced for the Ryarsh Lane Car Park. Due to the increased need to park (working from home etc), I would like to express my wish that you review an option to add residents permits for this car park, so it gives us the option of paying for a permit to park here. I would welcome this addition, and am aware of other residents on the street that would also be interested. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further detail, and I look forward to hearing the outcome of the review and this request
Redacted	Email/letter	Object	With reference to the above, I understand that the TMBC review of arrangements for car parks within the Borough is currently taking place and that this is open to comments and requests until 13th March 2022. I am a resident in Ryarsh Lane and my house overlooks Ryarsh lane car park. From the document dated 23rd November 2021, and published on the Street Scene part of the TMBC website, I see that some changes are being suggested and I wanted to ask about this. Currently, this car park is Business Permits only, although when the car park was first built there had been a suggestion that residents of Ryarsh Lane would be eligible for a permit for this car park (this idea seemed to have been quietly dropped). I see that there is a proposal to increase the number of permits by 25% and that Season Tickets may be offered. Can I make a very strong plea that you offer permits to the cottages in Ryarsh lane that have no parking facilities at all (other than the purchase of a WM3 permit that means parking up on King Street/Town Hill - if there are spaces left).

Name	Response Method	Response	Comment
Redacted	Email/letter	Object	<p>I feel that several residents, including myself, would wish to buy a season ticket out of this 25% increase and I would ask that we be considered for this, whether by introducing an annual option for us in the car park. A monthly season ticket would not be a great option depending on whether we were guaranteed that we could renew this every month because we would not want to lose the place once it has been gained. It has been interesting to read that about the current season ticket holders for the 114 spaces and the fact that they are not all present at the same time because on any given week day my view of the car park shows that it is usually less than 50% occupied and by increasing the number of tickets by 25% would more than satisfy the likely demand from residents in Ryarsh Lane (especially, for example, if we were limited to one season ticket per household). If there are to be any further meetings regarding this, I would be very grateful if you could let me know when these are planned and if I could attend to put our case to you. I realise that Council revenue is a very important matter and to maximise income from the car park is a good idea. As part of this, the residents of Ryarsh Lane would very much like to be part of this. Please can you consider the above and let me know if there is anything else I can do or details of meetings that I can attend.</p>
Redacted	Email/letter	Object	<p>I understand the council is currently reviewing the usage and charges of the Ryarsh Lane Car Park. As a Ryarsh Lane resident I would welcome the introduction of a monthly residents season ticket for this car park as it is increasingly difficult to park in the vicinity of Ryarsh Lane, as most houses in the lane do not have off road parking and there are only a limited number of parking spaces in the lane and surrounding roads. The building of new housing adjoining the carpark and the proliferation of homeworking has further exacerbated the problem and yet frustratingly we overlook the business car park which is empty every night and only partially full on week days. I look forward to hearing the council's decision on this.</p>

Name	Response Method	Response	Comment
Redacted	Email/letter	Object	<p>I wish to contact you regarding the current review of the uses of the Ryarsh Lane TMBC carpark and it's permit system. Myself and my partner live at REDACTED and do not have a parking space within our property deed. We are therefore reliant on parking down the Lane of Ryarsh Lane or using the Ryarsh Lane TMBC car park. My neighbour REDACTED has been in contact with our local councillor, Paul Boxall, regarding Ryarsh Lane residents being allocated a paid for permit to the Ryarsh Lane car park. Both myself and my partner work from home 2/3 days a week, and have found that we struggle to park our cars on the Lane and have to park them in the town (Tesco car park) and pay for a full day parking. This is an expensive situation, and as young, first time buyers, puts an unnecessary strain on finances when we sometimes pay £30+ a week for parking per vehicle. I also have a registered disability, and even though I have an intention of attending work, there have been instances when I have been unable to leave the house, and thus move my car, which has resulted in fines on the permit car park. Thus far I have received x5 fines over the past 6 months due to this circumstance, adding further strain. After living on Ryarsh Lane for the past 6 months, it is noticeable during the week how few car parking spaces are being occupied. In the week, there has never, to my knowledge, been a lack of spaces, and if anything, the free spaces outweigh the ones in use. It is for this reason I would like to suggest a Ryarsh Lane residents permit for the Ryarsh Lane car park. At the suggested rate of £26 for a monthly season ticket, we would be happy to pay this for each car to help resolve the issues described above. It has been noted in the Feb 10th Council meeting that it has been suggested that the car parking charging period will be extended until 5pm and will now include Saturdays. This situation will make our car parking almost impossible and far more expensive than what it is now. However, the opportunity to obtain a residential permit would resolve this and we would have no objections to the suggested changes. It would be appreciated if this solution could be considered and passed through, and I look forward to hearing back.</p>
Redacted	Email/letter	Object	<p>I have a Allotment in Ryarsh Lane and also a elderly mother who lives in REDACTED I visit both regularly I am great full for the free parking after 3.00 o'clock and weekends as you know parking is a problem in west malling! Ryarsh Lane car park is used regularly by family visiting relatives and Allotment holders in Ryarsh Lane, tools and materials need to brought there and produce we harvest taken home so a vehicle is needed, most people spend</p>

Name	Response Method	Response	Comment
			<p>there weekends at there Allotment as most work, most of the day will be spent at the Allotment or even visiting a relative, so we would have to buy the maximum stay ticket which I think is very unfair as for me growing my own fruit and vegetables is a way of saving money which you will take away by adding parking charges! You also say it will be payment by phone I have a basic phone that makes calls and texts how would I pay if proposed charges are made and I'm probably not alone, this car park is well used by people visiting the village many leave cars over night on a Friday after visiting pubs and restaurants to collect there car Saturday to find a parking ticket on it that's not right, this will also put Saturday shoppers off shops are finding it hard in the village this will not help them</p>
Redacted	Email/letter	Object	<p>Good Afternoon, Further to the newsletter regarding car parking charges at Leybourne lakes country park I would like to ask the following. What will the council do to protect the residents living on the lakes housing estate? Visitors to the country park already avoid the parking charges by parking on the housing estate and at weekends in particular it is very busy! Residents and their visitors have few places to park and it is unacceptable that visitors to the country park are using the housing estate to avoid parking charges. The gates leading onto the country park are there for residents only and with the parking charges increasing, this problem will only get worse. Please can you put some consideration into this issue.</p>

Name	Response Method	Response	Comment
Redacted	Email/letter	Object	<p>I wish to object to the level of the proposed increase in car parking charges in TMBC, and in particular for the High Street Car Park in West Malling. General comment The proposal is to generate additional receipts for TMBC. Whilst the Report to the Street Scene and Environment Services Advisory Board states that this is expected to amount to £218,000, no information is given as to the overall percentage increase, nor the amounts or percentage increases for the individual car parks where it is proposed to increase charges. It is therefore impossible to judge how the overall increase relates to inflation and whether the increase in charges at each car park is equitable. I feel that the consultation document is flawed for this reason alone. I have calculated the percentage increases for the West Malling High Street car park as below. An increase of 10p (to 50p) for parking up to 30 minutes – a 25% increase An increase of 30p (to £1.10) for parking up to 1 hour – a 37.5% increase An increase of 20p (to £1.80) for parking up to 2 hours – a 12.5% increase An increase of 20p (to £2.60) for parking up to 3 hours – an 8.3% increase An increase of 20p (to £3.40) for parking up to 4 hours – a 6.25% increase I appreciate that the date of the previous increase (April 2021) was delayed because of the pandemic, but fail to see how TMBC can justify percentage increases of 25%, 37.5%, and 12.5% in the three tariffs for parking up to 30 minutes, up to 1 hour and up to 2 hours which are all well above inflation. Indeed Para 1.1.4 of the Report states : .....”It is also worthy of note that a number of the proposals within the report do not involve any increase in the existing charge. This includes no increase in the 30 minute or 1 hour tariff in all short stay car parks....” The Report itself rules out the proposed increases of 25% and 37.5% in the West Malling High Street car park. These increases must therefore be rejected. I understand from my local Councillor that the overall increase in charges for the West Malling High Street car park is 15%, yet the Borough-wide increase is 7%. The consultation document gives no justification for this difference (and, indeed, makes no mention of it), which will adversely affect the ability of West Malling to attract customers which is already difficult in the present cost of living crisis, with petrol, national insurance and energy all showing sharp increases. I shall be grateful if you will quote this email in full to members of the Street Scene and Environment Services Advisory Board (with my personal details redacted) since any summary of it will not properly cover the points raised.</p>

Name	Response Method	Response	Comment
Redacted	Email/letter	Object	<p>You want to build a new public toilet, supposedly in the small high st car park, which would cut the parking spaces, when we already have toilets, which just need a proper sign post in the high st, so visitors know where they are. Now you are proposing to charge for Saturday parking in the business car park in King St, the busiest trading day, even less reason for people to come here. Unfortunately TMBC has not used the powers they have to prevent too many eating places opening in close proximity to each other, therefore causing a lot of places to close because the footfall in the weekdays has dropped greatly. The only reason people come here now is to visit a hairdressers, estate agents to eat, or go to the pubs, and now it wont be worth coming here for them even, it will be better to go to Bluewater, or even Maidstone. Now with this new proposal you have caused a huge problem with allotment holders, some are saying it wont be worth having an allotment if they now have to pay to park to be able to carry their tools and bags of compost etc. It would no longer be viable to grow their own. There is nowhere else to park. I would be grateful for your comments, so that I can understand what you have in mind for West Malling, and the reasons, ie why you want to close us off. Perhaps it's because Kings Hill doesn't cause you any problems, the houses have parking, the shopping area has parking, there are public toilets, the business give you a large income and no trouble, so is this is where you would like the hub of West Malling to be. We look forward to your reply in great anticipation.</p>
Redacted	Email/letter	Object	<p>The Parish Council strongly objects to the proposed increase in car park charges and in particular, the introduction of charges in the Ryarsh Lane car park. The increases / introduction of charges will be introduced at a time when the High Street is attempting to recover from Covid 19 and difficult trading conditions; these charges will have a detrimental impact on the High Street. The introduction of charges in the Ryarsh Lane car park will impact on Saturday shopping with shoppers losing the ability to park in a long stay car park. The Parish Council is surprised that the proposal mirrors the scheme in the short stay car park. The Parish Council does not support the introduction of Saturday charges, but would ask that if charges are to be introduced, that any new charging structure enables shoppers to stay in excess of 4 hours which will allow shoppers to enjoy all of the shops and businesses that West Malling has to offer. Any monies raised from parking charges should be reinvested back into West Malling, including the provision of traffic enforcement.</p>