

DUNBAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

RESPONSE TO

EAST LoTHIAN COUNCIL/STANTEC

DUNBAR PARKING MANAGEMENT

PLAN PROPOSALS

June 2025



DUNBAR  
COMMUNITY  
COUNCIL



## **DUNBAR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS**

### **Response from Dunbar Community Council**

**13<sup>th</sup> June, 2025**

#### **Introduction**

Following the launch of ELC's Parking Management Plan for Dunbar, framed by Stantec, Dunbar Community Council (DCC) has:

- a. Fully supported the drive to get as many people as possible to engage with the Stantec report and complete the Stantec questionnaire
- b. Launched an independent questionnaire to ascertain the potential impacts of the proposed management scheme and the levels of support for same (Appendix A)
- c. Taken receipt of written representations from local residents (Appendix C)
- d. Held a public meeting to which
  - o Cllr Norman Hampshire
  - o Cllr Donna Collins
  - o Cllr Lyn Jardine
  - o Cllr John McMillan
  - o Paul McLennan MSP
  - o Craig Hoy MSP

were invited to speak to the proposals and take questions. (Appendix D)

Feedback from the public meeting was tendered to East Lothian Council on 11<sup>th</sup> June. 2025. This paper summarises the results of DCC's questionnaire and states our position on the proposals.

#### **DCC Questionnaire –**

##### **Geographic Response**

As of 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025, DCC's questionnaire had been completed by 1215 people in three weeks. (Appendix A).

Geographically, 18.8% of respondents (229) lived in the proposed control zone, 786 people (64.7%) of respondents lived in Dunbar but outwith the controlled zone and 16.5% (200) respondents lived outwith Dunbar and travelled into the town.

##### **Impact on footfall**

85% (1031) of respondents said that the imposition of parking charges on the High Street and West Port would make them use the shops and services located here, less. 21 people said the

charges would make them use the shops and services more and 13.2% of respondents indicated that charges would make no change to their use of the shops and services in Dunbar's centre.

The introduction of charges at Lauderdale Park would result in 85% of respondents using the park less, 6 people would use it more, and for 15% of respondents there would be no change.

The introduction of charges at the Leisure Pool would result in 86% of respondents using the Pool and Dunbar Town Centre less, 7 people would use the Leisure Centre more and for 14% of respondents, there would be no change.

The introduction of charges at Bleachingfield would result in 82% of respondents using the Centre less, just 6 people said they would use the centre more and 18% of people (215) said there would be no change.

This 'no change' figures reflect the fact that 19% of respondents live in the centre and, consequently, walk to High St/West Port on a majority of occasions.

#### **Support for Permit Parking/wider on street parking charges**

Only 4.5% of respondents (54) supported the introduction of Permit Parking only in Parsonspool and in the Dunbar Shore and Harbour Neighbourhood area. 1150 people and 1153 people, respectively, did not support the introduction of permit parking in these areas.

3.5% and 3.2% of respondents supported the introduction of permit parking with on street charges in Dunbar North and West with 96.5% and 96.8% respectively, stating that they did not support these charges.

#### **Written Reasons + Themes**

695 people submitted written reasons to explain why they had elected to complete the questionnaire in the way that they did.

The overwhelming themes were:

1. There is no issue with parking on High St that could not be sorted by
  - a. Better enforcement
  - b. Establishment of the long-promised parking provision at Dunbar Station Coalyards
  - c. Establishment of direct walking/cycling route through the Coalyards to the station from the east (with excellent bike storage)
  - d. Establishment of direct walking/cycling route to the southern platform, from the south (with excellent bike storage)

2. The introduction of parking charges on High Street and at the Pool would kill the High Street. There was a recognition that many of our shops and local businesses are 'pop in' shops attracting discretionary spend and there was a very strong message that people would seek to shop at out-of-town centres or on-line instead of having to cope with charges and/or technology.
3. The introduction of parking charges at the Leisure Pool, Lauderdale Park and Bleachingfield would drive people away, resulting in financial strain on all three of these businesses and, as importantly, impacting the health and wellbeing of the very many people of all ages who enjoy sports, social and leisure activities at these three sites.
4. The introduction of charges had nothing to do with traffic management and everything to do with raising cash for ELC.
5. ELC won't listen to the people of Dunbar and 'will do it anyway', as has happened in North Berwick.

All written responses can be found at Appendix B.

Dunbar Community Council has listened to the views of both residents and visitors to the town, and these responses are solid evidence of what people think and how they will behave if the proposals are adopted.

#### **DCC Position on ELC Engagement with Dunbar**

1. We remain deeply disappointed in the way that ELC has elected to engage with the community on the matter of traffic management. The suggestion made in publicity material that the proposals put forward by Stantec were 'in collaboration with' DCC and other key stakeholders were untruthful and damaging.
2. The process has been promoted as a consultation but there is widespread anger and disbelief that the community was not given any chance at all to consider whether it WANTED parking charges or not at the outset.
3. Following the total disregard for public opinion shown by ELC in parking management plans for North Berwick, we believe this whole exercise to be yet another expensive (£55k) pretence at engagement, with no intention at all of listening to the people of Dunbar.

#### **DCC Position on the basis for the Stantec proposition**

1. There has been no attempt on the part of ELC or its consultants to seek to obtain any kind of robust, up to date evidence, information or feedback from stakeholders on traffic matters in the town. The proposals have, instead, been predicated on a report that is 7 years out of date, pre-Covid, which was, itself, based on data from 2009. (ELC Transport Strategy 2018)

2. There is no robust risk assessment of economic impacts, health and well-being impacts, or impacts of traffic displacement on sensitive areas around Dunbar Primary School (John Muir Campus)
3. Elected members, including the ELC Council Leader and the Economic Development lead, have been unable to provide us with any kind of business model to show the actual costs against income, year on year.

#### **DCC Position on Stantec/ELC Proposals**

Given the overwhelming feedback from local businesses, town centre residents, and wider constituents, Dunbar Community Council does not support any aspect of the proposals made by Stantec. We are firmly of the view that the introduction of parking charges would prove devastating for our local economy and prove to be an act of economic and social vandalism on the part of East Lothian Council.

End

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Refer below to:

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| Appendix A | DCC Impact and Feedback Questionnaire               |
| Appendix B | Questionnaire – Written Reasons for responses       |
| Appendix C | Additional written representation from residents    |
| Appendix D | Record of Public Meeting c/w Comment and video link |

## **APPENDIX A – DUNBAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL QUESTIONNAIRE**

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# WILL DUNBAR PARKING CHARGES CHANGE YOUR HABITS?

**Dunbar Community Council** would like to know if the introduction of car parking charges and parking restrictions on Dunbar High Street and some 37ha of land to the east and west of the town centre, will **change the way you visit our local shops, businesses, sports and leisure facilities.**

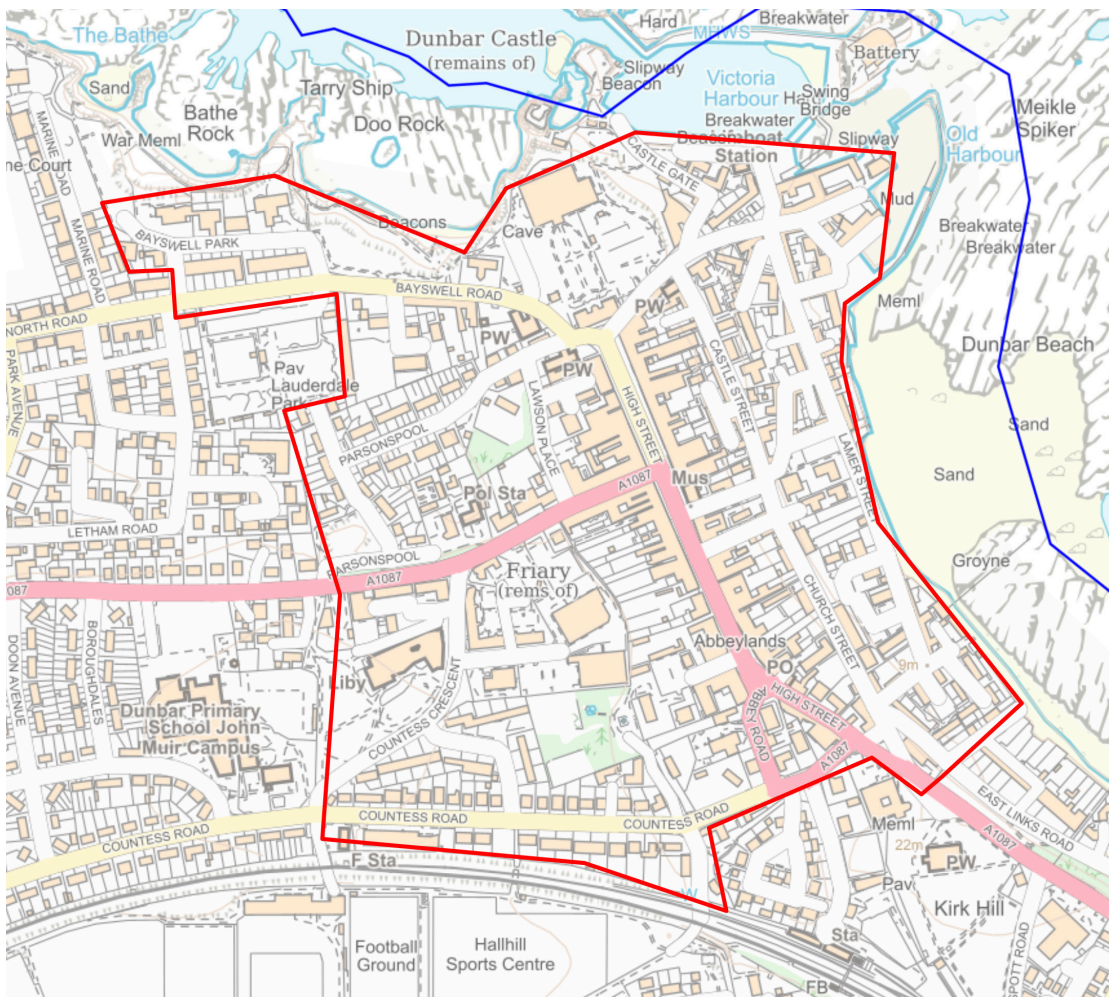
**Have a look at the information below, then tick the boxes. It's easy!**

To access East Lothian Council's full proposal and questionnaire, follow these links.

[ELC/Stantec - Dunbar Parking Management Proposal Paper](#)

[ELC/Stantec Parking Management Questionnaire](#)

## Proposed Parking Controls and Parking Charge Area (outlined in red)



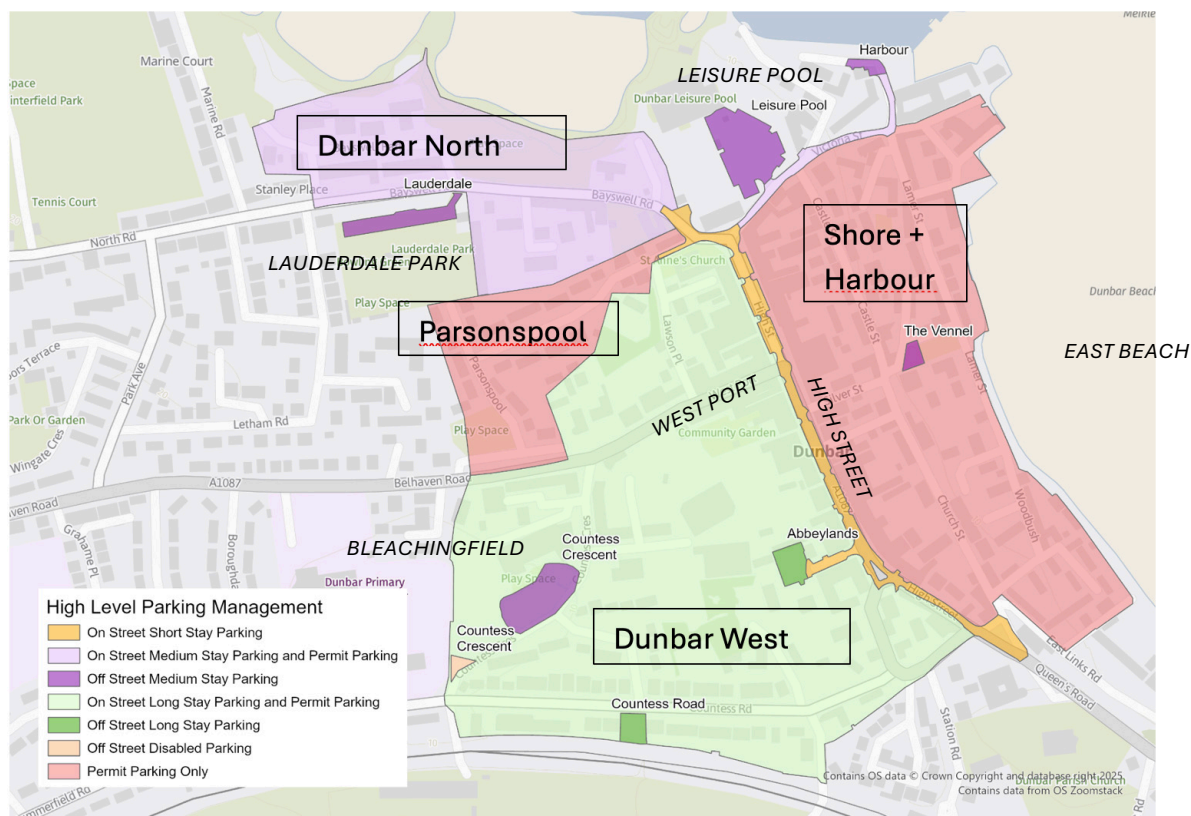
### ABOUT YOU ... (select one)

- ☐ I live **within** the Parking Controls and Charge Area (red outline on map 1, above)
- ☐ I live in Dunbar but **not in** the Parking Controls and Charge Area
- ☐ I live **outside** Dunbar and travel into the town



## Proposed Parking Control Zones

Short, medium and long stay car parking and permit parking only (see key)



**Proposed Parking Charges** (see map above for parking designation zones)  
(ELC/Stantec have provided no detail on charges for parking permits)

Designation of parking	Permitted Hours (Charging Hours)	Scale of Charges	Maximum Stay	No return within	Disabled Persons Badge Holder (Blue Badge)
Short stay	Every day 8.30am to 6.00pm	Up to 30 minutes Free Up to 60 minutes £1.00 Up to 90 minutes £2.00 <b>Maximum stay 90 minutes</b>	90 minutes	90 minutes	No charge No maximum length of stay
Medium stay	Every day 8.30am to 6.00pm	Up to 30 minutes £0.50 and £0.50 for each 30 minutes thereafter up to <b>a maximum of 5 hours.</b>	Pay and display parking place – 5 Hours Electric Vehicle charging bay Journey bay – 45 minutes Destination bay – 4 hours	90 minutes	No charge No maximum length of stay
Long stay	Every day 8.30am to 6pm	Up to 30 minutes £0.50 and £0.50 for each 30 minutes thereafter up to <b>a maximum of £5.</b>	23 hours	8 hours	No charge No maximum length of stay



## IMPACTS OF PARKING CONTROLS AND CHARGES ON YOU

The introduction of **short stay + parking charges** on **High Street + West Port** will make me use the shops and services located here...

(choose one answer):

- ☐ MORE
- ☐ LESS
- ☐ NO CHANGE

The introduction of **medium stay + parking charges** at **Lauderdale Park** will make me visit the park and Dunbar town centre...

(Choose one answer):

- ☐ MORE
- ☐ LESS
- ☐ NO CHANGE

The introduction of **medium stay + parking charges** at **Dunbar Leisure Pool** will make me visit the pool and Dunbar town centre...

(Choose one answer):

- ☐ MORE
- ☐ LESS
- ☐ NO CHANGE

The introduction of **medium stay + parking charges** at the **Bleachingfield Centre** will make me visit this building...

(Choose one answer):

- ☐ MORE
- ☐ LESS
- ☐ NO CHANGE

## YOUR VIEWS ON MEDIUM/LONG STAY PARKING CHARGE + PERMIT PARKING AREAS

(See areas marked in pale green, pale purple and pink on map above)

Do you support the introduction of **parking charges** and/or **permit parking** in **DUNBAR NORTH?**

(labelled, pale purple on map)

☐ YES

☐ NO

Do you support the introduction of **parking charges** and/or **permit parking** in **PARSONSPOOL?**

(labelled, pink area on map)

☐ YES

☐ NO

Do you support the introduction of **parking charges** and/or **permit parking** in **DUNBAR WEST?**

(labelled, pale green area on map)

☐ YES

☐ NO

Do you support the introduction of **permit parking only** in **DUNBAR EAST (Shore + Harbour)?**

(labelled, pale pink area on map)

☐ YES

☐ NO

**TELL US MORE....(optional)**

## **CONTACTS**

If you want to write directly to East Lothian Council to express your views,  
email:[dunbarparking@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:dunbarparking@eastlothian.gov.uk)

**BEFORE 16th June 2025**

If you want to write directly to Dunbar Community Council to express your views,  
email:[dunbarcommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:dunbarcommunitycouncil@gmail.com)

**BEFORE 9th June 2025**

## APPENDIX B – WRITTEN REASONS FOR DCC QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES

### TELL US MORE....(optional)

Nothing to help "parking issues", just raising revenue. Have not learned from the coastal car park charging that it will fall short of expectations (but of course it is not for raising revenue). We are not cash cows that can be milked whenever, my 1.75% pay rise this year doesn't go far, so will not be taking in additional expense.

Parking is not a problem within the town, so why break something that doesn't need fixing.

One of the main long stay car parking areas covers the drop off points for the primary school and nursery campuses. Parents who need to transport children via car will be hit by charges, on a daily basis to support their child to have an education.

Parking charges will cost a huge amount to implement, they will damage local businesses and people trying to access local services at the pool / park / beach / hotels / shops and their friends and school / library and scout Hall. There is not an issue with parking- I have lived in Dunbar for almost 20 years and use the area covered by proposed charges every week / nearly daily. It will be a nightmare for everyone and lead to a ghost town.

There is no issue with parking in these areas, this is just a clear money-grab, and will negatively affect the local businesses, services and local clubs in the area. Particularly at a time when local high street businesses are already strained with the incoming retail park at the Dunbar.

There is a lot of older housing and flats in these areas and I do not agree with charging residents for parking outside their houses plus will discourage visitors to Dunbar. Also a RNLI volunteer, so would have to pay parking charges when attending an incident or training!

These proposals are absolutely nonsensical. Masked as a solution to parking issues - what we know they really are is an opportunity to make a quick buck from residents. This is a small coastal town - it's not Edinburgh, so don't try to impose similar restrictions. This will literally kill the town and businesses and the cheek to include residential areas and force people to pay for permits! The consultants have provided no justification for any of the proposals and have approached this division of our town as an opportunity to make money. Including residential permits just seems sneaky, they've thought people might park on these streets to avoid paying hence why they've been included. This is not a solution to anything it's simply another way to squeeze money out of residents for short term gain. These kind of proposals are not forgotten when it comes to elections.

Going to cause public to visit Dunbar less nor use the high street, local pool. Impact to small local businesses is going to be crucial. Bleachingfield - families park to collect young children from the P1-P3 school where children can't go home themselves, where do they expect all these families to park now? Co-op or factory shop will be swamped with cars for a space and not a customer. Customers will stop shopping there. Paying is huge mistake - I won't be paying or using them. Streets will be empty.

Not fair to local businesses

I think parking charges are a terrible idea and are completely not needed. Parking is not an issue in the town and this is purely a money making measure from the council.

I think it will be an absolute travesty if the council start charging for parking outside the library, pool, Lauderdale, etc. and charges will be the death knell for our high street. Maybe they should re-think their huge pay rises before trying to penalise families who are keen to support local businesses or who are trying to keep their children fit and healthy or are just trying to instil a love of reading (at a time when literacy levels have never been so low). We already pay £48 for our 2 children to take swimming lessons, which is a significant amount for us as a family, but we see it as a worthwhile investment due to the fact we live by the sea. It's shameful that they would consider charging us for parking on top of that. The other week we took a drive to North Berwick unaware of the parking charges there now. We ended up driving through and went to Drift instead for a coffee where parking is free. I can quite easily see similar scenarios happening here.

If you pay £40 per month for gym membership you should not have to pay parking. Also use of dentist, hairdresser are nit just quick appointments and sometimes hard to judge length of time it will take. Would also stop going for coffee or lunches

This plan is ill conceived and based on pre-COVID information. People's working and commuting habits have changed considerably since then, so this plan should have been reviewed and significantly amended in response - to accurately reglect the CURRENT situation. These parking charge proposals will have a hugely negative impact on our unique High Street and threaten our valued mix of family and community businesses, by encouraging people to shop at Dunbar's retail parks or outwith Dunbar. We have a very special High Street and ELC should be doing everything in their power to encourage & support our local businesses, rather than putting them at risk of going bust.

You will kill the high street with this stupidity

More provision for cycle parking is a necessity to reduce need for car usage.

Can't talk about "supporting local businesses" then make it harder for the general public to access these areas. If someone who lives on the other side of Dunbar from the High Street how are they supposed to carry things they may buy all the way home just to avoid parking charges. People also work on the High Street, why should they spend money on parking just to be able to work? The council would then suggest taking the bus, that's just the same struggle, spending money on a bus ticket which is often late or doesn't even show up, not to mention for those working buses might not get them to the areas they need to be at the right time. I personally live just outside of the parking zones, meaning that there will be a rise of people parking on the street I live in, making it harder to park near my house, this wouldn't happen if people could just park where they needed to park with no issues. There is just no need to bring in something that the public are not demanding.

I truly believe this is not the right thing to do, I fear for our wonderful local businesses and leisure facilities who already have many challenges to face given the never ending cost of living crisis and constant price increases of EVERYTHING it's just another way to tax us all and businesses will suffer, keep Scotland great, parking charges every where are one of the things I loathe about England, please don't do this 🙏🙏🙏 I do not see how these changes will actually improve anything for anyone, spend the money implementing charges on something more worthwhile... this is just another reason for Dunbar inhabitants to skip the high street and drive straight to Asda or Fort Kinnaird

This is a ridiculous proposal and will only harm local traders and businesses. The proposal is designed to extract money from both locals and visitors and not to address any real issue. The use of consultants and their exorbitant fees is yet another example of a waste of money from this council

Any parking charges will stop me from using the shops on the high street. It is free to park at the supermarket. I like to support local businesses where I can but this will have a big detrimental affect on them

I don't think there is a problem with parking in Dunbar. We have a lovely High Street which should be supported rather than introducing parking charges that will put people off from using it!!

Destroys our town, destroys the high street, destroys local businesses on the high street!

Already destroying local businesses with the high rates but you want to destroy them more by putting car parking nonsense in the town! The town will be worse off! Nobody to blame but yourselves if that's the case!

Don't give huge wage rises and then use the public to fund the f\*\*k up!

The high street shops are struggling. Any charges at this time will kill the high street completely. Along with the retail development beside ASDA.

The introduction of parking charges are totally unnecessary. The current situation of limited free parking on the High street works well. Charges would only discourage people from visiting Dunbar resulting in the total decline of the town centre and amenities

Introducing parking charges will have a very negative effect on Dunbar and particularly impact poorer residents. It will lessen trade on the high st and will mean more people use the supermarkets because they won't charge for parking. Please do not introduce charges.

Feel as a population we pay enough. Fuel is expensive. Road tax, insurance and council tax has risen! More charges with parking is shocking! I won't be visiting anywhere that charges. Bad enough having to pay at the beaches now!

Introduction of charges will have a detrimental effect on Dunbar town centre. Charges would need endless meters in all areas affected. Meters are ugly & congested footpaths. Charges are not needed & not wanted.

Parking charges will be detrimental to the high street, I never have a problem parking, I usually park at the leisure centre or Bleachingfield.

The High Street is already struggling, as evidenced by the number of vacant units. Introducing parking charges will lead to people going elsewhere.

If restrictions are to be introduced, why not use a parking disc system, similar to Berwick upon Tweed and Northumberland, which is already a major competitor to Dunbar for customers.

Self employed trades person, where am I supposed to park when visiting properties.

Many of the least well off families in the town live in these areas.  
Why should they be penalised?  
Some may have 2 or more cars. Will they all get permits.

If family or friends visit what should they do!!  
Crazy ridiculous greedy planning !  
The businesses around the High Street will be hammered by less visitors it locals using them.  
Overnight accommodation will have nowhere to send tourists to park.  
Will high Street businesses be given free permits to park on the street for essential travel eg deliveries.  
This is based on a very old survey.  
The community council consultation didn't reach the public in any way.  
Primary school staff need to use the Bleachingfield car park.  
I could go in.  
NO CHANGES TO PARKING IN DUNBAR

I think it is a ridiculous proposal and will only harm local businesses and cause a issue with neighbours as some people will think themselves more entitled to a space directly outside their house instead of being quite happy to park a couple houses down or further away

Parking is not a problem as it currently is. I am highly concerned about the charges putting people off using our local shops, play parks and sports facilities.

There is not a parking problem in Dunbar but these measure will create one. Displaced parking by residents who perhaps cannot pay the fees. How are visitors to homes dealt with. Proper enforcement t of current parking legislation a better use pf council money. Once again people are being hit in their pocket. How will the free time be dealt with will everyone have to log their car when they arrive even if just popping to the chemist? More information needed. 90 mins free is a sensible time and what we currently have. Not need for new signs as we have already. Imagine you too your kids for a swim. They played up, you overstayed your time, get a fine. You'd not go swimming again. So many issues this throws up. We need to keep pushing back.

Council using outdated survey to solve a problem where there is none. Money making exercise at the expense of High St which is struggling and not recoveries from Covid. Trade is not at pre shutdown levels

As a disabled resident there are not enough parking placed in Dubnar especially on the High St and at the pharmacies. parking charged would severely affect the High St in my option as people often linger before they decide to buy. Perhaps an hour free parking or the use of parking time cards would be more effective

Parking charges will reduce custom on the high st and cause a decline in the high st. Parking charges are not nwcessar in other areas. Money grab by council

I think the ELC proposals are unwanted and unnecessary. For the most part they have identified a problem that does not exist. Issues relating to inconsiderate parking, parking on double yellow lines/pavements/junctions could easily be resolved by better enforcement of the current set up.

The proposals will dissuade people from using independent town centre shops and business and drive people to the free parking offered at out of town multinational offerings like Asda and McDonald's.

If parking charges are introduced to the town centre this will be the nail in the coffin for the local business there!

Just a way for ELC to make money and justify the massive increase in salaries

Hearing some of the anger expressed, frankly in 40 years of living in Dunbar, I have never heard such unbridled venom. I wouldn't be surprised if widespread vandalism of the mechanisms and



signage occurred if this idiotic scheme is implemented. I really do think this may well be the tipping point for many people. Personally it will be just easier to shop for everything at the ASDA or take more trips to Haddington retail park/ Berwick on Tweed, I certainly won't be putting more money in the councils ever expanding pockets.

Total disregard for the whole community. People's livelihoods are at stake here along with the decline of social interaction that people have within the confinement of the High Street.

I think that the introduction of parking charges would be most detrimental to the high st businesses . It's true that one often can't get a spot directly on the high st (possibly because the current parking restriction are not enforced ) but I'm happy to park bleachingfields etc and walk a little . This is a terrible idea

Not sure why they would make a decision that is anti growth for the town centre

This will impact local businesses, this should definitely not be done!

Will shut down the high street. No changes needed

Introduce parking discs as in Berwick. Cheap to introduce, minimal running cost. For greater income, produce new parking discs every year.

Do not support paid parking as local shops need trade

After attending the consultation at Dunbar Town House, which was facilitated by an expensive consultancy agency at great cost to tax payers and regarded by all who attended simply a means to an end for the council, I believe that East Lothian council has manufactured a parking issue in Dunbar which they say they can resolve by charging Dunbar residents and visitors parking charges, by all accounts to make up a deficit in their budget. These charges will have an impact on most Dunbar residents for example, young families and those with mobility issues;

\*Young families who need to use their cars to transport their children to the library, swimming pool, the beach, school and Lauderdale Park

\*It will impact people who have mobility issues due to age or health but who cannot get a blue badge. They need their cars to attend appointments e.g. medical and to pick up prescriptions, visit the post office, and buy groceries.

Parking should be free, if not for all then residents should have a free permit.

The new retail development will have free parking and the great worry is that our lovely Dunbar High Street will go into decline.

East Lothian Council should be ashamed of itself

Parking charges in a small town struggling to keep a high street alive as it is will finish the job. It will definitely help with congestion thought the high street because no one will go ther. And businesses will close. Try enforcing the rules that already stand and allot off the troubles will be ironed out. Unless it's a cash grab then only hurting the town

We live a 30 minute walk/5 minute drive from the centre with 2 small children and visit frequently, charges will make us more likely to go elsewhere

it's a disgrace that the council are planning to penalise residents who frequent local amenities and feel that the local shops we have will suffer greatly from the drop in footfall

The whole idea is a joke. There isn't a parking problem on the high street or else where in Dunbar. It can be busy but you can always find a space. Introducing parking charges will just stop residents visiting the high street meaning local businesses lose out as they'll just go to Asda and park for free. Even the idea of the first 30 mins being free won't help. If I'm visiting the pool or a cafe or browsing round shops it takes longer than 30 mins. Just don't implement what is clearly a stupid idea only designed to make East Lothian Council money.

Also if there is no money to enforce the current parking regulations in East Lothian then how do the council plan to fund the enforcement of any new regulations?

Nobody should have to pay to park here - there are zero issues with parking at the moment!!

There is NO PROBLEM with parking in the Dunbar area There is NO NEED TO INTRODUCE PARKING CHARGES WITHIN DUNBAR !!!!

I think parking restrictions are unnecessary and would mean that those of us who live just out of the restricted zones would struggle to find parking as those areas would be used more by people not wanting to drive into town. Overall I fear that it would negatively impact the independent businesses on the High street that are already struggling to survive. If these last independent shops were driven out of business Dunbar centre would become less attractive for locals & visitors to spend time in. I absolutely oppose parking restrictions. The investment needed for such a scheme could instead be given to local community projects.

There is no big parking problem in Dunbar this is a money making exercise by Council and generally just a stitch up

High Street will die. People will not use coffee shops, hairdressers, dentist. Why after paying membership at leisure centre then have to pay parking on top. Tourist will not now stay in area. No parking at hotels. What about fishermen at the harbour how will the catch be unloaded. The problem with the high street just now is double parked work vans NOT cars.

The 90 minute is working well

No current issue. Just creating work and will discourage use of high street

madness

Clear mismanagement by council and a sledgehammer to crack a nut approach

East Lothian Council are only doing this to line their own pockets and to start implementing cooperations into our town, rather than small independent shops. Its always about money, not the community now! Small businesses are not meant to succeed anymore.

Unbelievable that the council thinks that this would benefit Dunbar traders !

These measures will kill the High St.

Why would anyone think that the introduction of parking charges throughout central Dunbar is a good idea? Less people will do their shopping on the High Street, less people will visit Dunbar as they will see it as an expensive place to visit. The businesses on the High Street and West Port will suffer because of these changes. As a shop volunteer it is going to cost me £4.50 for the privilege of trying to do some good for the community. It's time for the Council to think of another way of generating money - one that does not harm our community and one that encourages visitors and locals to use our town centre.

This will further damage a struggling high street to attract shoppers.

There is no parking problem in Dunbar

Any parking changes introduced to Dunbar will see me shop elsewhere or moving my shopping more online. I already go nowhere near East Lothian beaches. I will happily travel to Coldingham for a beach rather than put up with the charges.

YOU WILL KILL THE TOWN CENTRE IF YOU INTRODUCE THESE CHARGES!!!!

This proposal is absolutely insane and all this will do is kill the high street and local businesses. Surely if the council has enough money to give local councillors a 40% wage rise, there's no need to charge the general public who only receive between 2-5% of a wage rise. Point proven!!

Terrible idea. Will impact our local businesses

You're just trying to get more money not more visitors, it will determine visitors and local businesses will suffer. It will deter people from parking.

I have never had an issue parking in any of the areas mentioned. I go to the gym regularly and parking restrictions will impact on this. I feel I will visit the high street less and this will impact on the high street businesses

This will be a nail in the coffin for small businesses on the high street. It will also penalise young families who are already struggling financially. It will stop kids getting taken to the park or learning to swim. Unless a free parking permit is given to all within the Dunbar council tax area and only

visitors to the town are charged is awful, we already pay enough council tax, tax etc without having to pay to take our kids to beach, swimming, library etc. strongly against thia

The introduction of parking charges during a time of economic hardship is deeply concerning. Facilities such as the Bleachingfield Community Centre—commonly used for school pick-ups—the local swimming pool, which hosts essential swimming lessons, and Lauderdale Park, a vital recreational space for families that includes a café and public restrooms, are integral to community life. Imposing parking fees at these locations is both surprising and disappointing. There is a genuine fear that such measures will contribute to the decline of our town's vitality. Furthermore, it appears that these plans may have already been accounted for in the council's forthcoming budget, regardless of public opinion, raising serious concerns about the transparency and responsiveness of local governance

you're going to kill what's left of the high street and surrounding areas

This is an unnecessary measure, and will put me off using town facilities and shops. It will add extra stress to day to day family life. I've never had an problems parking around the town and use all of the proposed areas frequently

This is so upsetting and disappointing. We visit Dunbar Pool 2 x a week for lessons. I would love to walk but my children are exhausted after lessons so won't manage. Likewise with Lauderdale, after a long play they are sometimes too tired to walk so we can't always walk. It's already more expensive to shop on the high street but I like to try to support local businesses when I'm able, parking charges will reduce what I am able to spend and how regularly I can go.

Why can't the council bring in something like Northumberland Council, where you set the time on your dashboard and are allowed a certain time. If the Dunbar proposal is really to stop people from taking up a space for hours then this would be ideal.

Please rethink this, with costs long up everywhere, and our council tax increasing by 10% this just feels like a slap in the face.

If you're going to the pool or to the gym you're already paying to use the facility. Paying to park is off-putting, especially as you don't know how long you will be there. We've just increased out council tax, now we're being squeezed to exercise and keep fit.  
I also feel this will put me off going to the High street when I can go to Asda or Aldi for a shop and not have to pay to park.  
This will kill the high street!

You need to listen to the residents and local businesses. You've already got it wrong with the charges at beaches. You're so desperate for money, you're not thinking things through. You can't even afford traffic wardens for the restrictions you already have. I just think if you go ahead with this you will demonstrate further how inept and bad at decision making and finances you guys are! Like a lot of the other decisions you make this will end up pissing everyone off because it's badly thought through and will destroy our high st. Apparently at the meeting about this you hadn't thought of so many repercussions to this. You need to listen to people but I'm scared you won't because you think this will make you money but your poor problem solving skills.

I will be more inclined to use Asda and the proposed shops in Dunbar Park.

I don't know where ELC are of the opinion that there is a parking issue in Dunbar. Yes sometimes it can be difficult to get parking right away on the high street but this is during busy times. Never had a problem anywhere else.

Introducing these charges will only move the "problem" to other streets not included. It's madness, our high street is struggling enough without this being introduced.

To introduce parking charges to then be able to employ more parking wardens is crazy.

Absolutely against this idea 100%

The charges for dunbar also differ from other areas, in Tranent they are being offered 45 minutes free. Why make this different for dunbar.

Dunbar will struggle shops are not used enough then having to pay will make them just go to asda garden centre and not come into dunbar. Cut the wages of mps and msp. That will help with costs

There has been insufficient reasoning as to why these changes are being made. The extra revenue will impact local businesses as why pay when I can go to the fort or Asda and not pay?

Maybe stop building houses and build infrastructure instead of penalising people

This is just going to kill our little town more

Ridiculous, no need for parking charges. Will deter locals from the high street and local amenities such as lauderdale park and swimming pool. People will end up avoiding dunbar high street and going to asda and the fort where there are no charges.

Will absolutely ruin the high street. Pure greed

We don't need this

There is no issue, I've always been able to get a spare at or near to my intended location. The current works and the associated trade vehicles are however taking up valuable space, limit these / control where they can park, and it will improve matters further without the need for charging and giving Dunbar residents even less incentive for visiting & investing in our high street. Please focus less on helping fill the empty units on the high street, and less on charging local residents to park on their high street, who have already had to take on a significant increase in council tax.

There are no parking issues with the current set up and no need to introduce parking charges at all. It will be detrimental to local businesses and the wider community.

Parking charges will mean fewer visitors to the High St, the Leisure Pool, Lauderdale Park and Bleachingfield so less money coming into Dunbar. Also, people working and/or volunteering (as I do) will have to pay to park their cars. Seiner citizens can travel free by bus to do their shopping so those who now shop in Dunbar and park their cars will no longer do so. Parking charges will kill our High Street!

Cost based scheme to boost the Council's coffers. There were unable to utilise all speeding cameras and therefore turned them off. So now introduce a complicated parking scheme with no obvious benefits, no improved parking for parents with children or disabled people and charge people for the privilege! Staff who work in our business will be unable to park locally for the duration of the work day This included a delivery vehicle which will not be easily accessible. National Insurance costs affect not only the local council staff but also smaller businesses which incidentally do not receive a 40% pay rise!

Dunbar is dying. So many shops have gone. Parking will increase the decline. Asda will be delighted

I live in Dunbar, born and bred. If I cannot visit the High St without incurring charges over and above the current 90 minute limit, the High St will be a ghost town to the detriment of all the local businesses who are already struggling to survive. This is pure GREED by our local council who have already increased our Council Tax this year. SCANDALOUS. Leave Dunbar Town Centre ALONE!

Charging to park means I won't just nip to the shops on the High Street or use any of the cafes. I will just have to use Asda for shopping or the garden centre to meet friends for coffee but I would prefer to use local businesses without paying to park. Most people are likely to do the same, it will

be the death of our High Street. Why not employ more traffic wardens to enforce the maximum stay on the High Street?
I hope to hell this council is voted out next election. Absolute con artists.
It's unnecessary, and will be to the detriment of residents, visitors and businesses.
A lot of the suggestions are parking for schools and local amenities. This will eat into the income for families who are already on a tight budget. We already need permits to park at the beaches, or £3 a day.
people wont use the high street and may relocate to other towns/cities and resort to online shopping which will kill high street businesses
Parking not the issue. I object to the council trying to extract more money from residents especially after having raised council tax
I think it's terrible and money making for council, I run a small business helping elderly people and this is gonna have a big impact on me helping with parking charges added, blinking awful
These charges are not necessary. We don't have a parking problem but these proposals will introduce many more problems with loss of revenue for High Street businesses and make parking problems OUTSIDE the High Street. The wishes of the people should be upheld and not overruled by the council.
I think it's a disgrace this is even being considered. You are not thinking of the traders or the Dunbar community, just your pockets!!
I think parking charges will be the death of the high street.
The current parking rules work perfectly well. 90 minutes free gives time for shopping and a coffee. Paying after 30 minutes means it's easier to go to a supermarket and not bother with coffee or to visit Dunbar's artisan shops.
It will destroy trade to independent businesses on the high street. There is no issue with parking in Dunbar currently
I have small children and often go to the library (park at Bleachingfields), the harbour (parking at the leisure pool) or Lauderdale park as free things to do but if charges are introduced this will restrict this as an option for us. To go swimming we are already paying to go in the pool but will now have additional parking charges on top, this is unfair on low income families who live too far away to walk or cycle to places. I often go to the post office or chemist and when there go into other shops such as Cruchy Carrot or the bakery. I will no longer be doing this if I have to pay a charge. It is unrealistic to expect people to be able to go to multiple shops in 30 minutes.
Do not support parking charges at all in a town the size of Dunbar. There is no issue with availability of spaces. I have yet to see evidence that there is a problem. I would only ever expect to pay parking charges in a busy congested city centre!
What if these households needs carers there can be at least 4 different carers attending in a day carers don't earn enough for a parking permit and the company's won't pay it so these households are going to receive no care because you think it's acceptable to introduce parking permits to areas that don't need one, all to line Norman Hampshire's pockets from his wage rise, East Lothian

council need to get a grip of themselves, your also going to kill the high street with parking charges as no one is gonna use them and encourage them to use the likes of Haddington retail park where there is no charges, o for one will never use the high street again and East Lothian council will be held responsible of all the business's closing down,

East Lothian council complete farce

If the parking charges are introduced they will create a major parking problem where I merge I live as it just outside the charging zone and people will park there too avoid paying.

I think that many people are rightly unhappy/angry about the way ELC has introduced this scheme for reasons that most people disagree with. I understand that ELC has to increase its revenue so why can't they just be honest about this being a money making scheme and work with the community to help businesses and residents for the best outcome possible and one which will have the least negative impact on the town and so that people feel included and listened to.

I feel that some parking charges would be tolerated if the process was handled differently. The disc parking scheme has been mentioned on social media, I wonder if ELC actually looked at other local authorities and their parking issues/solutions before coming up with this one?

I am fortunate to live just outside the affected area and can walk to the High Street for most services. If a small charge was made for parking in the High street I would not mind paying it to give me vehicle access when needed. For most though it might be easier to go elsewhere and this would have an impact for High street businesses.

I feel that having to pay to park at the library and swimming pool is really worrying and will have a very detrimental effect on these services. Maybe it is a ploy to shut these buildings down in the longer term? If there was adequate parking in others areas of the town then these places won't be so full. Maybe the payment for parking could be refunded when you pay to use the swimming pool?

Having streets like Countess Road metered will just push the cars into the next nearest unmetered residential streets and not solve the problem, just move it somewhere else. Having only 2 small car parks as Off street long stay parking is a bit of a token gesture, I wonder how many spaces this actually includes?

Personally I find the different shading and colouring on the map quite difficult to work out and you have to then fathom which of the short/medium/ling term parking tariffs they apply to? Goodness know the level of parking signage and explanations which will be needed to explain it all to residents and visitors? I also find the permit scheme a bit confusing and feel very sorry for residents who will have to pay to park outside their front door! The bureaucracy involved in the administration and implementation of this whole scheme will be enormous. I do wonder if ELC will make any money out of this at all and what the real cost to the town of Dunbar will be?

Car parking charges will have a huge impact on the high street and town as a whole in a negative way. We need to support the high street not discourage people to use it.

There is no need for a change to the parking restrictions

I'm extremely angry and disappointed about these proposed changes. I think these unfairly penalize young families, who utilize the park and pool often multiple times a week, and also rely on cars to transport children around town. I'm concerned about the future of our street should these changes come to pass. Further, I don't understand how these changes could be in keeping with values such as inclusivity and equality of opportunity within East Lothian.



I don't see any problems with parking. Even on the high street. I cycle or walk when I can anyway so it won't make my visits more sustainable.

It will decimate the town centre. Business is already struggling and this will destroy the rest. If I had to faff around paying for parking I would be much more likely to go to somewhere out of town. I can almost always get parking on the high street at the moment but if I cannot it is a short walk from nearby streets that would then require paying. The effort involved in doing that would put me off trying in the first place. And if I wanted fence posts and postcrete I would go to Thistle or instead of Knox. Though I would much prefer to support Knox as a local family of really nice people.

I work partly as a handyman. I sometimes need to bring heavy materials and tools throughout the town centre. And when I do I often need to park for many hours at a time. I would not be eligible for a residential permit as I live outside the zone. And if Edinburgh is a similar system then it is a nightmare to get temporary permits from resident owners. You have to meet them in person and by the time you have collected the permit you have got a ticket. I am likely to stop doing work in the town at all. Most of my customers are elderly and disabled and I charge very low rates to support them. This will add extra cost and stress for them and me.

I also work in the harbour doing boat maintenance and guide work for BlueWild. Occasionally I need to park at the harbour and if we are visiting the Isle of May then that can be for 8 or more hours. The harbour parking is easy at the moment but restrictions in the centre will push more folk to park there and make it difficult for the fishermen and harbour users.

Lots of the BlueWild customers come by car. Just this week someone said they came to Dunbar because parking was free and easier than North Berwick. All our customers need to park for about 8 hours and after we finish we always recommend local cafes and restaurants so they could be there for a lot longer. Most customers ask about where they can park. At the moment that is easy as almost everywhere apart from the high street is ok. If these designs were implemented then we would have a lot to explain and options for long stay parking by the harbour would be very limited.

When in Dunbar I stay with my 84 year old mother outside the residents zone. It's too far away for her to walk to town. She is fairly fit and active so not eligible for a blue badge. But she also finds driving on the high street too busy. She is a good driver but cautious. She tends to drive to a quiet street like Bayswell road or Victoria Road and park and walk from there. She does not have a smart phone and paying a parking meter would worry her these days. If she had to pay she would stop visiting the town alone and I would need to collect her prescriptions etc. So that reduces her independence and freedom. And mine.

For many years I lived on the peripheral areas of zones in Edinburgh. Parking control has just shifted the problem and concentrated it further out of town leaving the centre almost empty. Surely it is more socially sustainable to distribute the demand for parking over a larger area?

Although I have never had much problem parking on the high street, I would be happy with a disc zone on the high street. It's cheap and peer pressure would help enforce it. V little infrastructure is required. Occasional checking to enforce is all that is needed.

If sustainability was really the reason and not revenue then why has the 130 bus been axed?

I cannot see how they can justify the scheme on sustainability grounds so it must be largely financial. I would like the full cost benefit analysis to be made public.

If council is short of money and this is a way to create revenue then I would pay more council tax on condition they 1) stop paying consultants with ideas of solving problems that don't exist 2) abolish parking charges throughout east Lothian. Especially in town centres.

The council suggest they can overrule the conditions for blue badge holders in their questionnaire? The question asking if you approve of blue badge holders using ordinary spaces. I didn't understand the point of that question. Surely that isn't legal.

The council questionnaire is biased in favour. One cannot disagree with many questions even when the answers available are impossible to use. They don't meet my usage in any way.

Please oppose the entirety of this scheme. The joy of Dunbar is its accessibility and friendliness. This makes the town centre a keep out zone.

Why should residents of Dunbar have to pay for the privilege of using Dunbar shops? The high street will take a hammering once the retail park is built and here we are the council is destroying before it's built.

I feel all of this exercise to be quite unnecessary as the present parking situation seems quite adequate and works well most of the time. Well enough indeed not to invoke this proposed parking chaos on the town and its residents. It will certainly put anyone off coming to Dunbar for any purpose at all - but maybe that is its intention! Those most inconvenienced will be Dunbar residents.

I do think there should be a ban on mobile homes parking anywhere within these areas. They certainly do not do anything for the ambience of the town and probably only shop in Asda anyway?

It all seems far too complicated to enforce and could cost more to implement than any income received from parking revenue. The cost will no doubt be covered by the local tax payer? There is nothing in their proposal that explains the financial justification. Are these consultants trying to justify their expense?

Personally I am elderly and unable to walk or cycle into town and there is no reasonable bus service from where I live. However, I am not infirm enough to qualify for a blue badge. Currently I drive into town to pick up prescriptions and shop. I usually park before I get to the High Street and walk from there as I find it easier than driving down the High Street. Having to pay for parking would stop me using the town centre altogether. I would find paying for a short visit too much effort and complicated. Although it implies there would be free parking on the High Street, the competition for places by charging for the surrounding areas will be much worse. It will be even harder to park on the High Street. I don't like asking for help to collect shopping but if this is implemented I cannot see myself being able to use the town centre. I am more likely to have to drive to Asda or catch the bus to Fort Kinnaird.

There must be many Dunbar residents in similar circumstances. It is so sad that this will exclude people like myself from the town.

This will kill Dunbar and the already failing high street. This will have a huge impact on tourism, businesses, eateries. Absolutely no need for there to be a charge to park. It's just ridiculous!

Parking charges in addition to hopeless public transport will kill the high street. Do not do this.

They are going to put people off using their local library. There are no parking challenges except on the high street itself and the little car park off the high street. Put 1hr minimum on those and leave all the rest alone. You could use parking discs like in Berwick.

Local businesses pay lots for council tax and overheads parking charges will impact customer volumes and spend

Because there is no problem with parking.

We often pop into the sweetie bank on a Friday afternoon, once the schools are finished. We can always find a parking space. We won't be doing this if we have to pay for parking.  
I'm not sure if both of my boys will be able to continue to swim at Dunbar Dolphins swim club. They are in different groups so for me to have to pay to park at the leisure centre for over 2 hrs on top of swim club fees, it isn't affordable.  
If I need a quick purchase birthday present then I would usually go into Flux (again, can always park). I wouldn't be doing this if I had to pay to park.  
I have had huge issues with the ringo app not working for me (I am not exactly old either!) Who carries lots of cash to put in a parking meter? How many elderly people will be able to use the ringo app if it seldom works for me?  
This scheme is a nonsense and I wholeheartedly disagree.

The current ability to park around Dunbar for free is convenient and attractive. Crucially, it has little bearing on whether I choose to walk, cycle or drive into town - I only drive in if I really need to. I've never encountered any issues with lack of parking, with the odd exception of when camper vans use the leisure centre car park in the Summer. I see the introduction of parking charges as generally detrimental, and needlessly punitive to Dunbar residents.

The parking proposals are ludicrous. They will harm local business and make getting out and about harder for those in vulnerable categories. An unnecessary exercise in greed by ELC.

I think it will have a big impact on the community and the facilities/shop. Money can be tight for a lot of people as it is and some people need to use their car to get out and about. The charges will just cause them extra stress.

no one wants this. You're ruining our town by trying to monetise everything. Maybe instead of a 40% pay rise that the bosses took, they should take 2-3% like everyone else has too. Or alternatively sack them all and get people in charge who actually care about anything other than the money they can squeeze out of the residents.

Why pay. We need visitors in dunbar to support the high street this isnt going to help

What evidence is there that introducing parking charges and restrictions will not result in diminished trade for businesses and increased financial burden for residents within the affected areas?

Parking is generally not an issue and charges are not necessary. It will only keep people away.

There is not currently a parking issue in Dunbar

There is no issue with parking in Dunbar

We are a holiday town and businesses need trade.

There is no parking availability issues here, although occasionally it can be frustrating overall I don't see any issues. Improving the parking for the station however is certainly something that

should be done. The facilities are woefully lacking causing drivers to the station to take up spaces all day that could ordinarily be used by general parking by short and medium term visitors.

The introduction of parking charges will be detrimental to the shops on the high street. There is not one "anchor tenant" in the high street that will draw in shoppers. The introduction of parking charges will merely drive shoppers towards the out of town shops which do provide free parking for longer than 30 minutes. Cafes on the High Street will be the most severely affected and will likely be driven out of business.

Has anyone considered the impact on Dunbar Health Centre which is likely to be inundated by shoppers seeking free parking. How will this impact on those that are less mobile? Is it likely to deter patients from visiting the surgeries?

This is a poorly thought out scheme, designed to solve a problem that doesn't exist.

I have never heard anyone say they think we need or want payed parking in Dunbar. If the residents don't want it and the businesses don't want it then consequently everyone who the council represents don't want it so there is no mandate to change our community. If it is imposed it is effectively a tax on people using the town so it is prohibitive. Don't try and pull the wool over people's eyes and say it will help businesses. There is no demand for this or evidence.

The regulations that are already in place would be sufficient if upheld.

Dunbar does not have a significant parking problem that cannot be managed through enforcement of existing parking regulations and through encouraging people to use alternative methods of transport. Parking charges will mean fewer people using the high street which will have a detrimental impact on businesses, employment and provisions. It will also create parking issues for streets outside of the permit zone.

Parking charges will just kill the high street. I normally park on the high street several times a week to buy plants, coffee, pop into the local shops. Parking charges will stop me doing this. The current restrictions are fine but should be enforced better. I will not visit the pool if I have to pay to park in the car park or the bleaching field etc. not needed or wanted and the consultation questions have been deliberately worded to provide a agreement on suggestions. None of the questions ask if we agree that parking charges are needed.

I run a range of community projects in Dunbar and being charged for parking will make it considerably harder for both myself and the people who attend my programmes. It will put people off attending or from trying out new activities. It will hugely impact the shops on the high street, encouraging more people to shop in free supermarket and out of town car parks. If businesses like the Crunchy go under that will have an enormous impact on our town, not only losing the shop but all the community projects they run.

I think this will kill off the local high street

There is no parking problem in Dunbar - just a council looking to make some money

This ludicrous idea will kill the businesses in the centre of Dunbar..We should be trying to improve footfall not discourage it.

I've lived in Dunbar 7 years and never have any problems parking .

I've lived in Dunbar 7 years and never have any problems parking .

I strongly oppose the parking charges as it will have a detrimental impact on local shops and services. There would be a knock on effect to the surrounding residential streets and it seems unfair that those residents would then have to pay for a permit to park outside their own home. Given the socioeconomic demographic in some of that area, I am concerned that many of the residents would find the cost of a permit an additional burden. To my mind, this is just a money making plan for a cash-strapped council.

I go out my way to avoid places that charge so this will remove my business from the highstreet

Parking fees will kill the High Street .

This is utterly madness. Dunbar does not have any problem with Traffic congestion or parking. This is purely a money making exercise that will only discourage footfall in our Town.

As I have to use my car because of limited ability, I can foresee that I will not be visiting any area which has a parking charge. This will not only limit opportunities to shop but also socialise with friends. I am really shocked at the proposals. This is not the Dunbar community which I have known and loved for nearly 30 years.

I work in a local shop in Dunbar and park locally. This will affect me parking for work and shopping

This plan is bad for business and residents. It is ill conceived, poorly thought through and detrimental to the long term survivability of our town centre. Shame on you for even thinking about implementing .

I feel that parking charges in Dunbar are going to encourage people to shop out of the town, in areas where parking is free.  
This is not going to help the already struggling High Street shops

There are NO parking problems in Dunbar currently. There is a good turnover. Bringing in charges will kill the high street and is just a way for the council to make money. How many complaints have there been about lack of parking???? Where would train commuters park?

Stop exploiting local residents and businesses

No reason to change the parking as currently never have any issues.

No No No to parking permits and charges!

My parents live within the permit only zone. As they look after my children whilst I'm at work not only will they need to have a permit to park at their own house but my husband and myself will need a permit each to collect our children from their grandparents house! Anyone visiting my parents would also need a permit.....ridiculous idea! I often park on the high street to collect a prescription or grab some groceries and whilst I'm there have a wander around other shops. If I'm limited to 30 minutes the wandering and making random purchases in other shops will stop.

I work in Dunbar in the evenings until 1am in the permit zone area - where do I park my car so it is safe at night when I leave at that time? I think it is absolutely ridiculous that you will have to pay to park anywhere in Dunbar & it definitely puts me off going into the town or using the train

The proposed plans will negatively impact local businesses at a time when high streets across the UK are failing. We need to encourage more footfall, in an accessible way for all to participate, and support independent businesses and organisations to drive local economy and community cohesion.

My partner stays in Parsonspool so I would not be able to park outside his property when I visit! I work on the high street and use the free on street parking in the surrounding areas to get to work.

For 16 years I have worked on the highstreet for 5 days a week and not once (NOT ONCE) have I phoned my boss telling him I'm not able to work because I can't get a parking space. The business I work in gets a lot of it's customers who are visitors to the town and now may not come here or stay in the town long enough to visit our ship now that they'll have to pay to park.

Furthermore I feel it's disgusting that the elderly or vulnerable who are just going to pick up a prescription will now have to pay to park on the highstreet to collect it when all in all it won't take more than a minute or two.

The council are themselves responsible for piling up one of the higher council debts in the whole of the U.K. and are expecting us to help bail them out. The insult that this comes not so long after a report of their eye watering pay rises too is a slap in the face.

As far as I am aware, there are no issues currently with parking in the town. Introduction of parking charges appears to be a way of funding East Lothian Council at the expense of the high street and local businesses

Parking charges will place a burden on residents who live in this area being forced upon them. This whole thing will leave a bad taste in the mouth of residents and will not bring one single positive to the town.

All of these measures will push parking into residential areas that don't require charges. Marine Road; Letham Road; Countess Road; Friars Croft ; and beyond. It will put extra pressure on the co-op, reuse Scotland and the Catholic Church to install their own parking control measures as people will see them as an alternative to paying on the street. Visitors to residents in the zones will have to pay to see their family. It's an extra layer of hassle. It excludes people who don't use a smartphone. What will carers and health workers have to do - pay?

30 minutes isn't enough time for a haircut or a coffee, or a dental appointment. It's barely enough time to pick a birthday card at flux and then queue at the bakery. Knox's is a garden centre. I need a car to visit it and take home my purchases. Business will be lost as people opt for the free parking at Dunbar business park. I would resent having to pay parking so that I could have a meeting with a child's teacher after school. I go to a craft group at the Bleachingfield centre every Thursday. Most of the attendees are in their seventies and eighties. They use their cars to get there and often give

lifts. Are they to pay too? Some won't be able to afford to park for our two hour session. The proposal has not benefits to the town. It's a blatant money making scheme. We are not Edinburgh. Our situation is very, very different to North Berwick. Please enforce the parking regulations currently in place. Reduce the number of taxi spaces and set deadlines on the length of period parking spaces are taken by skips, portacabins and containers. That's all that's required. I don't have a problem parking on High Street. I love using my local shops and services. They're what makes a town and creates cohesion in society.

Town centre parking charges have helped kill high streets across the UK, and this would be no exception. There's currently no issue with overparking, thus no need to introduce this measure. The thriving high street is one of the main reasons people move to Dunbar, and I believe endangering that would damage Dunbar's growth and prosperity.

I do not see an issue with parking in Dunbar. Should leave as it is.

Introducing parking charges will increase the cost of me attending swim lessons, library facilities, Lauderdale play park, high street shops. Prices for everything (including council tax, brown bin collection, coastal car parking) has all went up over the past years alongside rises in costs of food, childcare etc. This proposal feels too much, and a bit of an ill thought out money making scheme that will only deter people from the high street and cause innocent shop keepers etc to lose customers. I do not support this.

It's grand as it is.

I think this is a ridiculous situation even considering the introduction of parking charges, the local shops with suffer and lose business, it has been the case in Dunbar that the council have stopped bigger businesses coming to Dunbar in order to support the local small shops now you are making it your business to destroy them, I for one will not be voting in the future for you.

I believe in a town where every single person has who pays taxes has seen their council tax bill rise by 10% whilst also receiving less services from the same council are beyond sick of having to dig out more money to simply use facilities in their home town. It is disgusting that the council have now taken to monopolising the people in their own home town. A high street that already relies on the hard working every person is now pushing the exact market demographic out of it. It will happen out of the sheer greed of the council unfortunately.

East Lothian Council are an absolute joke.

Parking charges will make Dunbar a ghost town and cause havoc for everybody who relies upon the crucial services that Dunbar centre provides



I have lived in dunbar for 42 years and think that parking charges would kill dunbar high street and surrounding business

The main issue for parking is the overspill from the train station, people park from early Am to late Pm, Countess Road is the most problematic area for drivers and pedestrians alike.

Absolute disgrace the council have been mismanaged and in millions of debt so are just trying to get money anyway they can. Just another tax

The council seems hell bent on creating a ghost town centre. The whole idea will badly affect footfall in the area, shops will close as everyone is likely to take to the out of town sites for shopping. Shop closures will also reduce the rates income the council already receives. The imposition of charges will prevent future investment in the town and will have an overall detrimental effect on the entire area. The idea has been extremely poorly thought out and, in my view, will result in the council's revenue reducing rather than increasing. I am TOTALLY AND UTTERLY

OPPOSED to the idea. Dunbar is a county town, not a city where traffic controls by way of charges are more understandable. There are times when traffic issues arise locally but they are fairly infrequent and not of great duration. LEAVE WELL ALONE!!

I am assuming these permits are to be put on display. How are family/friends even carers meant park in these areas when they do not live there. Essentially elderly vulnerable people will be left without company which is essential to them.

This will stop people coming into a town centre which is already dire.

More traffic wardens patrolling areas would stop all day/ long stay parking. Think you'll find most of long stay cars are those that have shops on High Street. Leave residential areas alone. It would be good if Traffic wardens checked areas for cars on pavements or silly parking in these areas and issued fines. Fire engine wouldn't get through some of these streets, Lammermuir Crescent, Boroughdales for example.

This will be bad for the town and local businesses.

The introduction of parking charges will discourage myself and other people from using the high street shops and swimming pool as it causes greater cost and inconvenience in a time where costs are already high . This will gravely affect the small local business in the town and will discourage tourists and locals from spending money and being in our local community. And children will suffer as parents will be unable take there children safely to school and swimming in the winter months

I need to drive to Dunbar as I am elderly. There is not enough car parking space as it is. Leave Dunbar as it is. It is popular at the moment, but you will lose many visitors if you persist with this ridiculous idea of parking charges and permit parking. We already have to pay for coastal parking which very expensive.

We have mobility issues, so parking at lauderdale Park allows us to enjoy both the park, cafe and cliff walk. We have a fixed income and would prefer 60 minutes free parking

I am happy to walk or cycle to the High Street, however, if I'm short of time, buying some bulky items or the weather is awful, I will drive.

I live by Broxburn and there is a lack of public transport to the high street, station and pool.

Last winter I had flu and for a number of weeks afterwards was too weak to walk in and back, so on the days I needed to go into Edinburgh (by train), I park in the car park off Countess Road.

I see that a bus stop has been painted on the road going into Newton Manor (by the new

cemetery), so maybe there are plans to provide better public transport?  
From experience of Edinburgh - all new parking zones do is push the parking to areas outwith the zone, thus creating a new problem.

It's unnecessary. I have never found it difficult to find a space in this area.

I have problems with mobility. The parking charges will cause me to avoid the town centre & access to it's facilities. I will be more likely to go to out of town centres for shopping etc. I am also concerned about reducing access to leisure facilities such as exercise classes as there will be a parking charge which will bump up the cost of such facilities.

A tourist is a person who travels to and visits a place for pleasure, usually while on vacation. But they won't park their cars now!

These plans will totally kill of an already struggling High Street

Limited mobility but not a disabled badge holder. Need longer to shop high st and west port. Seniors play pétanque in Lauderdale Park. They drive there from all over the town. Games will last for hours. Many pensioners cannot afford the extra twice weekly charges this would impose. Again parents with children use Lauderdale Park ..too far to walk from outskirts of Dunbar. Council need to start looking at ways to save money e.g. stop wasting money on Diversity projects and research grants. Stop having large expense accounts for councillors especially since you have such a good increase in salary. Your electrol voter is already struggling through labour failure to listen to its residents and increased money grabbing, It is questionable whether you have the legal right to introduce parking charges. These were supposed to be introduced to stop congestion. There is no congestion problem in Dunbar.

Dunbar only has two "parking problems" and this insane proposal does not directly address either of them . . . but would devastate the High Street. The first real parking problems is commuter train travelers parking along Countness road. Simple to fix by a. having Scotrail turn the waste land next to the station into a larger lot, b. REMOVING the current parking charges at the station (the only station in East Lothian with parking charges – only proving charges are not a magic fix) and then c. adopting a resident parking pass system along Countness Road. The other small parking problem is the small 21 car park behind the Royal Mail sorting office. Again – simple . . impose a 4 hour limit in the lot. **THOSE ARE THE ONLY REAL PARKING PROBLEMS in Dunbar and both have reasonable simple solutions that do NOT involve parking charges!!!!**

Even though I live close to the town centre (short walking distance) I have two young children and for ease I often drive to appointments and clubs with them such as dancing (parking on high street) and swimming lessons. Swimming lessons are expensive and adding on the cost of parking to parents who are already stretched is ridiculous. This will penalise people in the new developments on the edge of town who have young families or are older and need to drive.

Should be no charged for any parking at all in Dunbar in the areas suggested. I personally will no longer use the shops etc on the high street.

There is no congestion problem in Dunbar and therefore no requirement for any parking charges anywhere in the town.

I think it's ridiculous to even consider applying parking charges In Dunbar. It's a dying town as it is and this will impact the already struggling businesses in Dunbar. Seems like the same people who designed the horrendous west port high street zebra crossings!!!

Strongly opposed to all proposed charges. It will discourage local shopping & use of amenities.

I am on the RNLI crew and live in Belhaven. This will force me to hand in my pager.

Understand the council need more cash but this is a money making scheme. Any issues regarding residents parking and other issues is a farce. This will kill local business and tourists in the harbour area. Also no drop of area for young kids at John Muir Campus. Bleachingfields now a medium stay car park to pay for 30 minutes. The young age of they kids mean parents have to pick up at the gate.

I work on the high street and am extremely worried about the detrimental impact it will have on local business and keeping our shops open and alive

Cannot clearly see the benefit of this scheme!

I live in Stanley Place which is right on the border of the Dunbar North proposal. We already have major parking issues here, especially on warm days when Lauderdale park is busy or there are any events taking place in Dunbar. Houses do not have any off street parking in this and the neighbouring streets such as Letham Road etc, plus many of these roads are narrow. This is going to result in higher volumes of traffic and more parking in roads that are already congested and not wide enough, which will in turn create hazards for pedestrians, cyclists and potentially other drivers. It will become impossible to park close to home for residents if these parking charges are introduced, and will have a negative value on house prices. I want to stress, this is not just about the impact for us on our street. When I look at the proposals everything I have said about the impacted streets not being able to cope with the increased traffic and parking applies to all areas under the proposal. I dread to think what could happen if there is a major incident requiring emergency vehicles quick access within some of the proposed areas.

Dunbar has historically been ravaged first by the building of Torness, and then by the destruction of East Beach. It's a thriving town once again with increased tourism, and introducing this level of parking restrictions will severely hamper that. Local businesses already have the burden of

increased employment costs what with national insurance and national minimum wage increases that were introduced in April, plus all the other rising costs. The introduction of these aggressive parking plans will undoubtedly impact the amount of trade, which will in all likelihood result in some shop closures, further damaging the local community.

Thinking about local charities, for example The Ridge, who service many clients that ELC, the local hospitals and GPs are unable to support due to cut backs.... Many clients and partner services coming into the area are reliant on being able to park close by without incurring charges, the introduction of these parking fees may also have a negative impact on the outreach and services they and other charities are able to provide.

I think the proposal is extremely short-sighted. I understand that parking fees are an easy source of potential revenue, however the extent of the proposal is absolutely mind boggling. I think introducing car parking charges in council owned car parks is a reasonable proposal, but anything over and above will be too damaging to the town, it's residents and business. Let's be clear here, everyone is struggling with increased costs and many of the homes within the parking areas are not expensive, affluent homes. Once again everyday people are expected to pick up the burden. In the past year we have incurred a significantly larger increase in council tax as well as being charged for brown bin collection. AND NOW THIS. Locally, people have been discussing what action we can take to be heard and hopefully prevent these proposals being introduced. There are a number of options to be considered, maybe the most effective one is whether residents in Dunbar should consider collectively ceasing payment of council tax until these proposals are rescinded. I can only hope that the council sees sense and finds a fairer way to increase revenues or reduce costs that don't undermine householders, small business and communities on such a significant scale.

I disagree with the proposals to introduce car parking charges. There is not an issue with parking in Dunbar. It is always possible to park in Dunbar. Even on busy days like Lifeboat Day it is possible to find somewhere to park.

The introduction of parking charges and permits will have a significant effect on Dunbar, it's retail and leisure and residents. I strongly opposed any introduction and the demise of our town.

Parking charges will divide the community more effectively than the railway does already. I simply will not go into the area as i do not want to pay parking charges for visiting friends or shops. My mobility means that walking into the town is impossible. What about if people need care? How can their carers visit them without incurring charges? For some people owning and running a car already stretches them financially, without having to pay for parking.

These parking charges do nothing to solve a problem in Dunbar, there is currently no serious parking problem to solve and by adding charges to already struggling high street I'd be deterred from visit for short visits or errands as it wouldn't be worth the money and more likely to rely on Asda or even Haddington retail park. We need more high street use, not less and the permit areas proposed are excessive.

Introducing parking charges is short sighted and will negatively impact the local Dunbar economy, the High Street and deter visitors (see Saltcombe in Devon as a case study). There is not a major parking problem in Dunbar at present yet wholesale and excessive changes are being proposed. With greater thought by ELC a more positive solution could have been reached which would continue to encourage visitors and trade in our town. For example, a lighter touch solution with parking discs, similar to Berwick Upon Tweed, is considerably more viable.

I don't see any need for parking charges, as there is very little congestion if any, most of the time, and it's illegal to put in parking charges other than to ease congestion in an area, this is a complete money making exercise to ease the financial situation in East Lothian Councils financial mess.

Dunbar needs as many locals and visitors to contribute to the economy as possible in order to build a thriving town. This will NOT be achieved by imposing parking charges. The hostility people feel towards the charges at the coastal car parks in the region should be a poignant reminder of how NOT to behave towards residents and visitors.

There is not a big parking problem in the High Street or other parts of Dunbar. Occasionally it gets busy at peak times but other times are quiet. This will kill cafes, hairdressers and small businesses. that are already struggling. A lot of work has gone into making the High Street an interesting and pleasant place to visit- don't destroy it. Have you been to Berwick on Tweed lately? Now we only go to visit the out of town shopping centre. This plan will only benefit The Fort and the shopping complex on the edge of Haddington. Dunbar will become nothing but one big housing estate with few facilities- people will choose to go elsewhere.

Parking charges will inevitably see less people on the high street - and lauderdale park a disincentive to shop local and disincentive for visitors to stop and explore Dunbar

these charges will eviscerate the growing community around Dunbar town centre giving no benefit to the people of Dunbar

The fact that there are no parking charges in Dunbar has been a real positive in terms of supporting local business. We come into town on a regular basis to support local shops. Charges may change our habits.

Buying a ticket every time you park is time consuming and sometimes a hassle.

If the council need to raise revenue then maybe charge for an annual permit that locals can purchase (like the beach parking permits).

Need to revisit opening up access to station from the other side. Would free up Countess road from commuter cars.

On the odd occasion I need to drive to the town centre, I always find a free parking place. I feel that creating zones for different lengths of parking will be confusing. I do not agree with charges at the leisure pool & Lauderdale park. These are frequented by families and older people, who need access to the leisure activities and beautiful space. Charging them might be prohibitive and prevent them from going and this would be 1) such a pity, 2) inequitable and 3) potentially impact their well-being.

Will kill the town Center . People will use Asda more instead of the local shops

It's just the council desperate to get every penny they possibly can out of Dunbar. Regardless of objections, I still think the council will impose their plan

I think it's a terrible idea... the town is on the up and there must be other ways for the council to address a gap in budget and create revenue.... unless ALL residents within Dunbar were issued with a permit for the town I think the shops, train, eateries etc will all suffer with a decrease in foot fall....

Council tax is high enough and it has been proven in other areas that the introduction of parking charges has a direct and negative correlation on the high street and surrounding local businesses.

As the majority of businesses in town are small and local, presumably by design, then these proposals have the potential to drive customer out of town to the Asda and cause a number of them to close unnecessarily.

Soon all you will have is a betting shop, a tanning salon and a collection of vape and takeaway shops.

I pay over £300 a month council tax I already have to pay to walk my dog down the beach as I need to park in the car parks. putting parking charges in place in the suggested areas would be the end of the high street it's absolutely ridiculous and pure greed

Not necessarily

This would be a disaster for the high street businesses. Maybe spend your money on better parking spaces, road surfaces and markings than this expensive nonsense.

It would totally discourage people for visiting the area. Stopping for a quick coffee / bite to eat / nipping to the shops. It also makes life more difficult for those of us with small children having to go and get a pay and display ticket whilst juggling small kids. I would end up doing all my shopping online to avoid this and currently shop local as much as possible.

Very angry about parking charges for residents of Dunbar. There is not a big parking problem in the town.

It will impact local business and make nessasary travel/parking such as swimming lesson and school drop offs more challenging and expensive. It will also out additional parking pressure on surrounding streets. It will make free trips to Lauderdale Park now an expense struggling families will no longer be able to afford. I can see no benefit to the community accept the greed of the local council

This will have a knock on impact to an already struggling highstreet. Introduction of parking charges and permit parking is totally unnecessary and a money grabing scheme from the council.

I have a blue badge and cannot walk far. Disabled spaces are currently inadequate and inconvenient. There are no such spaces in the central section of the High St where I do most shopping. There are two at Abbeylands (usually taken) and two at the PO (awkward to get to). I have lived in Dunbar since 2018 and have only twice managed to use a non-disabled space in Abbeylands. It is full all day. Why can't there be more parking at the station? Rumour is that commuters use Abbeylands as they don't have to pay. Why do Dunbar commuters have to pay to use a small station carpark while those living in Reston or East Linton have huge carparks where they do not pay?

I feel that the introduction of charges will be detrimental to the businesses in Dunbar and put people off coming here to visit. It will also cause problems in the areas which are not covered by the charges. We are not doing much for the tourist trade in the town. Also for the people who need cars to access services in the town. Also what does the money gathered from such charges get used for??

I think it should be left as is. If the parking times are enforced this would be better. You cannot charge for parking at leisure pool no way. I understand some of the issues but we need to look after both the shop owners in the high street and people who are not so mobile. Also I would change the road layout as currently is not great. I would be keen to speak up and be involved. Understand cannot keep everyone happy but we need to protect dunbar and keep it a good place to live. Parking charges are not the answer.

I accept that for residents in the harbour area and silver st. Etc. Haave difficulties parking near their homes, and something should be done to try to alleviate this issue. The rest of the parking charbe areas just seem to be a revenue raising opportunity - a solution looking for a problem

These changes in my opinion will significantly impact shops and leisure facilities. Perhaps if extended to 1hr free parking in the high street then that would make sense. There should be no charges at the parks or swimming pool.

Charging for parking and restrictions will stop people coming to shop in Dunbar. The shops will suffer and more closures likely resulting in a run down Ghost Town. Please don't do this to Dunbar. It is wonderful as it is - no change needed.

The introduction of parking charges is completely unnecessary and will cost a huge amount to install and implement. Charges will destroy local businesses and cause many local people higher living costs due to permits required.

Paid parking will kill the high street and ruin the town

The centre of Dunbar is in a moribund state, these proposals will finish the town off.

It worries me how much this will affect our town and local businesses.

I do not believe that parking charges in this town are required any where and the council needs to look at alternative means of managing their budget.

These are unnecessary charges that will affect the level of tourism coming into Dunbar, especially those looking to visit the High Street. These charges should not be implemented. It will harm the town.

Parking on the high street must already be difficult for those that live there, If using the chemist for a few minute to pick up a prescription we would have to pay for more time than needed. What is the reason for intro parking charges?...is it to bolster badly manger budgets and spending by councils/governments?...is it pure greed?....there is no benefit to the residents, community and businesses in Dunbar and will almost certainly see a closure of the later due to a reduced footfall. Simply it's disgusting.

We use all car parks regularly and have NEVER had a problem finding a space to park within a few minutes.

We actively support local businesses and facilities.

The introduction of parking charges is obviously going to have a negative impact on these

I can see no benefit to residential areas and only determent to car owners living there.

It's quite clear that local public opinion is overwhelmingly in opposition to this destructive plan.

Efforts should be made in supporting the town to thrive this proposal will only injure Dunbar.

This is a stupid idea that will harm local businesses.

There's no need for this. Parking isn't a problem in Dunbar and hasn't been for years. Thought we were meant to be supporting the high street and shopping locally? People and businesses are struggling already with the cost of living and this is just another expense everyone can do without.

These local areas should be free and available for everyone to visit and park. If they enforce paid parking then they should improve public transport and have more walk ways. If the people of Dunbar can't even park at the local swimming pool for free, this town will be sucked under the waters of capitalism.

Because they're primarily motivated by budgeting shortfalls and a spiralling deficit, the Council's proposals focus on urgent accrual of revenue, rather than on any real (or indeed perceived) problems with parking. Councillors' main response to townspeople's and traders' legitimate concerns has been to threaten to withdraw services beyond statutory education and social care. Either option brings into play a range of unintended consequences detrimental to everyone's quality of life in Dunbar and beyond. By pretending parking is the main problem and then presenting people with such a negative and invidious choice, the Council's actions verge on a breach of trust and the hostile reception to the proposals is deserved. A constructive dialogue somehow needs to emerge, with clearer and more honest communication from the Council about steps it is taking to address financial challenges, rather than simply throwing up its hands and attempting to implement poorly conceived cash raising measures like this. There's plenty more room for innovation here, taking ideas from neighbouring authorities and other communities, even those across the border, if we can lay aside petty local politics. Can the ELC and its stakeholders



identify a better way of assembling and testing/assessing positive and pragmatic ideas and solutions - maybe using Scotland-wide local government improvement resources like Improvement Service - without further undermining relations between councillors and the people they are elected to serve?

The introduction of charges will have a detrimental effect on shops, cafes and other businesses in the town. The argument that most other towns have paid parking does not hold water. Other towns have department stores/national chain stores and the like. Dunbar has none of these. This policy will further drive custom away to out of town retail parks. Dunbar High Street will die. However that will solve the parking issues that we are told exists.

Economically the income derived for ELC will be countered by the loss of council tax from shops that will be forced to close through a loss of trade. With proposals to extend shopping near ASDA the introduction of parking charges in the town will KILL Dunbar. With only 30 min no cost parking the café use will also decrease.

As a resident, Dunbar will become a less pleasant place to live. More inconvenient and a more lifeless community. There also seems to be a charge on Sundays. This will impact on church life withing the community.

For those who still make the effort to shop in the town there will be a temptation to park on more residential streets on the fringes. Again resulting in a loss convenience.

For many reasons the imposition is negative and needless action against the residents, the businesses and the visitors in Dunbar

Nothing about the current parking situation in Dunbar necessitates these drastic, costly and punitive changes. The effect on the High Street will be terrible.

Parking charges will severely harm traders on the High Street.

It will kill the high street

I'm from Edinburgh originally so used to paying for parking on the High Street, but that's Edinburgh. In my opinion it's a detriment to the local businesses and will affect them.

The proposal will kill off trade and be disastrous for small businesses simply as a consequence of the council needing to raise money.

This move will drive more locals to Fort kinnaird and away from the town. Free parking is park of Dunbar's attraction

A pointless money making scheme.

It's such a shame to see this being proposed. It will have a real negative impact both on my family personally and the local businesses in the area. This just seems so unnecessary.

Parking charges in Dunbar will only increase the number of shop closures in the high street. It will also discourage visitors to Dunbar.  
Why can't we look at the £1 disc system that works very well in Berwick upon Tweed instead.

Adding parking charges will ruin the high street.

This will kill the High Street.

I believe parking charges can only be very detrimental to the retailers and businesses of the High St and the town. I often drive to the High St for a few bits of shopping or for some social call. The parking is often busy but by driving from one end of the street to the other I almost always get a space because the turnaround of parked cars is pretty rapid. I know that if I had to pay for one of my short visits to the shops or the library I would find it inconvenient and discouraging. I do not often carry change any more so paying for a parking charge would be troublesome and I have found online charging sometimes impossible due to poor phone signal or system errors. Many elderly people cannot use online parking and this would severely restrict their accessibility to these parking restricted areas.

Dunbar High St shops seem to be doing well enough in competition with Asda which has free parking, but imposing charges would push more people to the supermarkets out of town.

The harbour area of Dunbar is visited by many tourists and locals alike and it has a great historical and amenity value. Charging would restrict visitors here too, I believe.

In conclusion, I think the amenity value and economic viability of the town centre areas is much too fragile and vulnerable to risk imposition of a restricting and dampening parking charge scheme. Increasing time limited parking areas, which already cover most of the centre, may be useful in increasing traffic flow but I am very much against parking charges in our smaller rural towns and villages.

Plain and simple greed.

I come into Dunbar for coffee and lunch. I will do it less often now.

It is important to be able to access the shops without restrictions

It would make me think twice about using the high street and visiting family in parsonspool. It will really negatively impact the town. I work in a shop on the high street and I am worried I will lose my job as it will absolutely decrease the number of people visiting the high street, and will decrease the income of small businesses.

Ridiculous money making from the council that will only harm the local business and residents.

No more paper work, sketchy enforcement and general chaos!

Any form of parking charge would deter shopping in Dunbar.

No need, just police the 90mims waiting on high street.

#### 1. It Will Discourage Local Shopping

Introducing parking fees will deter residents and visitors from using the High Street, pushing them toward out-of-town supermarkets or online retailers where parking is free and more convenient.

#### 2. Harm to Small Businesses

Many independent shops rely on regular footfall. If fewer people visit due to parking charges, these businesses could see a serious drop in income, putting jobs and livelihoods at risk.

#### 3. Inconvenient for the Elderly and Families

Older residents, people with mobility issues, and parents with young children may find paid parking a barrier. It adds unnecessary stress and cost to quick errands or regular visits.

#### 4. Unfair in a Town with Limited Public Transport

If alternatives like frequent and reliable public transport aren't in place, parking charges unfairly penalise those who have no choice but to drive into town.

#### 5. Short-Term Gain, Long-Term Loss

While parking charges may bring in revenue initially, the long-term cost of fewer shoppers, empty shops, and a decline in community vibrancy could outweigh any financial benefit to the council.

#### 6. Impact on Local Events and Tourism

Dunbar draws visitors for its natural beauty, events, and coastal charm. Charging for parking could reduce tourist numbers and hurt hospitality and leisure businesses.

#### 7. Discourages Spontaneity

Many people pop into town for a quick coffee, to pick something up, or meet a friend. If they have to pay to park even for 10 minutes, they'll be less likely to bother.

#### 8. Empty High Streets = Declining Communities

We've seen in other towns that paid parking often leads to empty shops and a soulless town centre. Dunbar shouldn't follow that trend — we should be encouraging people to spend time here, not driving them away.

If you want to kill the High Street after years of effort to rejuvenate it and bring back thriving businesses, then carry on the way that you are going. Rising council tax, additional costs for brown bins and disgraceful council pay rises. The people of Dunbar have had enough. Stop taxing the residents and trying to kill local businesses.

It's going to kill our high street and also make everybody annoyed as people won't want to pay so they will go and park at resident car parks and most likely outside houses which will cause conflict

Life is expensive as it is, don't you think people are struggling enough without these awful charge??? This is robbery, and well you know it, disgusting!!!

We already pay more than enough money to East Lothian Council Why should we pay any more for parking ?

NO PAY PARKING anywhere...

I think it's fair for the council to introduce parking charges for tourists, as long as it doesn't impact people who live in Dunbar or East Lothian. Local residents already pay high council tax, and it wouldn't be right to ask them to pay even more just to park near their own homes or enjoy local spots.

I'm not against the idea of charging visitors, especially during the busy summer months when the area sees a big increase in tourism. That extra income could help with maintenance, infrastructure, and managing congestion. But any system should make sure locals are exempt, maybe through a permit or something based on where their car is registered. This way, the costs fall more on short-term visitors who benefit from the area but don't contribute to local services the way residents do. It feels like a fair balance of welcoming tourism while protecting the people who live here all year round.

The council say the introduction to the proposed lidl etc will take shoppers away from the high street. This is what will spoil the high street. I go to aldi in haddington and I spend all day in haddington ..going for coffee and then on the high street for local shopping ..then lunch and then aldi for my shopping before heading home....I for one can't afford to shop in the galleries. Clothes shop and chocolate shop on dunbar high street but I do go for coffee every day . However we will now take the car elsewhere for coffee ie haddington or east linton

I lived in Edinburgh when these parking restrictions were brought in. Then you had to have a permit to park outside your house, and parking attendants walked around checking your cars. I was glad to escape to Dunbar.

One of the major attractions of Dunbar is the absence of parking charges; introducing them would be a major retrograde step.

I think the introduction of car parking charges on Dunbar high street will have a massive impact on local shops who are already struggling to compete with online shopping and big retailers such as supermarkets. I think it will impact footfall on the high street with only a marginal financial benefit to the council. We need to protect the local high streets instead of forcing consumers away.

I think the introduction of parking charges will negatively impact our local businesses who already struggle to compete against online retailers and supermarkets. It will put people off driving to the high street and at best the funds received in from these charges will be marginal at best. However, I'm reasonably certain that you will put these charges in place, no matter the public outcry, so what is the point!?

It will stop people going to and use the high street which is already struggling.

I have spoken to work mates and friends about this and we are all of the opinion that we all pay far too much to the council already, the council charges in East Lothian are astronomical now and we don't want anymore!! I am a pensioner and live in Dunbar I currently pay £286 a month council tax £50 to get my brown bin emptied and also £50 a year to park at the beach to walk my dog ! I live at the new houses near Asda and also have to pay £37 a month for a factor to look after the area I don't use any services in Dunbar except get my bin empty! With all the new housing been and being built in Dunbar I would like the council to explain to me just what they are currently spending all the money they already get paid on

Please don't bring in paid parking, it will ruin our lovely town and reduce accessibility to our beaches and parks.

The high street is one of the best in East Lothian, but is starting to show signs of decline. Anything that hinders visitors is only going to make it's decline accelerate.

This will drive people away from the high street and local shops.

The proposed changes will mean that my toddler and I won't be able to visit the library or Lauderdale park as often. I'm a stay at home mum and money is tight. These were our go to activities to meet other mums and kids and provide a safe and educational experience for my son, but if we have to pay this will limit our ability to go. What a sad decision! I also will not be able to shop at the crunchy carrot or community bakery as often.

I think this is a very bad move for a high street that is already on its knees. I fear for the small, local businesses in Dunbar should charges be introduced.

This is not the answer. Better access via bus would make more sense. You are just pushing traffic into surrounding streets and killing our vibrant local high street. Very poorly thought out.

Parking charges will push business away from the town centre to places that don't charge and reduce visitors. We should not impose parking charges.

I will visit the high street less. Many others will be put off accessing Dunbar's shops and amenities, which will suffer, some to the point of closure no doubt. The high street isn't in great shape anyway, this attack is the last thing it needs. Dunbar's turnover will reduce by more than the council's revenue will increase. Daylight robbery.

Instead of blaming a dated pre Covid survey, have the Council actually spoken to the High St Traders on the current financial well being of the High St? These are very difficult times and the Council should be trying to help rather than attack the fabric of the town,

Unless all Dunbar residents are given permits / visitors permits for friends, I'm very much against this.

Bonkers proposal, why is EVERY Council solution based on charging more for less!!!

Is not only (but most) about cost of parking but additional difficulty\stress and wasted time needed to pay for it.

Long stay 23h no return in 8h - normal days for working person that's fine but what about time when I don't need to use car, like holiday etc - you pushing people to be less green and use car more

Need to demonstrate there is a problem before introducing charges

Why is there any requirements for parking charges. An excuse for an incompetent council to waste more of our money. I already pay for parking at coastal sites and the availability of parking in Dunbar centre does not warrant any requirement for charging. A ridiculous recommendation by a

council that should be encouraging visitors to the town not turning them away. Why would I pay to visit a high street where you can only get a coffee or a haircut anyway. Nonsense.

I don't support the proposed parking situation at all. As a resident, parking isn't that hard on the high street. There isn't that much of a problem so why should it be put in place? There is only negatives that I can see in this proposed change. Who benefits?

This will have a negative effect on the town. I don't think we need two taxi ranks on the Main Street and a lot of space is taken up by skips and work vans.

I play pétanque in Lauderdale park and the introduction of charges will kill the club. We would be unable to hold day competitions which are attended by players from other clubs and older members will be put off as pétanque boules are heavy and they would have to pay for parking as well as membership.

Businesses on the High Street will be affected.

Shops, Bleachingfield, leisure centre struggles enough this will make it worse. I often stop off at crunchy carrot or bakery or graze when driving through, I won't do that if I have to pay to park. It'll make swimming lessons even more expensive and I will be more reluctant to take my children swimming. Dunbar isn't just a tourist place ,lots of people live here and need to be encouraged to shop on high street instead of Asda, this will just push people to Asda even more.

This will make sure I only visit the garden centre and Asda, where parking is free. My parents regularly come to visit and this will curtail their visits into the town centre as well. Also, charging for parking at Bleaching Fields during things like elections could also affect the turnout.

#### Introducing Parking Charges in the Local Town Area: Economic Impact Report

To: Local Council

Subject: Concerns Regarding the Introduction of Parking Charges in the Town Centre

##### Executive Summary:

This report outlines ten key reasons why introducing parking charges in the local town area could negatively impact the local economy. The aim is to support informed decision-making that prioritizes the vitality of our town centre, the wellbeing of residents, and the sustainability of local businesses.

##### 1. Reduced Footfall for Local Businesses

Shoppers may avoid the town centre if they have to pay for parking, opting instead for out-of-town retail parks or online shopping. This can lead to a significant drop in sales for local businesses.

##### 2. Discourages Tourism

Visitors may be deterred by parking fees, especially in towns that rely on tourism. This can reduce income for restaurants, shops, and cultural attractions.

##### 3. Increased Costs for Workers

Employees who drive to work may face higher commuting costs. This is especially burdensome for low-income workers and could lead to staff shortages in key sectors.

##### 4. Harm to Small Businesses

Independent shops and services often operate on thin margins. Reduced customer traffic due to parking charges can threaten their viability and lead to closures.

##### 5. Shift to Larger Retail Chains

People may choose to shop at large supermarkets or malls with free parking, diverting spending away from the town centre and weakening the local economy.

##### 6. Negative Public Perception

Residents may view parking charges as a revenue-generating measure rather than a community benefit. This can lead to dissatisfaction and reduced support for local government initiatives.

##### 7. Reduced Property Values

If the town centre becomes less attractive due to reduced accessibility, property values in the area may decline, affecting both residential and commercial stakeholders.

##### 8. Impact on Vulnerable Groups

Elderly or disabled individuals who rely on car travel may find it harder to access essential services in the town centre, reducing their independence and quality of life.

##### 9. Potential for Increased Congestion Elsewhere

Drivers may park in nearby residential areas to avoid charges, causing congestion, safety issues, and frustration for local residents.

#### 10. Administrative and Enforcement Costs

Implementing and managing a parking charge system requires investment in infrastructure, signage, and enforcement personnel. These costs may not be fully offset by the revenue generated.

#### Conclusion:

While parking charges may offer short-term revenue, the long-term economic and social costs could outweigh the benefits. We recommend exploring alternative strategies to support town centre vitality without discouraging access.

There are other ways to tax people, this will cost more to enforce than it will make, this will kill Dunbar

We are working hard to keep people coming to our high st and local businesses, there will be increased business to out of town shops Asda, proposed new cafes etc rather than local small businesses if paid parking is introduced. This could be a catastrophe for local business and amenities.

I don't think I should pay to park in the town in which I live.

Parking charges in will leave the high street like a ghost town!!

Will make it more expensive, and therefore less likely, that I will use businesses in this area.

There is no issue with parking in Dunbar. This is a fallacy contrived by ELC to give some credence to their management reports.

It is further proof of the arrogance of ELC who believe they know best - they are not paying heed to the people who elected them. We cannot allow to happen in Dunbar, the fiasco which developed in North Berwick.

I don't experience any issues with parking in Dunbar at the moment and so don't see any benefit to the introduction of parking charges in Dunbar.

I believe to enforce these parking charges will damage the livelihood of Dunbar's town centre as less people will want to pay to shop, eat in our cafes & bars and explore the area. Our local residents deserve better especially at a time when the cost of living has increased.

I am a 72 year old pensioner who drives into these areas regularly for shopping etc. Please do not introduce these charges - it's hard enough making ends meet already.

My issue is not, at this stage, one of objection to, or agreement with, parking charges, it is the absence of evidence produced to support the Council's proposal.

#### BACKGROUND

The Council has produced no metrics in support of their case that there are existing parking problems. We need to know:

What are the current problems?

Where is there any shortage of spaces?

What is the current, average, dwell time in parking spaces at each of the locations where the introduction of further restrictions or charges is proposed?

If these data exist, how, when and by whom were they collected. Please show us your working!

If the proposals are implemented, what are the anticipated changes to parking patterns at each location? In other words, what does success look like? Please provide numbers, not just general bland statements.

#### ECONOMIC IMPACT

The Council is responsible for protecting the economic health of East Lothian. What is the expected economic impact of the proposed changes, both in terms of overall spend across the



County and, specifically, the expected impact on high street shops. How will the Council be able to move quickly enough to protect these businesses and the services they provide to those unable to access out-of-town shops?

#### POLICY CONFLICTS

The Council has recently had to cut the Supported Bus Service provision, leaving residents of outlying villages (like Spott) but also those in new housing areas (like Newtonlees/Broxburn) with no bus service at all. In the case of those new houses between Newtonlees and Broxburn, part of the justification for allowing their construction was the existence of reliable bus services. These residents will now be forced to drive to the shops. Are they more likely to pay to park in town centres, or use free parking at the shops to which the Council has granted planning consent at the edges of those towns?

Furthermore, the Council undertook to review, after 12 months, the impact of its Controlled Parking Zone in North Berwick. To push ahead with other schemes before that scheme is even fully implemented seems both foolhardy and dishonest. Anyone might be forgiven for thinking that the review has already been written!

#### LEGAL ISSUES

The 1984 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, places on local authorities an obligation to hypothecate any surplus revenue from parking charges to transport improvements. This includes the requirement to demonstrate additionality - in other words, you have to use the money on top of existing budgets. Using it as a mechanism simply to reduce the transport budget, or to make up shortfalls elsewhere, is illegal and has successfully been challenged in court (Attfield vs London Borough of Barnet).

In East Lothian, how will any revenue surplus be used? How will this improve transport across the County (specific examples please)? When will these improvements be delivered?

Parking charges are unnecessary, will be harmful to its residents, visitors and unsupportive to local businesses

If this was truly about parking being a challenge then the solution would be to encourage more spaces to be created as well as payment for parking. However, as there is no plan to increase parking it seems to me as simply a way to raise tax for the council. The council think this will raise them revenues but it won't, people will just go elsewhere. I love buying my bread from the bakery and our veg from the grocers however forcing us to pay for the privilege of shopping local will make me go to Bostok or a big supermarket. Visiting the library for a class with my son where you're encouraged to stay after and read together and hang out with other parents would be a non-starter if I'm being charged to do what is meant to be a free service. You've just increased our council tax by 10% if it's money you're after be honest, people appreciate honesty from our politicians. Sadly, our council are killing our high street(s) with no consideration for the long term impact. You want 15 minute towns, this is the wrong way to go about it

You will never promote Dunbar and encourage visitors to come to Dunbar by introducing restrictive parking charges. Also it is no way to encourage local people to use the town centre. You should be looking for more creative ways to provide sensible free parking areas and promote increased use.

I think it's disgusting to charge us to park in our own town. I pay a ludicrous amount in council tax as it is, you already fleece me to park at John Muir or White Sands to walk my dog or to empty my brown bin. Where the hell is all that money going? Not to mention the money you are getting from all the home developers for building in your constituency! Parking charges will be the death of this town. The high street is already struggling to get the passing trade as it is. Learn how to manage your budget better than try and pass on the consequences of your frivolity to the East Lothian constituents!!!!

I don't believe that parking charges will benefit anyone living/working/trading in Dunbar. ELC should implement the current arrangements effectively and there would be no problem with parking at all.



The proposed parking charges will decimate local business and adversely impact local residents. I don't perceive that we have any major issues at the moment so 'please don't try to fix something that isn't broken'.

I also live on one of the roads just outside the charged zone and only have on-street parking for my car outside my house. I am very concerned that this will be adversely affected by the new proposals

Outrageous. We already have to pay to use the beach car parks.

Dunbar is run down enough and this will hurt all traders too, It just chases more people to shop elsewhere

The parking as it currently stands works fine. If you get a space then great, if you don't - tough. Just leave it alone.

A clear raid on the pockets of local residents again to offset the inability of the local authorities to control their budgets.

No need to change the status quo which works well

I feel this will have a hugely negative impact on these parts of Dunbar and mean locals and tourists use it less and less.

Think it's awful and it will kill our high street

Can't see how the introduction of charges will make enough money for the council to cover their costs. It will remove trade from the high street and the sports centre and will overwhelmingly affect people living in Dunbar

We should be encouraging customers to the shops in Dunbar, any charging will push people out of town to shop. We have a wonderful high st, parks and harbour and the council has a responsibility to ensure all thrive especially in difficult economic times.

I think it's Disgusting that that East Lothian council are wanting to charge people to park on the St outside their homes, it is just another tax and should not be allowed.

There is not a parking problem in Dunbar, this is a stealth tax designed to generate money. It will have a hugely damaging effect on the town. Absolute disgrace

I'm a local Gas Engineer servicing and carrying out maintenance and this will make my life much harder and will have to increase my charging accordingly

I don't disagree completely but I think more thought needs to be put into it. I live in Kellie Place and have health issues so use the doctors regularly so now all of a sudden I will have to pay to park to see the doctor. Parsons Pool I get it's close to the front but some of the poorest people and need the most help are there, but they are having to get permits. It needs thinking out properly. I can see

long term it may clear the high street and I could probably get to the postoffice. Instead of going to east linton....I do think you are going to have to adapt and change as things move on in time

I wish they would look at the approach of Northumberland Council!

Passes are supplied to residents and short term passes that can be bought by visitors for £2 from shops and visitor sights in the area.

Users are given a 2hr max stay and are penalised with a fine if they don't respect the terms

The measures that you are proposing seem to me to be about making money from the motorist and are nothing to do with helping residents or business. The town centre and the High Street in particular are on their knees as far as footfall and profit are concerned. I think ELC should be trying to attract new business to Dunbar, not scare them away with draconian new parking regulations. I think that the present regulations would work better if we had a fulltime parking warden rather than the part time warden we have presently to enforce the rules.

I'd skip the High St and go to ASDA. No charges there!

Parking charges will kill the High Street and surrounding areas. No one will want to come and shop or visit the town.

Not sure of any problems at present!

There are lots of people in Dunbar who struggle with mobility. By introducing parking restrictions/limitation it will hinder their use of all these vital facilities. We should be encouraging the use of community centres, leisure centres and parks not making them less accessible for vulnerable individuals and families. We should also be encouraging the uses of local shops - parking charges will decrease their footfall.

The parking at the moment works very well. Adding meters will only disrupt things and reduce the number of cars visiting the areas. Permits are not suitable in a place like Dunbar.

Job creation for council workers, big costs for setting it all up, loss making.... and no demonstration of how it helps anything!

Have you got shares in ASDA? People will start shopping there rather than in town - parking is free. At Bleachingfield - which is underused - less likely to be used, especially the library.

Car is needed to get purchases out of high street to home on a regular basis. Distances can be too far to walk home with purchases. Charges will deter people parking on high street and drive them out of dunbar

We have a lovely town. Our town centre needs support to thrive. Introducing charges will do the complete opposite. People resent paying for parking. Some people can't afford to pay for parking. It will drive people away. Local services and shops will ultimately suffer.

I will not use the shops or the leisure centre. This will kill the town

Resident permits and car parking fines (as that is what they are) will just have people going to Asda or the garden centre all the more.

Visit the town centre almost daily and have done for the last 15 years, I've never had a problem finding a parking space within a few minutes.  
I think if we are made to pay to park people may stay for the maximum time they have paid for rather than only the time they need to be parked.  
The result being less movement of parked cars and a resulting difficulty in finding a parking space. Ultimately this is going to have a negative impact on our high street and surrounding area.  
Having lived in various cities previously I can see the sense in parking charges,  
Here there are larger volumes of traffic, built up areas and congestion, However there is also better public transport and many people have local shops within walking distance. A very different environment to Dunbar.  
There is no parking or congestion problem here.  
The proposals will create one.

Dunbar residents already pay enough in council tax charges, for seemingly dwindling services. Charging for parking will impact the local shops and further penalise residents.

I work at Bleachingfield so charges would make no change to me... I have to come to work, sometimes for 14 hours a day. Charges will take a big chunk of my monthly wage just to come toward

This is nothing but a money making scheme for the council. It will be detrimental to the town. It should not go ahead.

What happens when you go to visit someone in a permit holder only area ?  
What about people who work in Dunbar and need to use a car .  
Free parking at the medical centre will be used inappropriately reducing the already limited parking there

Again this all boils down to planning and infrastructure building houses without proper infrastructure to the towns of East Lothian increasing the populations with no thought put into the consequences for the towns

There is no parking problem to be solved. More parking south of the railway (with access) will assist commuters and ease parking on station road etc.  
This is a blatant attempt by a poorly run council to raise money to the severe detriment of our already struggling high st.  
Council should focus on itself first on cost savings - open up to the public and request ideas etc to save money

Parking charges in Dunbar North will push parking to adjacent streets to the west of the area, creating big problems for the residents in this area.

Charging people to park for up to an hour to let families visit the Lauderdale Park play area or the library is unfair and likely to deter them from using these facilities

This proposal will significantly affect use of the town centre and local facilities - the town is already struggling to attract people compared to other East Lothian towns. Why would we make it less attractive to come. This is an opportunity to differentiate from others. The recent Dunbar and East Linton magazine is a great step in reminding people what we have to offer, let's not put people off coming in. Those joining our community in various new builds should be encouraged to stay local and use the shops and amenities, this proposal will endanger that.

As someone who lives in Dunbar, it is about a 20 minute walk up the street for me. I often go along to vets, gp, pharmacy, shops, leisure centre, most often driving to park up. If I was to be expected to pay to visit the high street of my own town, I would be visiting far less frequently. It would also be a huge inconvenience, especially for things like vet visits.

Parking fees will drive business away from dunbar town centre for locals and tourists making Dunbar town centre a no go zone. Businesses and locals will suffer and people will try to park in no fee parts of the town creating problems in those parts of the town for those unable to pay parking fees. Dunbar needs local shops and tourists to thrive and to support the future growth. It will also push locals to use out of town retail centres.

care worker don't get paid parking. Hair, dental. postal, restaurants visits can and generally do take longer than 30 minutes. parking migration will mean that surrounding areas will have people who won't or can't pay parking in free areas.

Not enough spaces at present so permit parking would make it worse. People who moved to the centre of Dunbar would have known that it was difficult to park, so it would be wrong to introduce permit parking at this stage. There is not enough room in the town for parking. You need to make more car parks before you introduce charges.

I call into shops on the High Street on a daily basis on my way to/from work. Parking charges would stop me doing this.

I do not believe any parking charges are required. Any charges will penalise people living in these areas and deter people from going to the town centre.

I can't see areas now, from this page. I worry a lot for those just outside of parking areas who will no longer be able to park near their own houses. Look at timings and seasonal options, not blanket unsophisticated lazy ones. That's what Stantec should have done , for their money

The current restrictions on the high street 90 mins are perfect. We just need that enforced

I am a regular volunteer at the bleaching field centre and I resent having to pay to park there every week.

Dunbar doesn't have a car parking problem. You can always find a space

I live just outside the proposed residential permitted parking zone next to Lauderdale Park. This will undoubtedly push parking into our street for those wishing to avoid parking charges. I feel this is unnecessary.

As a pensioner I will be using town centre and harbour area less due to mobility

We already pay for a permit for coastal parking!

Should there be parking charges in Dunbar I would probably drive to Fort Kinnaird to shop where there are no parking charges.

On my opinion, there is no significant issue with parking in Dunbar centre and the introduction of charges is purely to make money for ELC. The introduction of payment for permits is grossly unfair to residents in the areas affected. Dunbar attracts a lot of visitors who will possibly be put off visiting and spending in the local shops because of these charges.

Having free parking is part of the reason that I use the businesses on the high street. I think that if charges are introduced there should be a free period in all car parks (I often use the leisure centre when the high street is full) and at least some places where an hour is free to reduce impact on hospitality.

Parking charges will mean cars moving into the residential areas around Hallhill and Ashfield areas south of the railway like Retreat Crescent and Salisbury Walk.

I would like more disabled parking bays on the high street: The ones by the post office are a long way from that end of the high street for me.

Perhaps a "pay & display" system (where you get a ticket with the 1st 60-90 mins free) would help on the high street and the car parks?

Personally I do not find any issues parking in Dunbar even during holiday months.

As residents parking charges and permits will make the freedom to run errands and enjoy Dunbar with kids less feasible. It will also deter friends from neighbouring towns from coming to meet us in Dunbar, making this a less attractive place to live.

I can understand the desire to introduce parking restrictions in order to rotate spaces on the high street, but do not see the point in other areas. Why have disc schemes (like often used in England) not been considered? This would restrict visitors to the high street to an hour, which is ample time to go to cafe or shop and then they can use free, more spacious parking spots outwith of the centre of town if they need to stay longer

This is an absolute farce, it will be impossible to maintain as the area covered is too large. What happens if someone is getting work carried out at their house, they have no private parking & they are in a permit parking area.

Cars will migrate out to areas beyond the parking identified & just cause issues elsewhere.

At the consultation in town house earlier in month, they couldn't put a price on the implementation of this. New signs, meters, publications, more traffic wardens required. Just ridiculous

Dunbar high street is already failing. The parking charges will turn it completely into a ghost town.

With no bus route serving east of Spott road along to Broxburn, options for older people to get into town for shopping/catching up with friends will hit the pocket. Shop workers along High St and West Port will have to pay £5 a day from their wages. Any change proposals must be more holistic taking into account impact on businesses, on their staff and their customers to promote a sustainable High Street. A compromise making free parking 60 minutes would improve what is a difficult decision.

Makes sense to have parking charges on the high street but residential streets further away makes zero sense. Feels like a money grab and not actually caring about the residents of Dunbar.

I live on North Road which is just past the medium stay parking zone. It's already really difficult to park in our road and this will make it impossible as people will park here and walk an extra couple of minutes to not pay parking. My daughter is disabled and if she can't get her car parked near to our home she will go out much less.

Parking charges will decimate the high street

Asking residents to pay for permits to park outside their houses, is abominable. Charging visitors ok but not residents.

I feel this is a money raising exercise as opposed to a town centre management initiative - I would like to read the Council reasoning for these proposals. Parking charges will always create less access, unless the street are always full and there are parking issues. I am not aware of parking issues in Dunbar.

The issue is turnover on the high street and by the train station. There is no issue elsewhere in the town. This appears to be no more than a strategic money grab. If anything making people park on just one side of a road would resolve any traffic congestion in Dunbar. Focus more on being able to access the train station on foot from different parts of the town. You are trying to treat a symptom not a cause.

I feel it would impact an already struggling economy

I live in Roslyn House, North Road, at the start of the free parking area. At present, there is rarely a space outside my house. If the parking charges are introduced,, it will be impossible to park anywhere in the vicinity.

As an example of how parking charges, destroy a town centre, please visit the city of Perth

Dunbar town centre now overrun with vehicles blocking roads for other users and makes it difficult for pedestrians to get about. Impossible to get down west port or one way system at times. Current position with crossings no longer practicable and not pleasant to wonder about. Most people now accept parking charges and restrictions in town centres. This needs to be part of a wider plan to improve the town centre in general by the council as it feels tired and unappealing

You will kill the high street and making living here hell if you introduce parking charges!

I would like to see all traffic banned from the centre other than public transport and emergency vehicles after 11:00 AM as is common in the continent. This would transform the High Street and make for a much more pleasant environment for residents and visitors alike. Pedestrian safety on Spott Rd is a major problem. Pavement is too narrow and traffic is too fast. Physical speed restrictions are badly needed.

As a disabled driver the current parking situation around Dunbar High Street is currently not working. The misuse of disabled bays, the lack of enforcement and the lack of turnover of spaces makes using the high street very difficult currently and I therefore welcome the proposals.

Parking charges are long overdue. What is proposed is not punitive. Meters would be useful - if they were monitored. I have a blue badge which is important for access. However, unlimited time, without charge is perhaps too generous. Except at the station, where disabled parking long-term is invaluable. Somewhere to park - and lock- a bike or disability scooter would be useful.

I usually cycle when going to the high street and anything which encourages more people who can to do so it great. I think 30mins to 60mins free if plenty for anyone wishing to shop on the high street. My husband has a blue badge and we often have to not stop when we otherwise would due to lack of spaces and we go to asda instead.

There is nothing wrong with the parking at present and a lot of people from outside Dunbar (tourists/other visitors) come here every week and spend money. Parking fees are unnecessary. Just the council trying to fleece locals - they have no consideration for the community at all. Simply trying to claw back money to justify their ridiculous pay increases.

The rabbit warren of streets in Shore and Harbour need protection. For everywhere else, it will just displace parking elsewhere. I don't tend to park on the High Street, so personally parking charges will only effect me if it means more people are parking where I usually park. Then it would reduce my visits to the High Street. As a member of Dunbar Community Petanque, parking charges at Lauderdale Park would kill the club. We do evening sessions in the summer, but also an afternoon session on a Sunday, and only afternoon sessions during winter. It would also kill off the outreach work (e.g., 4 days of sessions with grammar school kids). Why would volunteers pay to volunteer? I dread to think of the effect on The Wishing Tree by the Sea - Bev is a good friend to Dunbar Community Petanque. It would not help if charges were exempted at Lauderdale Park but introduced everywhere else; what mayhem there would be in Lauderdale Park.

Parking is fine. Just need to enforce existing time limits on high Street.

Fine with introducing some permit zones for local households but otherwise this is just a council cash grab that will be detrimental to local businesses and residents

I understand doing it on the high street but not doing it everywhere else  
Although to be honest the amount you are planning to charge isn't horrendous but it's not fair on the people who actually live in Dunbar.  
If you live in Dunbar you should have a separate permit that allows you to park. It should be a one off payment every year. It might actually encourage more locals to walk places!  
Visitors should have to pay for parking.

I don't live in these areas so would not be able to park there with my kids to visit friends or transport my elderly mother in law to visit her friends. These areas are never that busy when I use them currently so why the need to introduce charges?

We need families not to have to worry about extra costs . I support someone with a Blue Badge and it is really annoying when non badge holders park in these spaces. I also think we need more blue badge spaces. I would also like to see clear pavements for wheelchair users please.

No parking charges

Whilst I agree there are parking issues on the high street that may benefit from some prioritisation for those with mobility issues, there really aren't big issues anywhere else and I am concerned



introduction with reduce people's use of facilities and, particularly in the case of the parks and sports facilities which bring people together, may begin to fracture the Dunbar community

If the council are genuinely concerned with people parking for extended periods of time then move to the Northumberland Council disk system. £1 for a disk. People set arrival time on disk and leave visible in car. Then fine those people who stay longer than the time limit. introducing parking charges is discriminatory against the elderly, families, disabled and those from the rural community as these people need their cars to manage their day to day activities. Parking charges will impact hugely on our local economy and drive people away from the local services and high street. Very short sighted of the council.

We are supposed to be encouraging visitors and locals to use the high Street parking charges will deter this

Whilst I think residents of Shore and Harbour areas would benefit permits, the parking restrictions for Dunbar West cause me a significant concern from a displacement perspective and the impacts this will have on the local schools and general safety. I can see Hallhill car park becoming a default parking location for people using train services which will have a huge implication for parent whose Hallhill to drop off and pick up children and when using the Hallhill facilities. I can also see more people parking further West which will impact both the John Muir campus and Dunbar Grammar.

The High Street area plans are reasonable along with the Shore and Harbour plans. However, the Dunbar West plans seem ill thought out with potential safety implications. I am not clear what restrictions in this area solve, beyond a simple attempt to make money from parents using the school.

I do not agree with charging anything to park anywhere in Dunbar. Residents should certainly not have to apply for a permit to park outside their homes. People who suffer from mobility issues that do not qualify for a blue badge should not have to pay to access amenities. Talk about death of a highstreet shops will be used less and cafes and people out for a meals less.

Parks and leisure facilities are not accessible to everyone by foot and why should people be discriminated against for trying to live a healthier life. It would make me think twice about bringing children and Young People I work with to these amenities.

Why are people of what would be classed as old Dunbar having to apply for permits to park outside a house they have lived in for years. If Dunbar town centre has a problem with parking which I do not think it had, maybe it was lack of consideration on local infrastructure when newer houses were built/being built. I think it's also awful to consider Community spaces for charges these should be as accessible much as possible to all ages and abilities. I fear the effects on mental and physical health on the community as people simply won't access places like before.

Tourism would be affected also its already bad enough you have to pay at belhaven and John Muir country park ...how will that encourage people to stay use the cafes do some shopping take a leisurely walk through the town visit the harbour. We once upon a time were a small seaside town welcoming to everyone, its sad how times have changed. It just seems like punishing local and vulnerable people in the community who would be affected the most.

As a resident it will make using certain areas harder.

As a manager of a charity supporting families one to one in their homes it will cost the charity more or prevent staff/volunteers visiting

I do not believe the town needs to have parking charges introduced as there is not a problem with parking in the town centre. Introduction of charges at specifically the leisure pool, Bleachingfield and Lauderdale park will undoubtedly lead to less usage of these facilities by some members of the public. Users already pay a fee to swim and/or attend swim lessons/club sessions and use the gym etc and charging for parking on top of this will mean some cannot afford to continue to use the facility. Elderly users of the library may rely on driving to Bleachingfield rather than walking, and this may be the only time and place they meet with other people. Charging residents for a permit also seems grossly unfair when there is currently no real issue with parking in the areas assigned as permit areas. There seems to be no benefit to council tax payers from the introduction of this scheme given our council tax has already increased by 10% with less service provision across council provided services. All round a terrible idea which appears to simply be a way to fund the councillors huge payrise.

If ELC are trying to kill an already dying High Street, particularly with the plans for DunBear Park, then this is the way to do it. Medium stay parking needs a free period of 60 minutes before charging. I cannot see what the income from charges is actually going to provide other than a nice big pot of cash to go towards repairing the crater strewn roads of East Lothian.

I live in the new Robertson Homes at Newton Manor and am presently able to walk in to the town. However, that will not always be the case as I age. I do not want to drive in to town, but as yet, no buses are available at all for this side of Dunbar which will be problematic if it doesn't change. I use the Leisure Centre frequently and am not happy at all at the prospect of having to pay for parking.

I think that 30 mins free parking on the high street is absolutely inadequate. It will stop people being able to browse and meet friends for a coffee which is a disaster for the high street.

The whole plan is ill-thought out. Charging for the bleachingfield car park will cause chaos at school drop off and pick up times and discourage use of the library. Charging for the swimming pool car park will put families off swimming or just add to their costs, likewise for lauderdale. We should be encouraging exercise, not making it harder. Permit only parking near the station will just move any issues with parking, not solve it. And I'm sure the last thing high street shops need is fewer customers.

Why not consider some or all of the following: (1) signposts for visitors to the bleachingfield and Lauderdale car parks to encourage day trippers to park there instead of the high street. (2) Provide more parking for rail commuters, ideally free or cheap so that they aren't parking on-street. (3) Look at feasibility of shuttle buses at peak times between, for example, west Barnes and the station, and broxburn and the station, and maybe other areas to support rail commuters to leave cars at home. (4) Ensure there are sufficient bike racks at the station.

This town needs to keep growing from the town centre out. It needs to keep being an easy place to stop and shop and go promote it's beauty and attractions. Don't drive residents and visitors out of our lovely town.

Being just outside of Dunbar North will more than likely direct visitor traffic to my street (Gardener Street). We already have various tourists with camper vans parking here in the summer months (and beyond). The free parking in my street will be badly impacted.

Can never get parked in town so end up going to Asda would rather use high street

This will lead to people parking at the station instead, where there are no time limits. This is problematic for me as I am a train driver who commutes to Edinburgh by rail whenever possible.

No major parking problems in Dunbar and no need for charging. Any problems that do exist are largely due to lack of enforcement - examples include double parking (High Street), pavement parking (eg Doon Ave), unsafe parking (outside Brig and Barrel) and abuse of blue badge spaces (widespread).

As a resident just outside the proposed charging/permit zone, I am extremely concerned about displacement of parking from the central area, concentrating it just outside, and causing

difficulties for residents reliant on on-street parking. This issue does not seem to have been raised or addressed in any communications I have seen around the proposal. I'd be very grateful if the Community Council could note it as an issue.

Permit parking will not impact me as I always walk into town from just outside the permit parking area. Paying for resident parking would be iniquitous and potentially disadvantages many people financially. Many of the areas designated as potential resident permit areas are not in fact areas which have parking issued for non-residents. The current 90 min limit free is fine. One of the main rises is the lack of enforcement; people know there is practically none in the town. Personal opinion is this is a tick box consultation and not here to trap and raise money. It is noticeable for example that parking at CoOP, Zero Waste & Hallhil, presumably because there are private, don't get mentioned although many use them. Access to the new railway platform might well reduce numbers of cars from new estates. One option for improving visibility could be the disk permit as used for eg. in Berwick upon Tweed (£1 each)

There is not a serious parking problem. It would be helpful if the current 90 minute limit were enforced. Introducing parking charges would create problems unnecessarily. Not only would they deter much-needed visitors, local inhabitants would be severely inconvenienced.

I don't own a car but if they charge in town, they might as well close the town down.

I work for a local authority and I know budgets have been cut you guys need to make your money somewhere. I am happy to pay a small charge as it's actually a pain to return within a time period to get my hair done. I'd rather pay and be able to stay longer if possible. I don't like the idea of permit only but that's just a personal preference.

I think pedestrianising the high street would be good (not currently being proposed) and attract customers to the high street but charges will put off customers.

Reducing traffic in the Dunbar area is key to reducing carbon emissions, improving air quality and reducing dangerous driving well above the 20mph speed limit. Within the proposed areas there are several services accessed by young children (nursery, schools, doctors etc) who are the most vulnerable street users. Implementing a parking controlled zone will encourage people to travel actively thus improving their health. These restrictions will not impact on blue badge holders negatively, in fact these measures will probably make parking more available for those who have access needs.

I have a current blue badge so the parking charges won't affect me but I feel strongly this will have a detrimental effect on our local shops etc in Dunbar. People will go elsewhere it's been done before.

Introducing parking charges just means people will park further up the road. The Queen's Road/Bowmont Terrace is already congested with cars/campervans/mini-buses parked that don't belong to local residents.

All this will do is destroy the centre of Dunbar and encourage people to park in the area immediately outside the parking zone. Another solution looking for a problem from East Lothian Council

There is no need.

I live in Marine Road, people will park here instead of the parking areas in town!

No problem with parking Just a badly run council trying to make money from people.

Better parking controls are needed, but needs at least 90mins free time to encourage visitors to use the High Street for purchases, stopping for a coffee etc. However, the controls should be funded primarily by penalties for those breaching the rules.

However, it seems odd to exclude Kings Court from the Dunbar West controlled area. If it is excluded we could end up with Kings Court parking bays that are intended for deliveries and residents' visitors being used for public parking.

Would encourage Free parking for 30 minutes in all proposed parking zones

In general, I support the parking changes proposed. However, I have reservations about the Dunbar west area which may affect where commuters /long stay visitors park outside of that area. I live in Kings Court, in between Station Rd and the Dunbar west area, and anticipate commuters/visitors wanting to avoid charges will park in the Kings Court area, causing further congestion for residents here.

The town of Dunbar does not need the introduction of parking charges and permits. Parking works acceptably at the moment. Sometimes there is a shortage of spaces in the High Street itself but this is a minor problem. It is possible to find parking a short distance away. Introduction of paid parking will have an impact on the way of life in Dunbar to the detriment of the community and increase of individual stress. If it was deemed necessary to introduce some form of control then disc parking as used in Berwick would be a much more equitable system. ELC have not considered all the options. The ELC survey is oriented towards the unilateral introduction of charges and the questions structured around the principles of such a scheme.

BUT there is a risk that it will push people out a little to park in the medical centre car park (already under pressure for patients and misused as a park and ride) and the parish church car park (used by Medical Centre staff to keep space free in DMC car park). there would need to be some mitigation to help minimise this scenario

I live close to the High Street and so do not need to use a car for shopping. I fear that if charges were applied there could be people seeking to avoid paying who would use Kings Court to park freely. The current signage could be made more prominent and in a larger font and display where longer term parking options are available for people planning a coffee/lunch linger rather than a quick shop.

It's perfect the way it is!

People should not have to pay to park outside their homes - nor should people who are visiting them. It is the Council's responsibility to provide more car parks to stop people flowing over into these areas.

Permits for residents should be free. If the aim of charges for residents parking permits is simply to raise revenue for the council, this is grossly unfair on those residents living in these areas. Those Dunbar residents living close to the High Street are also those least likely to drive to the town centre, other than to access their property. Allocation of permits (free) to residents in certain areas will ensure they are able to park at/near their accommodation when the town has a lot of visitors. Charges for car parks is acceptable.

I do not think there is a problem
I will be less inclined to visit local business. This will have an affect on them. More business will go under, more empty shops etc.
I'll just go to Fort Kinnaird
Although the charges are not excessive I believe it will deter visitors which I also believe the area needs. I would certainly visit the town less
No need for parking charges. This will stop me visiting Dunbar completely, therefore I'll stop using shops/facilities/restaurants in the town. I surely won't be the only one so it's shocking that introducing parking charges is even being considered. This will ruin Dunbar.
I live at Hall near Spott and am miles from the nearest public nearest transport/rely on my car for all activities. I feel very strongly that introduction of these restrictions will make it so much harder for me to do everything from my shopping to doctors visits to pool usage and will definitely impact the frequency of my visits to Dunbar: I'll certainly be looking to go elsewhere eg Haddington where possible and will probably need to get the train from east Linton or drem - skipping my dunbar shopping visits in the process. I see no reason for the introduction of these restrictions. The consultation questions were badly designed and asked leading questions and public sentiment is overwhelmingly against them. If you are claiming to 'consult' the public then please do so genuinely and transparently. I would also like to request that this transparency extends to public sharing of the details of how the public's input will be used to reach a final decision in terms of the power it will have to influence the decision - I assume that if public opinion is overwhelmingly against their introduction this will mean it cannot go ahead but I would like confirmation/clarity on this please.
I will likely not visit Dunbar as much as I used to, which was at least once or twice per week. I think parking charges will harm the businesses on the high street, and force people to go elsewhere.
I feel there is absolutely NO NEED for any parking charges in a small, fairly quiet town like Dunbar. The beach parking charges were bad enough, this is even worse! East Lothian is a countryside country therefore most people require a car as public transport doesn't fulfill the necessary requirements. I feel most visitors will not bother to pay to park to have a wander along the High street etc therefore having a HUGELY detrimental effect on businesses. The decision to also build a retail Park near Asda providing an alternative for shopping just shows how little the council thinks of its high street.
Any parking problems are currently being caused by the tradesman and scaffolders working on buildings in the High street as they just ignore the 90min limit and park all day taking up the limited spaces. There is also too many spaces for taxi's. The spaces outside the old butchers should be reverted back.
The imposition of parking charges will create an imperative to collect penalties in order to pay for the administration of the system. I am fundamentally opposed to any street parking charging system and would encourage the creation of specific car parking resource.
I live in East Linton and occasionally go to Dunbar high street. The parking isn't great as it is and creating a charging system would definitely put me off further. The high street is struggling in Dunbar and there aren't enough decent shops or attractions to justify bringing in charges. I would go to either Haddington or North Berwick instead as more interesting/wider variety of shops and restaurants and things to do.
I work in Dunbar next to the High Street 5 days a week. This parking charge is unaffordable. I will change jobs if i have to pay the 8% of my daily pay on the parking these charges represent.

This will ruin access to businesses for many. Terrible idea
I object to all parking charges mainly because the East Lothian Council waste so much money and give themselves huge pay rises so why should we have to pay for their extravagance
I have never had a problem parking in Dunbar, so do not see the benefit of this change. It will stop me using local services.
Parking close to shops is essential for footfall and their ultimate survival. I would not go into town nearly as much if there were parking charges. I no longer visit the shore where there are parking charges at the car parks.
It will destroy business in those areas and it will stop people like me regularly visiting your town
There is not a parking problem in Dunbar. I live in Stenton and charges will certainly deter me going to the coffee shops and high street shops. It will move locals away from the high street to the new retail park which will be a tragedy for the local businesses on the high street who contribute so much to the local economy and the community.
Dunbar is my nearest town, however there is no public transport available for me to use. I come into Dunbar regularly for exercise classes, shopping on the High Street and music lessons, all very important to me. As a pensioner, parking charges would be costly and would deter me from visiting Dunbar and therefore from using these local services. This would be detrimental to my mental and physical health.
The shops in Dunbar are already struggling to survive. Footfall will decline with the imposition of parking charges making their survival even more precarious. Income from the charges will be wasted by councillors on unnecessary and frivolous projects such as replacing what was a perfectly good play area in Lauderdale Park at great expense.
Parking fees in Dunbar will be detrimental to local business and area tourism. I understand the economic difficulties experienced by the council, but focus should be put on creating greater council efficiency rather than parking fees which have great potential to backfire.
I have a business in the High St. The proposal would affect my business and the people I employ
This proposal will totally devastate Dunbar. Please put a halt to it.
We will go elsewhere as will hundreds of others
This is a very bad idea which will negatively impact use of the high street (and the businesses there) and services around Dunbar such as the library and pool. If congestion is a concern then you could introduce a disk system like Berwick has with free parking for a limited amount of time. But really this just feels like a stealth tax on the people of Dunbar and the surrounding area; on the parents who need to drive young children to the park and so on.
The only winners of this proposed change would be Asda.
Restrictions/charges on parking has a massive impact on my decision making on visiting places, the fact that you have to pay, is bad enough, but having a time limit is even worst, the whole point of visiting/tourism is that you go the relax, enjoy what the place has to offer and having to be on a timer is not great. I have very good friends in Dunbar, this will affect my regular visits.

These changing will have massive negative impact on the tourism in Dunbar, neighbours and hospitality industry.

Why can't you just follow how Berwick-upon- tweeds system for parking. OAP's and others have enough expenses without this on top of everything else. I Think the high street will decimated. We have to use the car as the buses aren't suitable or timed for our use. We're 10 miles away and Dunbar is our local shopping area and your just going to drive us and many others away.

I think parking charges are bad for residents and businesses. Not a good idea at all

I have a buissness on the high street this will kill our buissness. I understand everything has went up but our clients are struggling and we are with out overheads. I also have kids active at different time this mean on Saturday I would have to pay for parking 3 time because of the times of there classes then we would normally go to lauderdale park which be another paid parking. That is 4 parking i one day. I think it good maybe people will walk or bike more but for most young family you need a car as there to small and are weather os awful so a ray of jackets ect is needed for one day out.

Dunbar needs more trade and more people visiting to encourage trade these proposals will have the opposite effect. Dunbar desperately needs people with vision to enhance the high street and develop the area. Introducing parking charges when council tax ni etc have been increased is a non starter in terms of encouraging people to come to the area.

As a regular (almost daily) visitor to Dunbar by car (no other option as no public transport from where I live) I have never experienced any significant parking issues and enjoy shopping in the independent shops such as Crunchy Carrot, Community Bakery, Flux etc. I also park when I use the leisure centre three times a week. The introduction of parking charges will have an enormous impact on me and will inevitably reduce my visits to the town, having a knock on impact to the shops and a negative impact on my mental health. It's a terrible idea.

There is always movement in the car parking in Dunbar. I pay at the moment for coastal parking and now for town parking, I can only see that people will not be happy with this. The costings from what I hear are not available. People will not alway pay for the parking in the hope that they don't get caught, I can see that at the coastal car parks. The shops and businesses will suffer from this. 30mins free is not always enough to get fish and chip from the shops especially when really busy.

This will be a disaster for the high street. Small shops are struggling as it is. I currently try to support them. This will just drive customers away. Whilst I like to support local businesses I know that in reality having to pay for parking will mean I spend less in the town centre. It will be the same for most customers. Day trippers will be less likely to stop too.  
The crazy thing is: I have never struggled to find a space parking in Dunbar! It's fine as it is.

I visit almost daily to Dunbar and this would really discourage me from doing so and restrict my daily life being able to visit as often as I do.



Absolutely ridiculous proposal where there is no parking issues in Dunbar whatsoever.

I enjoy visiting Dunbar but don't want to pay parking charges

I work on the high st at The Community Carrot.. Elderly folk will come by car and need ample time to shop.. they are on a budget.. and it's important for well being to have time in shops to have a chat.. and not rush..

If folk visit less and the high st suffers then Redundancies could occur costing more!

Less spent in the area means less VAT being paid..

We use need to park our Van outside Thursday mornings briefly and never have any problems..

Driving in with my partner we are always able to park..

Nobody wants this.. the community are against

Local business are against!

There are 2 community shops and the ridge.. that do more than sell bread , fruit and veg.. we give back to the community.. as a Council you should be supporting the local high st!

I'm a single mum on a relatively low income (I work full time but am still eligible for UC top up). Parking charges in small town centres will add to my costs making it more likely I will use online shopping where I currently try to shop locally (I live an equal distance from Dunbar, North Berwick and Haddington) tying trips into work journeys and other activities to reduce petrol use. I often take my daughter to Dunbar Leisure Centre, she is currently making use of the free swim voucher she received on finishing school lessons and I use the access to leisure scheme to reduce costs. We also frequently use the library (our village one has had it's opening hours reduced to two days which makes it near impossible for me to take my child.) Lauderdale Park is a favourite, but I would be put off going by parking charges. I simply can not afford any more expenses.

I don't know anyone who wants parking charges in Dunbar. Don't do this.

It seems that the proposed parking changes are sponsored by the out of town business as that is where people are going to go not just in Dunbar

No need for parking charge ,it will kill high st shops. Money doesn't solve parking problems, more parking spaces do.

I have never had a problem parking in Dunbar. If charges are introduced I won't travel to Dunbar anymore

There are no problems in Dunbar with parking. This proposal by East Lothian Council is solely intended to make money to pay for the council's ridiculous pay rises. It's also to stop the public using their cars as part of the nationwide drive for this control over the population and will not be tolerated. We must stop this proposal and not let it happen.

work in dunbar and would have to leave job if had to pay to park in dunbar every day for work

I would use out of town retail shops with free parking instead of town centre

Parking charges will make me visit the town less often and so spend less money in the local economy, I will go where there is free parking.

This is idiocy. Of all the things the Council could do to improve our lives they decide to ruin our lives.

We visit our elderly parent in parsonspool and would struggle to park outside her house

When visiting Dunbar parking charges will put me off coming which would be a shame as people are friendly and the local businesses need the trade to thrive as there are lots of empty shops

Parking charges will ensure that people will not come into the town to support local businesses.

I come to Dunbar as a visitor because it is a nice town, away from too much hassle and bustle, but still has plenty going on. I support local businesses instead of going elsewhere. One attraction is the free parking. Please don't change this!!

I can shop in other towns for free

There is no need to introduce these charges. They significantly penalise those living in the area, will negatively impact businesses by making visiting town less attractive than out of town shopping including other towns with retail parks such as Haddington, will cost money to implement required infrastructure and administer and police and will just move or displace any perceived parking issue out of the zone as has happened everywhere else parking zones have been introduced.

People are struggling financially and yet more charges will be seen as another tax. The high street is already struggling and these proposals will do nothing to support the businesses in Dunbar.

I visit Dunbar to run at Parkrun, then spend the day in the town. Have breakfast in Graze, visit Georgia May and other shops and walk around the town. This is with a view to moving to Dunbar on a permanent basis...I currently live in Kirkcaldy and the high street there is like a ghost town, shop wise. Please don't let this happen to Dunbar. It is a fabulous community...don't lose it.....

Your proposed new parking charges scheme is byzantine in its design and wholly unjustified for a small town like Dunbar - this is not a place like George Street, Edinburgh. Why don't you stop your pointless projects such as the widening of the pavements undertaken at East Linton (pavements that are scarcely ever used), if you are in need of extra revenue. You could make the management responsible for this said white elephant redundant as a suggestion, saving the local taxpayers a fortune no doubt. As regards the parking situation in Dunbar, all you need to do is ensure that the loading bays are regulated properly. If the current team of wardens are unaffordable, as you were trying to make out at the Dunbar consultation meeting with Norman Hampshire attending, then make some cutbacks elsewhere or put an extra £1 on each household council tax in East Lothian (surely this would be sufficient). Instead you want to get into bed with some private company, who will put the meters in for you and wreck the footfall on our local High Street, and hit all the local traders badly. Why? Just so you can earn a few bob to keep a few people in your departments pushing pens. This is not central Edinburgh, it is a small rural town. Thanks for the opportunity to give my opinion, though I know that it will count for nothing as happened with the North Berwick 'consultation'. Wrecking local towns, to fleece money from local people. Shame on you and your stealth tax scheming ways. Local government chancers.

Parking Charges/Restrictions will lead to decreased footfall for local businesses in my opinion, especially when proposals are in place for additional retail outlets with free parking near the Dunbar Bear.

We don't need it, I visit Dunbar regularly at weekends and weekdays for shopping and leisure and have never had a problem parking. It's a money making scheme for the council

There is no problem with parking in Dunbar at all.

I will travel and shop in other places to avoid this.

Money hungry fuckers. If you need money start going after the tax dodging rich cunts around here only people its effecting is the middle/lower class people. Do you not think the cost of living is enough without having to pay ever more to go to your local shop? All i see is a cash cow idea that's going to shut shops and stop people shopping local.

I have never had difficulty in parking in Dunbar and travel into the town frequently on business I think that introducing charges will put off both business and visitors from wanting to come into the town centre.

We live 5 miles from Dunbar near a local village. There is now no public transport from the village to Dunbar. Dunbar is our local town which we visit several times a week for shopping, leisure and business transactions using local businesses and services. I'm quite perplexed by the proposals as they don't seem to benefit anyone including the council unless any local residents are having problems?

Dunbar has a thriving central area which has taken decades to get to. The loss of the last bank is damaging to the local population forcing people to travel to another town or adopt methods they are uncomfortable with. Introducing parking charges and restrictions in such a wide areas will drive people away or shorten their visits. They introduce fear and frustration where none presently exists. Where to park to avoid charges? This moves any congestion to the closest adjacent areas. How do you do your shopping and get back to the car in 30 minutes? It stops the normal flow of High Street functionality which is: perhaps a haircut, a visit to the local blacksmith, an optician appointment or a grave stone meeting, taking the family to the pool, getting the shopping via the fish shop who kindly ask how my mum's cancer treatment is going, then the community bakery, then bumping into an acquaintance in the street for a quick and happy chat then a passing browse in the charity shop window, up to the post office to post a parcel but if there's queue will I get back in time? Will I get a fine if I haven't prepaid the extra time? Maybe some will decide it's not worth the bother and go out to a national supermarket chain to the demise of local businesses. That doesn't seem fair. Worse than that it seems to me that as I've tried to describe above, the heart of the High Street is the multiple flows and networks which wind their way to the fabric of the community in Dunbar and much wider than Dunbar which is centred in Dunbar. Dunbar has a beating heart, the council should ensure that people can flow into the High Street, Bleachingfield Centre and surrounding areas to use the local services and businesses. If for some reason and I don't believe there is a reason, they are just trying to steamroll change to all towns in one go for some mysterious perceived reason, they should aim to support and encourage life in the centre and create low cost functional and efficient transport to connect everyone up. Life in the centre is at grave risk from the proposals. We must not let that happen to our precious community. We all need it.

As has been stated elsewhere there is not a parking problem in Dunbar. East Lothian Council has not properly consulted with the residents of the town before employing Stantec. Who then have to justify the cost of their consultation.

Very poorly handled and a total waste of time and money

Parking in Dunbar is not a problem but introducing charges will create a problem. This is a tax from a cash strapped council. How much are they being charged by Stantec?

ELC have manufactured a problem that doesn't exist, purely for revenue raising purposes

The chairwoman is correct that no additional parking changes are required especially when the existing parking rules are not enforced.

Parking charges will only impact local businesses to their detriment.

I am very concerned both as a resident of the area (I stay in Stenton) and as a shareholder at the Crunchy Carrot and as a friend to some of the shop owners on the high street - Wendy and Bea from Bowie and Flux.

I am a mum of two boys (teens now) and they attend Dunbar high - I regularly pop down to pick them up from friends or to shop in the amazing indecent shops we are so proud to have on our high street.

There are no buses from stenton to Dunbar and no cycle routes - which means my boys only option is a lift from me.

I park regularly on the high street and I have never ever had an issue at any time of the day- sometimes when we go swimming the pool car park is full but that is easily remedied by parking a short walk away.

More often than not I drop my boys off or come down to pick them up early and do my shopping at the bakery, the crunchy and flux or Bowie and I also pop to the pool for a swim. If these charges are enforced (which is ridiculous all you need to do is have a regular parking warden) I will be less likely to stop and use the high street. Shopping online or at the garden centre or Asda or bypassing Dunbar altogether and just fire to the Fort once a week instead.

As everyone both in Dunbar and Haddington are saying there are no parking issues and this would be a tax on those living in Dunbar and those who live in the villages surrounding (who cannot walk to the shops and whose limited bus service has been completely removed) - the cost of living is already mental high and this is a measure borne out of some sort of desperation to levy yet another tax out of an already over taxed nation.

What this will do is - ruin the high street - shops will close and you will create a ghost town. People will simply stop shopping from the out lying areas of Stenton, Whittinghame, Spott, Innerwick etc

Even the pool in Edinburgh the commonwealth has free parking because parking charges sent folk elsewhere.

This is one of the least thought out and most unpopular idea you have actually managed to fashion and many believe it to be fundamentally flawed.

#### Solutions

Parking attendant to enforce current measures

More blue badge spaces

And that is that.

Living in an outlying community with very little bus service we would no longer visit Dunbar unless absolutely necessary.

I live in east Linton but my daughter is at school in dunbar & has various evening activities there- it will make it very difficult for people like me to avoid multiple car parking charges

just enforce the present parking regulations

i work in dunbar and i park to go to work

Outlining towns like Dunbar rely on mixture of locals and tourist if you charge for parking you are basically killing the small high streets each town in East Lothian has. City of Edinburgh has already put in place similar and gone further with road closures etc businesses in the surrounding affected areas are severely hit - the Council will not be happy until we have no high streets, no shops, no community

I will go to Dunbar centre only when absolutely necessary if I have to pay to park

Completely unnecessary, nothing more than an stealth tax and an opportunity for ELC to increase revenue.

Restrictions in place at the moment are all thats needed. They just need to be enforced. This is all about revenue

Dunbar is a small and fairly quiet town with NO current parking problem. There is absolutely no benefit to the proposed changes - it can only be detrimental. The impact to how small businesses function is huge. Plus a very likely drop in custom. Locals having to buy permits is an absolute discrease - if parking charges go ahead then locals should be looked after not penalised. The fact that this plan is coming at the same time as a new retail park (with free parking) demonstrates how little the council care about the town of Dunbar. The whole thing shows a lack of common sense and duty of care.

Its stupid don't do it

Absolutely the wrong thing to do. I deliberately choose to spend my money on the high street and in Dunbar to support local business and this will make it less convenient, and therefore makee less likely to do so. I don't know anyone who supports this. The limited amount of money raised will damage the number of shops and peoples livelihoods. A terrible idea

I do not see any benefit to the overall quality of of the town by introducing parking permits. At times Dunbar is quiet enough so to charge for parking will make the town considerably quieter at times and this is not what the local traders need. We should be encouraging more people to visit and park and use the shops, restaurants and facilities in the town. It will make me think twice about popping down to the town to the shops and restaurants. The Council should think of ways to enhance and attract more local people and visitors to this lovely unique town and not think of ways to further damage businesses. How does the Council propose to enhance the environs of the town by introducing parking charges - how much will they spend on traffic wardens to patrol the streets chasing away even more through traffic. Does the Council have plans to reveal their Economic Impact Assessment through the introduction of parking charges or is this just another "quick fix" idea that has not been properly planned and assessed? ELC must produce an Economic Impact Assessment for DCC, DTA and DELAP to show what the basis for this proposal.

We all pay more than enough money for things in out lives we do not need an extra cost. I am in dunbar to visit family and babysit. Why should I have to pay a charge just to see loved ones? If the council need more money, find it from people in the top positions with the highest salaries and bonuses. Leave the folk who struggle to get by alone

I think westbport as its a nightmare for traffic from parked cars permit only, or section near the round about no parking

We regularly nip into town for groceries, bread, gifts, the dentist, vet... and use the park and leisure centre. Parking charges would make us think twice and discourage more occasional or chance stops in town (which often lead to getting a coffee or something not on the shopping list and further supporting the high street retailers).

You are making life impossible for humans

If parking charges are introduced the number of people using the high Street and surrounding amenities will significantly decrease. Instead of parking charges why don't the council look at providing better parking, with the continuing increase in housing it seems the council have forgotten to actually then make space for all these people coming in to use the amenities. If parking does need to be regulated then the introduction of a disc system similar to Berwick would be more useful in ensuring turnover of spaces and still encouraging people to the town center but residents shouldn't be punished for the council's lack of planning to provide parking spaces when they've increased the town's size without providing the infrastructure needed to support it.

Local People can't afford to pay parking fees  
Some work in these areas and shouldn't need  
To pay to go to work

I live outside Dunbar, about 3 miles from town and have to use a car. There's no bus nearby. I park to shop in the High Street. If no space available there, I use Abbeylands car park or the leisure pool. I use bleaching field. For a class. I feel the proposed charges will cause a lot of harm to the High Street shops.

Charge the affluent not the poor!

I will not come to Dunbar if I have to pay for parking, which includes my Cancer Support group.

I own a holiday property in Lamer Street, for which I pay ELC for a permit to operate it. It does not have its own parking, due to the ELC Planning Department opposing it. Holiday makers will not pay to park near the property and I will be looking for a refund of my licence fee and ELC will lose future licence payments. Holiday makers currently use the local shops, cafes, takeaways, public houses restaurants and visit local attractions. If parking charges are implemented all the above revenue streams will be lost. Also local people are employed in the cleaning and letting of the property. This employment will be lost. I would strongly request that ELC do not impose parking charges on Dunbar.

You will lose all interest in Dunbar

Will cost more to run than you get from it. And it is unnecessary

Dunbar has a unique and vibrant High Street with many independent traders. I feel strongly that we should be supporting these traders that contribute significantly to the local economy and local employment. Parking in the past has not been an issue when there are regular visits by traffic wardens to the charges made by the traffic wardens. Cover their fees, what does more income need to be raised from elsewhere?

Please don't kill this amazing High Street and community with parking charges. Are the models that could be considered could include disc parking as seen in Berwick-upon-Tweed and Cumbria.

I live outside Dunbar but visit several times a week for shopping and leisure activities. Public transport is not an option but the introduction of parking charges will deter me from coming and I will consequently be contributing much less to the local economy.

There is too much abuse of parking on high street already. Why so much space for taxis?

There is not enough footfall in Dunbar to warrant charges. There are no positive effects of this. Less people visiting local businesses on a High Street that is already just clinging on. Able bodied people will just park outwith the zone creating unhappiness in residential areas. The cost of the infrastructure versus payback? This just creates more problems than it solves and will actively deter visitors and locals from using the town when they can pick up what they need in Edinburgh. Let's not kid ourselves that the vast majority of households in Dunbar have at least one person working in Edinburgh.

People in East Lothian rely on cars to get from town to town. This is money making system that disadvantages locals, people from neighbouring towns and local businesses. I would not choose to go to Dunbar for a coffee and a look around the shops if I had to pay for this. The buses in East Lothian are far too expensive to be seen as a suitable replacement. This will lead to decreased business for local business owners and many people in East Lothian being more isolated.

Dunbar is located approximately half way between Fort Kinnaird and Berwick upon Tweed. Both offer a bigger selection of shops, and both offer free parking. Parking charges create anxiety about overstaying, and people have to be constantly aware of the time. This is not conducive to enjoyable shopping.

If there are parking charges to take into account then the cost of delivery on online purchases becomes more marginal, and less of an issue. The traders will lose many sales this way.

This is purely a money extraction measure by ELC, and nothing to do with parking.

If as is claimed it is to create more opportunities for parking in Dunbar why are parking fees being planned for North Berwick and Haddington. It is not creditable that the problem should simultaneously appear in all three towns. This calls into question the Council's integrity and fitness for office. We are within our rights to have a Council, which is above all - honest.

I have seen reports that the Council Leader has said that without these charges services will be affected. If this is true, and I have no reason to doubt it, the Council has itself contradicted its supposed reasons for trying to force these measures through.

A huge part of the attraction to come into Dunbar for the shops or restaurants/pubs is that parking is easy and free. The bus is an alternative option but isn't always at a convenient time for me, so if parking charges were introduced I expect my shopping habits would be much affected and I would likely come to Dunbar less.

Why introduce parking charges? It is a counterproductive device that frustrates visitors and residents alike. It will only lead to the streets outwith the parking areas being totally clogged up



every day. It will not make the Council much financially, if at all, but it will make the Council fewer friends.

These measures will absolutely cripple the Dunbar Sailing Club and other harbour users that go out to sea for more than the maximum parking duration. Not to mention making users pay to attend what is a charitable organisation, trying to build community services and engagement. This must not happen

Is there significant demand for this? Parking seems quite easy. Will the costs of introducing this be recouped?

I think parking will ruin the highstreet and favour ASDA because it has free parking. Dunbar has a thriving high street of small businesses partly because it is accessible. I commute into Edinburgh by train and will be affected by the parking charges.

I have never encountered any issues parking in Dunbar. I have lived in and around this area for 56 years and there has never been parking charges. To bring in these charges is at the Council's advantage and not the advantage of the people residing and visiting Dunbar, not to mention the huge impact this will have on the Traders of Dunbar. Think again.

There is no problem with parking! If the Council used their finances for important matters, rather than massive pay rises for the council when people are struggling and stopped throwing money away for vanity projects and ridiculous consultations then they would go a long way to sorting out the mess that they have themselves created!

Parking charges in Dunbar are unnecessary - there is no problem that I see ...

If parking charges are introduced make it possible for locals /residents to buy annual parking card so dont need cash or phone payment . Similar to beach parking.

The high st is in need of a little t l c. Having to pay for parking in Dunbar would drive people away when you really need to get people in to spend more money to help the town

I visit the High Street to try and pick up certain items from the shops e.g. prescriptions, food shop, take away, coffee etc and often struggle to park anywhere. Often end up going to Asda instead.

It is important that visitors are encouraged to visit the town centre... high street and swimming pool areas. Parking charges will not encourage this.

Difficult to leave car if sailing over a weekend or just checking on the state of moorings etc in the winter

I own a boat in the Harbour and work in the Sailing Club. That will be very expensive for me if I have to pay for parking each time I go to my boat.

Parking charges just seems to be an excuse for a money hungry council. Businesses will be affected with customers having to fork out more money to park aswell as everything else they need. Some people may not be able to afford it. I drive from musselburgh and park on lamer street for WORK which I need to do to pay bills and everything and this will end up costing me £25 A WEEK just to do my job. I have enough bills to pay on top of £675 rent a month that is literally £100 A MONTH just so I can do my job to earn money to then have to give back to the council. I have never had a problem parking on the highstreet when needed or anywhere else along the parking restrictions. Why is it only now that there is talk of charges for parking. This will probably make us lose some tourism and mainly businesses and restaurants which is very unfair also you cannot just charge one place cause all the other places close by would suffer. For example I work on lamer street I'd rather park towards bleachingfield or the tree scheme and WALK to work from there or even from the streets across the road from thistle timber just so I don't have to pay but that would

cause problems for the streets not being charged. It is unaffordable for someone like me just trying to do my job - it's not like we can just move the building to a more convenient area!
My sister lives in Castle Place. Introduction of parking permits will severely restrict my visits to her.
I am only interested in the harbour area proper (dark purple). I go diving and use a boat out of the harbour. Hence I need to be able to park for longer than 5h in the harbour or adjacent areas. None of your questions relates to this area? What about the area beyond the bridge in the harbour? Again, this is of relevance to divers from shore from the battery.
It's a completely ridiculous plan. Dunbar is not a town with a parking issue other than on the high street and seemingly on countless road. Proper enforcement of the existing parking setups would be plenty to prevent the 'issues' on the high street rather than a region wide implementation of parking measures
there is not a problem at present - so no need for change [unless it is to make more money]
In order to provide turnover on High Street parking and associated shops, it is important to have no charge at all, max 60 mins, 90 mins better, would allow enough time to pick up prescription, visit hairdresser, visit various shops . Problem is created by charging in car parks forcing folk onto street parking, but with the continued presence of traffic wardens then the limits should not be ignored. What about disc parking? Does that act as more of a deterrent to overstay. It was noted this morning (Monday 2 June) that there was more parking available on High St because apparently the parking wardens had been down on Thurs and Fri last week - so they do make a difference to turnover. Please note that I choose to bus or cycle unless just passing through in car to one stop quick shop, so no charge works absolutely perfectly for High St. I think that having to answer More/Less/No change is difficult to answer, at first I put Less but that is not correct, I am still a great supporter of the vibrancy of Dunbar High Street and its independent shops and am concerned about the arrival of larger stores by Asda, but that does not mean that I support parking charges: I think the encouragement of rapid turnover is what is needed, not having to find a space, find a meter, return to the car then continue with messages - some of them could have been completed in the time it takes to pay.
I work in and around town and I potter up to the high often to use the shops. I live in Spott. I also work in Dunbar at the day centre and local nursery school. I'm often flitting about between projects. This will cause me a major headache The cost of living is crippling enough without this. Honestly every penny counts.
Dunbar is a thriving town for residents, tourists,visitors, and businesses it must be supported to continue to thrive. Even the banks have moved out of town. Parking charges and time limits will mean less users for parks, pool harbour and shopping, including restaurants etc
This is a purely revenue raising scam. A "solution" for a problem which does not exist. What does paying £60 a year for a permit give me now that I don't already have?
I don't see why this is necessary at all.
Awful decision - affecting my finances due to having to pay to have my car at my home. If this comes to place - my partner and I will end up leaving Dunbar.
Why should i pay to park outside my own front door when i've not needed to do so for 12 years !!
I have no problem parking in Dunbar at the moment - either on Bayswell Road where I live, or when I need to park for errands in the town. This parking consultation is trying to fix a problem that does not exist. I do not want to pay to park my two cars outside my house (we need two as my wife is a GP and needs a car for work - as do I for my work and caring responsibilities)....something I can currently do for free. It just feels like a money making exercise. It will be difficult when friends pop in - or come to stay for a few days. And even if temporary passes are possible, it is just an additional hassle which is unnecessary. The only change I would like to make is to prevent people staying in camper van overnight in the town - in my case, on Bayswell Road. A sign prohibiting overnight camping would suffice.
I live on the high street and think it's absolutely ridiculous to enforce these charges. Small businesses will suffer as people are not going to travel to the high street to "nip" into their favourite

shops while having to pay for parking, whether it be going for groceries or in to coffee shops etc. A truly shocking idea and will be the death of our high street.

It's hard enough for local businesses already, without introducing parking charges, you are encouraging us to shop where we don't have to pay for parking. Shame on the council not supporting people to shop local.

I live in Parsonspool. I will NOT be paying to park on my property! There is absolutely no need to introduce parking charges/permits here. The only reason they are doing this in this area is people would park here if going to lauderdale park instead of paying charges to park in the car park. No children should be excluded from using what should be a free park because their family cannot afford to pay parking charges.

It is absolutely going to kill the high street.

I have also just seen the Haddington proposals, I am a support worker and the property I work in is covered by the charges, so charged to do my job and charged to stay in my own home!

Absolute disgrace, nothing but the councillors trying to pay for their over inflated pay rises!

Out of town retail park gets the green light - parking charges for the high street. Standard move there.

I don't see why I should have to pay to park my car on my street where I live I don't live in a fancy house with an option of a drive I need my car for work as public transport is shocking to get to my work the council are just trying to cripple us things are hard enough and money is tight. I think this might be the end of the high street people will just shop out of town maybe this is what East Lothian council want

Parking charges will make no difference to congestion, and discourage people from making quick stops to visit the shops and cafes, resulting in reduced footfall and customers. Evidence from around the country does not support the introduction of parking charges to reduce congestion, and supports the claim that local businesses will lose customers. It is clearly a money making scheme. If you are to introduce charges please be honest and say you are intending them in order to raise money.

This will kill trade on the Highstreet. You may as well just give Asda and Amazon everyone's cash now.

This is an awful idea and needs to be scrapped. There's going to be protests about this it's not right

I think it will kill our town I live at parsonspool and am not happy

No parking charges wanted in Dunbar by anyone I have spoken to

You are basically making life difficult for those of us who rely on the car but not sick enough to get a disability badge. Horrible.

Parking charges will make people use streets that's free then if they're charged to payed people won't use the town centre and why should people pay to park outside their own homes people are struggling enough without paying for a permit and what happens if they can't afford one do they end up with fines and being further in debt

NO CHARGES PLEASE!

I live in proposed permit area and wholeheartedly oppose the introduction of permits. Why should I be made to pay more for having bought a house in an area where they want to stop people parking!!! I don't think there is a big issue with parking, usually always spaces on high street and if it's particularly busy then I walk.

It's just money making nonsense, I live in woodbush place so would need a permit to park outside my own house, we have a lot of family who drive up to stay , so I would need to buy 2 permits , ludicrous

I live on castle street and do not want any parking charges or permits. I require a car for my job and implementing parking charges and permits would have a significant negative impact on all aspects of my life. My mum requires her car for mobility purposes and would no longer be able to visit my home! This would have horrendous consequences for my quality of life and mental health.

As a resident living directly on Dunbar High Street, I'm deeply concerned about the proposed parking charges and restrictions. We were seriously considering purchasing a car again, but now we are hesitant due to the uncertainty and potential difficulty of parking near our home.

Introducing charges or time limits could significantly reduce the convenience of living and shopping locally—not only for residents like myself, but also for visitors who support our local businesses, leisure facilities, and community spaces.

For many small towns like Dunbar, convenience is what keeps people shopping local. Adding parking charges risks pushing away residents and deterring tourists and day-trippers who help support the local economy—especially in a seasonal seaside town where every visitor counts.

Please consider the long-term consequences these changes could have on Dunbar's vibrant and welcoming atmosphere. Residents and small businesses alike could be adversely affected.

Lived here 20y and we have never experienced any issues with parking at any point. I cannot see any benefit to residents

Dunbar High street and surrounding areas NEEDS more visitors to help bring it back to Life. Please do not deter visitors. The shops will not survive. They need help not Hindrance

How much will it cost to install and has a engineered traffic report been produced

I live on the High Street and would to park one of our cars 10 mins out of town mostly in front of sombodys house, parking charges will have a negative on the shops and the people living in the

town center, people living in this area live in properties that are in a lower income bracket compared to the outlined three and four bedroom new houses.

This is utter bs and a waste of time

I'm not paying for parking at MY OWN HOUSE I pay for you bunch of funts

I don't agree with having to pay to park my own car outside my own house. I pay council tax and road tax so why should I have to pay more to park my car.  
Parking charges on the high street is going to kill the footfall which will result in many shops closing down and if that happens there will be no one Parking on the street and paying for those machines

Your ideas are pish

I do not feel there is a need for paid parking. It will be costly to me as a resident, to anyone who visits me and for anyone who wants to visit Dunbar. Times are hard enough as it is, high streets, struggle enough as it is.

Being a carer for someone with mobility issues. It will be impossible to park on High Street for said person to go to the chemist and surrounding shops. Not feasible to park in suggested car parks, which are not in their walking distance

This will be really detrimental to the town and small local businesses. People will shop at Asda instead of going to the high-street. I live within the parking permit zone and never have any difficulty finding a parking space outside my house. There is no parking problem. The consultants proposing these changes do not understand Dunbar and have not carried out balanced research.

This is frankly going to push people further from the highstreet and put it into more financial danger than it's already in. Genuinely the most idiotic, senseless and selfish idea East Lothian council have concocted. If their aim is to push native Dunbar families further from the town they call home, it's working. Although these charges will not financially impact the wealthy elite from Edinburgh that have decided to move here in recent years, it will absolutely devastate the blue collar families that have lived here for generations, especially our elderly who may not qualify for blue badge privileges. Dunbar High Street is the only social 'hub' Dunbar has, and to restrict its use of parking for the sake of the council making more money out of us than they already do, is diabolical and all around disappointing. Haddington, where John Muir House - ELC HQ - is based, conveniently does not charge for parking on the highstreet OR in the JMH car park. Think of that what you will.

We would not be happy if parking charges were introduced. The last thing Dunbar and it's residents and visitors need is for Dunbar to turn into Edinburgh.

No to parking charges

Paying for parking in Dunbar is stupid

Given that we want to support High St businesses and support Dunbar as a tourist area, there is no incentive to introduce parking charges

Parking charges would be extremely detrimental to businesses in the High St creating a ghost town as seen in many other towns in Scotland. It would also have a negative impact on tourism and the use of sport facilities eg the swimming pool, tennis courts, rugby, hockey, water sports and park areas.

I have serious concerns about the introduction of parking charges and further restrictions in Dunbar town centre. While I understand the need to manage traffic and maintain order, these proposed changes risk creating unnecessary barriers for many people in our community. For those already experience anxiety, physical disabilities/difficulties, or time pressures in an increasingly busy world, making parking more difficult or costly may discourage them from accessing the town centre altogether. This could have a knock on effect not only for individuals but also on the viability of local businesses and services. Dunbar High St and surrounding areas are valuable community spaces where people come to shop, attend appointments, access support services or simply connect with others. Adding charges or increasing restrictions could deter both locals and visitors from coming into town, especially when the convenience of a quick stop is replaced by the stress of finding suitable parking or worrying about fines. This feels counterproductive to the aim of keeping our town centre vibrant and accessible. Having lived in Dunbar for 20 years, I can honestly say I rarely struggle to find a space when I need to quickly pop into a shop or run a short errand. Introducing charges seems more like a revenue raising measure than a solution to an actual problem. At a time when many people are already struggling financially, this feels like yet another added pressure. I urge decision makers to consider the broader impact this could have on community wellbeing and inclusion.

There are NO parking problems in Dunbar. Only lack of enforcement.

I refuse to pay for parking outside my own house I have lived in for 29 years. The High will be hit as having to pay makes it a dear day out so the shops etc will be hit and more shops will close. Visitors will stop coming. The MPs have made sure they got a pay rise. It's shocking.

Why should I need a permit to park in a space which I own?

Any parking charges will push people out with the areas. Causing more problems for residents further afield.

Also, it won't make the council any money, cost neutral at best.

Also RNLI crew will be hit when on a call.

These proposals will severely inconvenience all residents and visitors not just in outlined areas but adjoining also. It feels like a death blow to what is a very fine town to live and work in. It will penalise so many and create huge parking problems for all who live here.

I can't understand for the life of me why these proposals are even being suggested. It's obvious to anyone this is a most unwelcome proposal full stop. It smells of a finance driven act. Other than the high street having motorists stay longer than present rules permit and parking around train station inconveniencing locals is there a problem at all? I have great doubts that this response will even be read? Read the room, I have not spoken to a single person who agrees with these proposals. Quite the opposite! Surely the councils are in position to listen to the will of Dunbar residents. I'm 67 years old and have never felt such an undercurrent of complete disagreement with these proposals, perhaps even more than when the polarising poll tax was introduced. We love Dunbar as it is, why do those in authority want to change such a pleasant living seaside town?

This is scandalous by the council. Will not be paying for any parking. The local shops and businesses are going to suffer.

Parking charges will kill the local economy and will stagnant the town centre.

Absolute joke Dunbar is already a ghost town and thanks to the so called local councillors screwing this town and the locals it's going to be even more of a ghost town. Their happy enough to take their 40 percent pay rise while the rest of us struggle with the increase they have implemented in so many things.

This scheme is not necessary and demanded on the grounds of parking. Rather, it is an insidious tax on residents, businesses, residents, visitors and shoppers. Dunbar is busier than it used to be, that doesn't mean there is a "problem", it is simply an urban area that like many others has just become busier, which will sort itself out naturally, with minimum interference. It does not need this draconian Council control and money grabbing scheme.

There is not an issue with parking in Dunbar town centre or the surrounding neighbourhoods. I have never, ever not been able to get parked at any time of the day or night for either business or personal purposes. There is no need for this proposed change and I have yet to meet a local resident or business owner who is in favour of it.

You take enough off us in council tax. Why should we have to pay to park in our own town

I can't afford to buy more permits, I would need 2 for my house plus 1 for visitors and I already pay for coastal car parking. It's a large chunk of money I would need to spend every year. There is not a parking problem, it's all about money

I have 1 car at my property and also a big work van. I park the car at my property and I park the work van at the pool car park to avoid parking my big van on the street, taking up spaces for residents and blocking views for any traffic driving or coming out of junctions. A parking ban is a ludicrous decision that will kill our high street and people will stick to online shops or ASDA.

There isn't a parking problem.

There is no need for any changes

I am fundamentally opposed to any parking charges or permits in Dunbar. This proposal is disastrous and will decimate local businesses in the high street, deterring trade as people will not want to pay for parking. As a resident, I will not pay for a permit and this sounds like another insidious tax from the council. Our councillors appear to be doing their level best to destroy the high street, leisure facilities and tourism in Dunbar. The high street businesses are struggling as it is and we've already lost countless local shops such as the butcher's, Turnbull's Home Hardware and other stores which are vital to the community. Turnbull's was replaced with Premier store, a tacky shop which I refuse, on principle, to frequent. If this parking proposal goes ahead we will be left with a ghost town, filled with empty shops. I will not allow this to happen.

This is not fair on local residents, nor tradespersons or people that come to visit Dunbar. I also believe that local business will be impacted unfairly with people being deterred from visiting Dunbar due to unnecessary parking charges

The shops already struggle....this will kill the high street

Absolutely ridiculous proposal for a lovely town with no parking issues! Council money making scheme which will have a massively negative impact on our high street and our local business.

I live in the Dunbar east area and work on the high street I am extremely opposed to these charges. Why I should need to pay for a permit to park outside my own home is beyond me? This will have a really effect on those vulnerable people who rely on family or others to visit them and help them. Also parking charges in the areas around the high street will kill trade on the high street and stop people working on the high street. Not everyone who works on the high street live locally and if



they have to travel the new added costs are going to be impossible to justify. Find it suspicious timing that this is happening as a new retail park is due to open forcing people out to that instead

This is proposing a solution to a problem which does not exist.

I moved to Dunbar at the start of the year. I am along the high street and the surrounding area daily. I have yet to see a warden enforcing the current parking restrictions. Perhaps ELC could make sure the current restrictions are enforced rather than make up nonsense that this is a scheme that is required. There is no parking problem in Dunbar. The problem is a council that is so inept and determined to nickel and dime the community and visitors to the town. Enforce what is already in place for six months then come back with proof there is a problem.

I have lived on the high street for 3 years and I have never struggled to find a parking space. There is no problem with parking in Dunbar and making residents pay for parking permits seems like a money making scheme because it seems like it's a solution being proposed to a nonexistent problem.

I live on Dunbar High Street and I'm deeply concerned with the proposed parking changes. The statement that residents have already been consulted is very misleading. I have not been contacted despite living in the area most affected. The short stay designation for the High Street fails to account for the needs of those of us who live in WORK here. I rely on my car for essential daily activities and personal safety having survived a serious sexual assault. The lack of resident permit options is discriminatory and impractical. These plans risk damaging the viability of high Street living and trade and appear driven more by revenue generation than genuine town improvement. I urge the council to revisit the consultation process, include proper consideration of high Street residence and ensure permanent access is equitable and inclusive. Should this policy go ahead. I believe that this policy fails our and your community.

Introducing charges for parking will reduce our visitor numbers drastically. I believe Angus council had to reverse their parking policy

Another money making scheme to line the councillors pockets. There is no sense in any of these proposals and it is only going to hurt Dunbar as a town. Businesses are going to start struggling even more than they already are.

This would kill off what little tourism still comes to Dunbar and stop locals from even bothering to shop on the high street.

This will only damage the town and create parking issues in areas that do not have them as people will refuse to pay and park where there are no charge. Also if we get Resident parking for those with properties above the high street if they get a permit they will consider as they have paid for that they can just park all day..

As residents of Countess Road for 60 years, we have seen parking on both sides for many years. There have been countless meetings with Police, Council and planning but nothing has changed. To inflict us with resident parking charges is the last straw.

I live on the High street and its hard to park but it would be resolved if a warden was on patrol people would move on when they are supposed to. Right now we rarely have a warden so why wouldn't people park longer than 90 mins?!

From reading the proposals I will require a permit to park my car at my home. How can this be justified when the private parking space is within the title deeds of my mortgage?! I absolutely do not support the proposal for parking charges. We should be encouraging people to come to Dunbar high street, this will do the opposite.

New arrangements are clearly needed around the station, but charges elsewhere would, for me, add a completely unnecessary layer of complications to life. In 16 years of living on Shore Street by the Old Harbour, I have had no problems finding a parking space near my house. And how do you propose to deal with the fishermen?

Why? I don't know of any residents who want this!

Bayswell road should be residential permit only

The end parking space at the church at the end of bayswell rd east protrudes into the road which limits traffic going west and is causing traffic heading east to suddenly break .this is a very dangerous part of the road and needs addressing.

I think this is utter greed. By greedy councillors. Dunbar is and always was a parking charge free town. Doing this you will drive away business from local shops. Leading to shop closures. You are sealing the fate of the town as a tourist attraction. I love Dunbar and don't want to see the place be plundered I to a ghost town. Please rethink about your actions.

I support introduction of charges in the harbour area as this attracts tourists - however, a lot of local residents rely on street parking in the shore area and I don't think it's fair or workable to have them paying an hourly rate for parking. Depending upon whether this was a blanket or targeted introduction of charges, residents would need to be able to apply for permits. Charges for non-residents in the shore area is a good idea as it is very overcrowded and the streets are narrow.

Dunbar is a small coastal town where many small businesses are struggling anyway and depend on as much support from people who live in the area, if you can't pop in to the shops use the cafes etc without worrying about a parking meter you will do what everyone else does and go to a shopping centre where parking is free. This will definately affect summer trade and Dunbar depends on good summer trading from holidaymakers as the winter months can tough.

None of these are necessary, nor is it the council's remit to intentionally force behaviour changes on the citizens of Dunbar. The proposals for the harbour are impossible to assess as the maps provided by the Council are entirely unclear as to what land/areas they cover. I attended the consultation on the High Street where I was able to speak with someone from the company hired by the council to shape and manage the consultation- it became clear in conversation they were not familiar with many of the areas covered and specifically they could not show me where the boundaries of the harbour zone on the council propsals were on the map laid out in the consultation room, they also did not know of the existence of the Old Harbour which did not feature on the map-

I have now researched this and it is because the map in the consultation was printed off from Google maps which itself for some reason does not know of the Old Harbour  
[https://www.google.com/maps/search/dunbar+harbour/@56.0047289,-2.5161961,17z?entry=tту&g\\_ep=EgoyMDI1MDUxNS4xIKXMDSOASAFQAw%3D%3D](https://www.google.com/maps/search/dunbar+harbour/@56.0047289,-2.5161961,17z?entry=tту&g_ep=EgoyMDI1MDUxNS4xIKXMDSOASAFQAw%3D%3D). This is emblematic of an entirely dismissive and unserious approach to the consultation. I recommend someone makes an FOI request to discover how much money the Council spent on this company's work on the consultation.

The council makes some reference to encouraging active travel, whilst this does not appear to have been thought through in any meaningful sense I think there are two important points to make- if active travel is to be encouraged then anything related to that needs to acknowledge that this is a northern coastal town facing the North Sea and forcing or applying economic pressure on people not to use their cars especially those with young families and the elderly is entirely unreasonable and inappropriate in the winter months. I speak as a pensioner who is lucky enough still to be fit and is a keen cyclist, walker and hill walker. Effectively fining people for making use of their cars is also fundamentally ageist and inappropriate for a council to undertake. I have spoken to a number of traders in the high street whose shops I use regularly and none I spoke to are of the view that there is a significant problem except to the extent they might prefer additional parking spaces. The proposals will only disadvantage high street independent traders and incentivise use of Asda and other out of town retail options owned by large scale corporations with no local connection, especially by the groups I reference above- the elderly and those with young families.

At the consultation I asked the council official in attendance what the estimated capital cost of the proposals was- they stated they did not know, when asked how the economic benefit of the proposals could possibly be calculated without such an estimate they said that perhaps there were estimates but they did not have those figures available- how a serious consultation can be considered to take place without this estimate of capital cost I do not understand. I have written to the Council asking for their estimated capital costs and what their financial projections are for the recoupment of such capital costs from parking levies and fines net of maintenance and enforcement costs. I will share any answer I receive with the Community Council.

With controlled parking this will really help with turnover and this will help business and attract more shops and choice for the people who live and work in Dunbar. There are charges in most towns in the UK and if the money raised is put back into the town then that is a good thing. I'm supportive of these proposals.

Residents should not be charged to park outside their house.

There is not a parking problem. I live on the high street and can always find somewhere to park. The high street is busy so parking is more difficult but that is good as people are parking to use local shops

Charges are not needed. Dunbar's minor problems with parking can be solved by better signage, and enforcement of existing rules.

More cycle parking

Currently, parking works fine in Dunbar. These restrictions and charges will push people AWAY from visiting our town centre, and are an insulting money-grabbing exercise which will (directly/indirectly) go towards the ridiculous wage increases for Norman Hampshire et al. The public should not be paying for the ineffective greed & incompetence of our local Public Servants. Get the path at the Glebe -that forms part of the John Muir Way- fixed please.

Parking charges for East Lothian taxpayers are outrageous. We're already paying through the nose for services. We're already having to pay to access our own bit of coastline, even for a few minutes. This is disgraceful. Councillors advocating these charges should be voted out of office.

The parking in Dunbar does not need to be changed. The council need to find another way to fill that BLACK HOLE.

What happens to residents near the pool who have difficulty parking as everyone on the street owns a car and in some cases they have more than one car and a work van where would they park? Then

Dunbar will lose a lot of visitors if parking charges are enforced which will lead to loss of business for shops etc on high street and surrounding area

I, together with many others, see no parking problem to fix. One of the joys of living in Dunbar is that there are no parking restrictions apart from the limited parking time on the High Street and around the station.

I live in Parsonspool- I am a single parent and have arthritis. (No blue badge) I rely on support of family and friends from around and outside of Dunbar. In one swoop my support will be gone.

It's not just practical support, it's mental health too the reality is people will visit less, isolation and loneliness is a huge issue in society and the council will be compounding that for many in the permit zones. In Parsonspool there are a lot of older people lower incomes, council tenants and state pensions. What will they do when family and friends don't visit so much due to parking permits?

I work in NB so I now have to pay extra where I work as well. The bus service to NB is once every 1.5 hours and takes nearly an hr. The only bus I can get is before 8am which is before my kids leave for school. So the council want me to put three hours on to my working day trying to manage with a terrible bus service? Or give up my job and become state reliant? And leave my children to get themselves to school and deal with things themselves at home after school

I am not able to turn my front garden to a driveway like many have done (some for 2/3 cars). So if I want to keep my car I would have no choice but to pay for the permit but it still leaves the issue of visitors and as I get older I will need carers for my arthritis so the misery of it all just goes on and on.

How do the council plan to make this equitable to all residents of Dunbar rather than the people who have the misfortune to live where we do. (Driveway tax perhaps? Permits for all residential area?)

I can not believe the level of disregard these policies have on people's lives. Let alone the livelihoods of businesses on the high street.

I understand council has to look at costs (I have actually supported other initiatives like brown bin charges and even though I may not like them I do understand other increases ) this policy is brutally unfair and desperately misguided. There are not problems in the high street if there are it is because of ineffective monitoring of existing rules. Perhaps what is most upsetting of all of is a council whose relationship and public image with the public is so dire that council and particularly Norman Hampshire refuse to listen or acknowledge that anyone with an opposing view is not a moaner/stupid/doesn't understand/is invalid. I hope the community council does everything they can to prevent this.

This will kill off the high street. I'm also in a permit only zone, this is going to be a nightmare for anyone visiting me

The council are trying to use the excuse of solving a problem that doesn't exist as a means of raising revenue. While I live within walking distance the high street I can see this having a direct detriment impact on the high street. The council should be doing everything they can to support our high street rather than driving businesses away.

Finally, as a lifeboat volunteer the proposed changes would have a direct impact on our ability to respond to shouts putting lives at risk.

I totally oppose this proposal from the council and feel that the head of the council as an elected official for Dunbar should be protecting the interests of Dunbar.

There are no parking issues in Dunbar. Occasionally poor parking on high street which could be dealt with by proper enforcement as used to happen with traffic wardens. Charges will push visitors away to out of town shopping where no charges will apply. I pay significant amount of council tax and should be allowed to have visitors park outside my house free of charge. The whole concept is a money grab from the council which will cause a downturn in the economy of the high street which is already dire.

The land adjacent to the East Beach playback is I believe Land in the common good and therefore I'm not sure any form of charging should be allowed. My biggest objection is that if resident permits are introduced then they must be allowed to be used in the pool car park-its where a lot of residents park and if that parking is taken away from residents then that is a lot of vehicles that now have to find on street parking and I think then there will be a problem. Pressure required on Network Rail to make use of the existing land available to increase parking at the station and to provide access to the second platform from the South side

I have no difficulty with current parking near my house and I am extremely worried that the proposals will mean lots of cars will be displaced from the Town Centre and will fill the streets near my house so I will now have difficulties which I did not experience before. These will be High Street residents seeking somewhere to park within the permit zone and people from Dunbar parking just outwith the permit zone along Bowmont / Newhouse Terrace and East Links Road to save having to pay.

I will also be forced to pay for a space / spaces on my street that I may not be able to access in future. I chose to live in the town centre so I could walk or cycle everywhere but I still need a car for longer journeys - now I feel penalised for making this choice.

This will not work for residents of the high street. Parking permits do not guarantee a space. It will deter those who want to park and use the high street services.

But wardens would have to check properly

I have sent my thoughts by email to N. Hampshire, D Collins, L Jardine, dunbarparking@east Lothian and dunbarcommunity@eastlothian

There is no need for any changes. I don't see parking in Dunbar as a problem and why should we as High Street residents who are able to park for free have to end up paying to park on the same streets which would become designated permit only areas.

These proposed changes cannot even begin to work without at least two traffic wardens being permanently and very visibly on patrol on a daily basis and poor enforcement of any changes will certainly antagonise residents when visitors park where they shouldn't or overstay allotted time in other areas.

East Lothian council on another money grab and single handed destroy the trade on the high street and also the hotels and businesses in the area they are trying to put parking charges on shame on the council personal I will not be paying them anymore money they can send me to jail if they want at least I will get three meals watch tv and the heating will be on

Bring in parking charges will cause chaos in the residential streets around the outlined charge areas and discourage visitors to Dunbar. There currently is no parking problem should this plan be introduced it will cause parking problems & discourage footfall.

I don't drive but I know charged would affect colleagues and friends/family who come to visit. I don't think parking in Dunbar is so back that we need such radical changes. Everyone I know has always been able to find a space and right now the High St is really flexible for contractors etc. Parkin is already not enforce. Say not just have more wardens or maybe a disc parking scheme?

I live in High St and walk to shops to do my shopping, to the library, the harbour, Lauderdale Park etc (with grandchildren). The essential for me is to have a permit to make parking easy, problem-free, as long as there are sufficient permit holders spaces. Parking used to be easier but in recenyars rail commuters etc have filled all the previously unrestricted streets etc. NO CHARGES at LAUDERDALE PARK

This will have a significant negative impact kn the High Street. Parking gcontrols with the routine and consistent presence of a traffic warden would be adequate.

Why introduce this when there is no issue with parking?

Due to all the building around Dunbar, with multiple car spaces per home, there is no more traffic. These residents could be encouraged to use cars less for short trips. Why shoudl High St and surrounds have to pay when others don't? That said, we never find it too hard to park so I'm not sure the problem merits a change to charging people. Especially local residents who live centrally and contribute most to Dunbar's local economy and social vibrancy.

Shocking!

Concern about visiting family

Our Pétanque Club is predominantly an older membership. Our matches can last up to 4 hours. I think that charges at Lauderdale will put people off.

The current proposals seem to be a solution in search of a problem. The only issue that I am aware of currently is the lack of enforcement of parking restrictions.

I live on Bayswell Park and will be detrimentally impacted by these changes

I cannot believe that the council are introducing this scheme at all within Dunbar. Why should some areas of Dunbar be exploited due to their vicinity to the high street. These areas of Dunbar are within the deprivation index of Dunbar, it is a school walk route, access to two parks. The current finical crisis is already causing lots of households to struggle

If this is about the council decreasing the amount of debt then the whole of east Lothian should be paying for parking permits and parking on high frequency roads not just a small proportion. This does not meet the councils equality and equity guidelines

Dunbar has grown exponentially and this was not a choice by residents but by our elected council officials. I understand that there is a huge deficit in their accounts and that east Lothian has had one of the largest growth of residents in recent years and that their budget from the government hasn't covered this, but it should not be left to a minority of residents to take the hit

I have grown up children who will visit less as it will cost them to pay for parking, this doesn't help families to stay connected and support each other.

I am of the opinion the council should layout all of the services they provide and how much they cost per year to run, with the number of residents/clients that use them. They could then create a list of different options of reducing costs to allow constituent's to be involved and to be heard

There is no parking problem in Dunbar. To introduce permits for Parsonspool is just ridiculous. This project is about creating revenues and not about solving a problem on behalf of residents and visitors. Any councilor supporting this should be removed from office.



I don't drive so the parking charges will have no affect on me but I do think they'll have a detrimental effect on the high street. Maybe if they did 1 hour free then a £2 flat rate or something. I understand that the council needs money to run but I don't think this will work in Dunbar and might destroy a thriving high street.

Dunbar is a small town there are no parking issues here at all. I've lived on Castle Street for 6 yrs, West Port for 4 before that and never had any issues parking

With a maximum of 23 hrs parking in the long stay parks where are visitors who are staying with people in the town meant to park?

It will stop people from coming to support the small businesses in our town centre that we are so proud of here. If you take away the clientele by making it less appealing to visit, how can we expect our small businesses to compete with big chains and retail parks nearby? It will kill independent business in the area and I don't want a Costa. The independent businesses on the high street is one of the main reason I chose to live here. I don't care if it's harder to find a parking space where I live when it's busy, I'd rather live somewhere worth visiting.

Madness. Might as well introduce a toll when entering the town!

There is no need for all day restriction, the problem on Countess Road is down to station users, not High St users. If there was a one hour restriction per week day this would be easily monitored by parking attendants and would stop all day parking.

The only reason permits will become necessary in residential areas is because of the introduction to charging in the car parks and high street pushing people looking for free parking into those areas, making them less safe because of increased traffic and creating a parking issue where none currently exists (speaking as a Dunbar North resident)

Permit parking will cost me to park outside my home which is difficult enough without parking restrictions in high street

It doesn't matter what we think because it is going ahead in North Berwick and when it starts there it will be everywhere eventually

I stay in church street myself & half the time,i can't even park here

As a resident in castle Street, I do not agree with the introduction of parking charges/permits for Dunbar.

The high street shops are already struggling to compete with online shops and big retailers, therefore a parking charge would not be beneficial in my opinion.

As a resident with a two car household, I don't feel resident permits are a fair addition to already high council tax rates on top of all other bills while there is still a cost of living crisis in the country.

I do not support parking charges anywhere in Dunbar. It will have a significant negative impact on the high street by reducing out of town visitors and it will increase household costs for centre-town residents who will need to apply and pay for permits (an extra cost on top of a huge 10% recent rise in Council Tax, with no improvement of public transport to encourage less dependence on car use or better provision of parking proposed). The cost of living crisis continues to impact many families and households. Food, energy, taxes all continue to increase while salaries have stagnated. A further Council imposed cost will be crippling for some.

The proposed charging for parking in Dunbar will have a detrimental impact on the vitality and economic activity of the High Street and Town Centre. Objective 1 of the Council's Parking Strategy (2018 - 2024) is to provide solutions.....that support the economic, environmental and accessibility requirements of towns. Dunbar has a lively Town centre and High Street with a range of independent and community owned shops, cafes and local museums as well as hundreds of residents. The proposals to charge for parking will deter people from using the facilities and lead to the demise of the area.



I think the proposals can only be seen as a penalty on those that live in central Dunbar which historically has been an area of higher deprivation than the surrounding 'new' Dunbar. I think it is also unjust that those visiting relatives or friends who reside within the proposed permit parking only areas would be expected to pay to visit when those outwith central Dunbar would not have the same financial pressures placed on them, especially considering a lot of elderly people live within these areas. I live within reasonable walking distance of the high street so this wouldn't impact my experience however I am certain that those outwith a suitable walking distance or those requiring transport to visit the town centre would be impacted due to unrealistic scale of charges that are proposed (30 minutes doesn't even give you time to enjoy a coffee and cake in one of the high streets numerous cafes).

I live at Friarscroft and each flat has their own parking space in the residents private carpark. I'm concerned that if parking charges are brought in people are going to start parking in our private carpark instead of paying to park on the street.

The cost of living is going up but I don't work in a sector where we get any pay rises. I just have to work more to pay for costs. But I work as much as I can. I am on universal credit. These charges affect those living in the high street and people living in more expensive properties in the new houses still won't have to pay to park near their homes.

It should only be the high street and the start of countess road to stop so many cars parked poorly and left for weeks. So many near accidents as cars have been abandoned on the high street and countess road. Outside Hectors the delivery drivers and the owner leaves their cars on the junction causing drivers to be obstructed whilst turning into the car park. As someone who lives on the High street I have to time my commute from work to get a space on or in car park. Most recently I have had to wait 30 minutes in the high street Car park for a space.

As a resident in Shore & Harbour zone, I resent the prospect of having to pay a fee for permit parking near my home where there is currently no problem with parking. Our local roads are only ever busier with customers of the train station and hotels / hostel near our home. So if the resolution to parking issues on the high street/nearby is to charge for parking there while not pushing these customers/ visitors to flood local residential roads, surely the resident permits should be FOC. Anything else is robbery.

You are inflicting change to the residents of the central part of Dunbar because of Council stupidity in over building new houses around the periphery of the town. Stop increasing the population of Dunbar. Even with a 30% increase in the number of people this century so far the High Street has still lost the only butchers, Home Hardware, newsagents at the south end of the High Street and the hospital has closed. You are incapable of delivering development in a sustainable way. The new houses have added to your biodiversity emergency as well.

I don't see any evidence that it is needed. I can see it causing havoc both in cost to local people, business, visitors, and it's very complicated. Having spent time in a local group to enhance the area, parking never entered the conversation as a problem in focus of regeneration. I'm unclear what the benefits of these charges and the complicated way they are intended are being brought in. Suggest a pause for further reflection, especially given the strength of arguments against. Where I live along the East Beach side of the High Street, I have parking no problem; the charges would actually create a problem for parking AND I'd have to pay for it.

I believe this is all about a sledgehammer to crack a nut. And just very obviously designed to raise money. A very short sighted proposal which I have no doubt will be extremely detrimental to the whole of Dunbar. Yes, there is a need for parking restrictions on High Street and possibly permits for residents in Abbeylands, but to spread this out over such a wide area is madness. I live in Dunbar North and there is no parking problem here. One of Dunbar's main visitor attractions is Lauderdale Park which would be severely affected by charges. Making large areas permit or charged just makes people park in unaffected areas. Finally. Parking in High Street at present is not monitored very well. How on earth would the proposed scale of changes of 30 minutes, free parking, etc. be administered?

There is no issue with parking in Dunbar at the moment, except for people double parking on the high street through laziness. Spaces are available generally, and parking charges just push people elsewhere.

We want to encourage locals and visitors to be able to park near leisure facilities and shops without being restricted by parking charges. Current town centre parking regulations allow a flow of shoppers who require to use vehicles.

The answer to all of the previous questions depends on what policy is adopted on the High Street where should be free parking for up to one hour for folk to use the shops cafes and other facilities in the centre of Dunbar.

There also should be more emphasis on using the bus services  
there are now four bus services per hour from Dunbar Asda through to West Barns and this is effectively a park and ride system for residents and visitors.  
The 130 bus serving the tree area scheme and West Barns has been withdrawn by east Coast buses this should be immediately reinstated as this is a lifeline for many of the people in houses adjacent  
more publicity should be given to the Frequency of buses and they're availability to destinations new residents of Dunbar who have a car will automatically wish to use it to go to destinations like the high street but there should be an active campaign to show what the frequency and destinations of the buses is.  
20 mph speed limits mean cyclists should feel safe. Active promotion of highway code priority 1 pedestrians 2 cyclists 3 vehicles posters in prominent places and on Facebook etc should mean less cars.  
Taxis and bus companies should have driver training top of agenda to give priority to cyclists

There is no parking problem. A regular warden might change things a bit but there is no need for wholesale charges. As one who has lived in the area for nearly 40 years parking has never been a problem.  
This is a money making scheme to make up for the councils poor financial management.

I live close to Asda. I routinely use high street shops. If parking charges are introduced, I will still have to get in the car, but I will not be using the high street if I have to pay to park also.

I am completely opposed to parking charges. I live in Lauderdale House and we already have to fight with tourists for our parking spaces. More importantly though I believe that parking charges will have a hugely detrimental effect on businesses in the High Street. I think our High Street is less than buoyant as stands and that these measures will do it nothing but harm

Parking charges complicate life.  
Parking app unusable due to poor reception new/around harbour  
Parking app unusable for people (elderly) without smartphones  
Most influx often from mobile homes/campervans  
Keep them at outside/on designated places with some facilities (water/waste) for a charge

Zero parking issues in the town. Abundant spaces. Off putting for visitors.

I travel a lot and town that have charge for parking and revisiting shops are shutting and run down it dies affect the towns

## APPENDIX C – REPRESENTATION FROM RESIDENTS

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Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for the mail drop regarding the information on East Lothian Councils proposal to introduce parking charges to the central Dunbar.

I live in the Frierscroft development and I am appalled at this suggested course of action by ELC.

This is typical of the short sighted nature of Local Authority, merely looking to plug a hole in their budget rather than doing the right thing for the area.

ELC should, instead, focus their energies on doing what they can to attract businesses to fill the ever growing voids on our high street and stimulate economic growth to the town centre.

The parking proposals are the exact opposite of that and will discourage people coming to the high street and surrounding areas and will discourage businesses to invest in the high street.

I have completed your online survey but wanted to make clear my views on this proposal.

More creativity required at ELC!

Regards,

Dear Council Members

I have just completed the questionnaire regarding the above and one thought has crossed my mind.

The nearest car park, outside the proposed controlled area, is that of the Dunbar Medical Centre.

Has anyone considered the impact on the Medical Centre, if and when the proposed parking regulations come into force?

The Medical Centre car park is busy at the best of times. Factor in shoppers using this "free" car park to avoid paying parking charges and some of the most vulnerable of our community will be unable to find a parking space for their medical appointment.

I believe this has the potential for a significant unintended consequence, should this proposal go ahead.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

I feel all of this exercise to be quite unnecessary as the present parking situation seems quite adequate and works well most of the time. Well enough indeed not to invoke this proposed parking chaos on the town and its residents. It will certainly put anyone off coming to Dunbar for any purpose at all - but maybe that is its intention! Those most inconvenienced will be Dunbar residents.

I do think there should be a ban on mobile homes parking anywhere within these areas. They certainly do not do anything for the ambience of the town and probably only shop in Asda anyway?

It all seems far too complicated to enforce and could cost more to implement than any income received from parking revenue. The cost will no doubt be covered by the local tax payer? There is nothing in their proposal that explains the financial justification. Are these consultants trying to justify their expense?

Personally I am elderly and unable to walk or cycle into town and there is no reasonable bus service from where I live. However, I am not infirm enough to qualify for a blue badge. Currently I drive into town to pick up prescriptions and shop. I usually park before I get to the High Street and walk from there as I find it easier than driving down the High Street. Having to pay for parking would stop me using the town centre altogether. I would find paying for a short visit too much effort and complicated. Although it implies there would be free parking on the High Street, the competition for places by charging for the surrounding areas will be much worse. It will be even harder to park on the High Street. I don't like asking for help to collect shopping, but if this is implemented I cannot see myself being able to use the town centre. I am more likely to have to drive to Asda or catch the bus to Fort Kinnaird.

There must be many Dunbar residents in similar circumstances. It is so sad that this will exclude people like myself from the town.

To: "dunbarcommunitycouncil@gmail.com"  
<dunbarcommunitycouncil@gmail.com>

We are completely against any move from ELC to put parking charges in place in Dunbar.

**From resident:**

I am writing to you directly to raise an urgent complaint about the proposed changes to Dunbar parking.

Firstly, I would like to say I am completely opposed to any form of parking charges for the High Street, and any form of Permit Holder Parking for Residents for Dunbar.

You will be aware of the code of practice for Scotland which dictates standards of behaviour for all elected members of Scottish local authorities and the council based on the Nolan principles.

The key principles are duty, selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability & stewardship, openness, honesty, leadership and respect.

As a resident and member of the Dunbar community I would like to strongly protest and raise a formal complaint about the manner in which the consultation process and events proceeding this have been executed and communicated to the general public.

I am also of the belief that despite this “consultation period” where members of the public are being invited to share their views, the method of collection and the resultant actions will not take their views into account, or indeed change the course of action pursued by the council.

I would like to point out that you have a duty to be open and honest about all of the decisions of the council, giving clear reasons and *restricting information only when the public interest clearly demands*.

I have completed the ELC/Stantec survey which I found completed loaded in favour of the proposal. I will not be the first to have raised this.

I attended the public information meeting at the Dunbar Town house on Thursday evening 22<sup>nd</sup> May, along with many other Dunbar residents and traders.

There was no Council member present at this meeting, which many of us thought was disgraceful especially as traders would struggle to make the afternoon session due to them running their own businesses, or commuters or other business people would be at work, like myself. I was informed by one of the organisers that yourself and Donna Collins made a very brief appearance at the afternoon session.

I spoke briefly to the Stantec representative (Emma) about the consultation process who informed me that this was the initial consultation, and there would be further consultation in August.

I then spoke at length to Tom Weir, Head of Infrastructure at East Lothian Council.

I asked him why the survey was written in such a leading way. I now understand that the survey is purely to gauge public opinion about the finer details of the changes, not to support or otherwise whether parking charges or permits should be introduced.

In particular the survey will produce skewed results in favour of the changes as the only questions that can be statistically measured are the choice questions, not any of the boxes where comments are requested.

So there has not been a public survey about whether any resident would support any form of paid parking or permits.

I asked him about the consultation period. He informed me that this is the only period of public consultation, following which the survey and other feedback will be incorporated into the cost and implementation plan for proposal submission slated for approval at the August council leaders meeting. Following this if approved there will be a period of 30 days where Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) will be posted, and then it will proceed to implementation.

So that is at direct odds with what Stantec were saying. There is nothing in the survey or any other general communication to the public that states this. The only place I could find this is on a webpage buried in the ELC website.

That is hardly being upfront, honest and open with the public. There was no timetable on the walls, nothing in your written communication, and more importantly nothing on the survey paper.

My next point is about the rationale and reasoning behind the implementation.

I asked Tom about why the parking changes were being implemented. He said that there had been studies done which identified issues with parking enforcement and low turnover of spaces on the High street and swimming pool, amongst other issues.

I asked him where & when exactly these studies were done, and seeing as they were conducted by the council they should be readily available to the general public, as this is being sold as the justification for doing it.

In fact again there is statements made to that effect by John McMillan on the ELC website, but not in any form of communication.

I asked him how many people in the Thursday meeting had agreed with the council's position that there are problems with parking in the High Street, there was none.

So in the statement on the website "*Based on engagements to date, proposals for Dunbar are based around solutions such as...*" where exactly is it recorded that the residents of Dunbar are in full favour of these measures listed below:

- Controlled parking: Designate areas for short, medium, or long-stay parking. Short-stay car parking areas would offer a limited period of FREE parking time. Once this time has elapsed, a charge would be required.
- Resident parking permits: Allowing residents unlimited parking in designated areas with an annual fee
- Healthcare worker permits: Healthcare providers would need to apply to the council to receive permits for their staff
- Enhanced enforcement: to increase the turnover of parking spaces, improve pedestrian safety by reducing illegal parking, and to boost the local economy

I asked him what the rationale for only charging for parking on the high street and other areas, yet it was free to park at Spott road garden centre, Asda and the proposed retail parks. How is that comparable, and seen to be supporting local businesses.

The bulk of the local businesses will be caught up in this parking proposal, only the large conglomerates are free from any additional costs.

How many local businesses rely on trade that take more than 30 mins (the proposed free parking period)? Can you get a haircut in that time? Can you order a meal at a restaurant? Or buy from a few shops?

So everyone will have to pay: tourist or not. And it will put people off!

And do not even raise the spectre of local public transport avoiding the use of the car. My own mother lives in the Tree Scheme, as do many council residents. She isn't capable of walking to Belhaven Church.

The withdrawal of the 130 service means that many of these residents are now forced to use their cars if they have one, or get a lift or a taxi.

I asked him what the rationale was for making every form of free parking in the Dunbar town centre paid, from Lauderdale, the swimming pool, Abbeylands, the Bleaching fields, the High Street, and many other streets.

How will that be more inclusive, bring the community together, especially in the large public spaces which are free to use, like the Glebe, Lauderdale, the Bleaching fields parks etc.

Why is it that the only other large public space Hallhill is not included in any parking charges?

I asked him why residents parking was being introduced. He said it was to counter any impacts of people parking off the High street and aid people struggling to park near their homes.

I then asked had the Council considered that a significant part of the red zone was applied to council or housing association homes where a high concentration of residents could be the one who could least afford this: areas such as Parsonspool, Writers Court, or low cost housing in flat on and around the High street. Had they considered that a significant number of local tradesman operated from the same houses, so they would need more than one permit.

I asked him what the estimated cost of a permit would be, which is in the region of £40-£60 per car, and more than one permit is at the discretion of the council.

I also asked him about might happen if people who cannot afford / get more than one permit park in the adjoining streets such as Gardener street etc. He said it is very likely that the red zone will expand over time.

I then asked him what the business case for the parking proposal was, and why it was so important to introduce this.

Tom said that he and other teams have been tasked to look at how additional incomes could be raised to support infrastructure, and the parking proposals across East Lothian would be a key way of doing this.

He believed it would pay back in a matter of months.

You yourself stated in public at the Dunbar Community Council meeting on 26/05 where you said "It was a reality that services would be cut as the cash-strapped local authority looks to close the funding gap". You said: 'We are down to the bone. We cannot touch education or adult social care and the services you think you like are at risk. We are looking at a way of generating some incomes from the visitors that come here. If you go to another community outwith East Lothian, you will pay for your parking. Very few places you go now you do not pay for parking'.

So it clear that the whole proposal is based on a very substantial charge to the local residents of Dunbar who regularly use the high street, or who have the misfortune to live within the red zone.

And the main rational for the implementation is to generate additional revenue to the council, a money-making exercise!. Where is this in any of the materials?

This is my main complaint.

There is nothing open and honest about:

- Pretending these measures will boost the local economy whilst the very people who use the high street or live of the high street and beyond will pay more
- How this is being consulted, the plan for implementation and how the impacts will be managed



- How households with more than one car will pay, and if they will even get more than one permit
- How this will create a two-tier system for those unlucky enough to live in the older areas of Dunbar where parking will be paid for, yet all of the new developments have their own off street parking
- How this will impact the High Street, which is loved and supported by many local residents who do not want any form of paid parking

I trust you will be open and honest about the points I have raised.

I have discussed this at length with many of my friends and relations and they all agree with me.

I am happy to hear directly from you as the leader of the council about why this is justified.

I will also be writing to the other representatives in this matter.

Regards

To Dunbar Community Council

Dear Sir/Madam

I am a Dunbar resident & am writing to express my disappointment with the proposed car parking charges particularly on & around Dunbar High Street & Lauderdale Park.

The proposed 30 minutes of free parking is not sufficient time to allow local residents or visitors to shop freely & is bound to be detrimental to the businesses that operate on the street which is terribly sad. Imposing charges around the park will be really sad for families who currently enjoy making full use of the park & often enjoy staying for hours as it is a meeting place for family & friends.

We strongly hope the proposed changes do not go ahead.

King regards

Date: Sun, 25 May 2025, 06:53

Subject: Parking proposals in Dunbar

To: <[dunbarparking@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:dunbarparking@eastlothian.gov.uk)>

## Re Dunbar parking consultation

I don't see any problems with parking. Even on the high street. I cycle or walk when I can anyway so it won't make my visits more sustainable.

It will decimate the town centre. Business is already struggling and this will destroy the rest. If I had to faff around paying for parking I would be much more likely to go to somewhere out of town. I can almost always get parking on the high street at the moment but if I cannot it is a short walk from nearby streets that would then require paying. The effort involved in doing that would put me off trying in the first place. And if I wanted fence posts and postcrete I would go to Thistle or instead of Knox. Though I would much prefer to support Knox as a local family of really nice people.

I work partly as a handyman. I sometimes need to bring heavy materials and tools throughout the town centre. And when I do I often need to park for many hours at a time. I would not be eligible for a residential permit as I live outside the zone. And if Edinburgh is a similar system then it is a nightmare to get temporary permits from resident owners. You have to meet them in person and by the time you

have collected the permit you have got a ticket. I am likely to stop doing work in the town at all. Most of my customers are elderly and disabled and I charge very low rates to support them. This will add extra cost and stress for them and me.

I also work in the harbour doing boat maintenance and guide work for BlueWild. Occasionally I need to park at the harbour and if we are visiting the Isle of May then that can be for 8 or more hours. The harbour parking is easy at the moment but restrictions in the centre will push more folk to park there and make it difficult for the fishermen and harbour users.

Lots of the BlueWild customers come by car. Just this week someone said they came to Dunbar because parking was free and easier than North Berwick. All our customers need to park for about 8 hours and after we finish we always recommend local cafes and restaurants so they could be there for a lot longer. Most customers ask about where they can park. At the moment that is easy as almost everywhere apart from the high street is ok. If these designs were implemented then we would have a lot to explain and options for long stay parking by the harbour would be very limited.

When in Dunbar I stay with my 84 year old mother outside the residents zone. It's too far away for her to walk to town. She is fairly fit and active so not eligible for a blue badge. But she also finds driving on the high street too busy. She is a good driver but cautious. She tends to drive to a quiet street like Bayswell road or Victoria Road and park and walk from there. She does not have a smart phone and paying a parking meter would worry her these days. If she had to pay she would stop visiting the town alone and I would need to collect her prescriptions etc. So that reduces her independence and freedom. And mine.

For many years I lived on the peripheral areas of zones in Edinburgh. Parking control has just shifted the problem and concentrated it further out of town leaving the centre almost empty. Surely it is more socially sustainable to distribute the demand for parking over a larger area?

Although I have never had much problem parking on the high street, I would be happy with a disc zone on the high street. It's cheap and peer pressure would help enforce it. V little infrastructure is required. Occasional checking to enforce is all that is needed.

If sustainability was really the reason and not revenue then why has the 130 bus been axed?

I cannot see how they can justify the scheme on sustainability grounds so it must be largely financial. I would like the full cost benefit analysis to be made public.

If council is short of money and this is a way to create revenue then I would pay more council tax on condition they 1) stop paying consultants with ideas of solving problems that don't exist 2) abolish parking charges throughout east Lothian. Especially in town centres.

The council suggest they can overrule the conditions for blue badge holders in their questionnaire? The question asking if you approve of blue badge holders using ordinary spaces. I didn't understand the point of that question. Surely that isn't legal.

The council questionnaire is biased in favour. One cannot disagree with many questions even when the answers available are impossible to use. They don't meet my usage in any way.

I oppose the entirety of this scheme. The joy of Dunbar is its accessibility and friendliness. This makes the town centre a keep out zone.

Dunbar Parking Management Consultation

Our Asset and Regulatory Manager

Penston House, Macmerry, EH33 1EX

[dunbarparking@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:dunbarparking@eastlothian.gov.uk)

For the attention of Our Asset and Regulatory Manager and Our Chief Executive

### **DUNBAR TRAFFIC PLAN AND CONSULTATION**

Although the event was interesting, very few of the questions I had were answered. Our Councillor did not know the information or did not have it. Our Sub-Contractor, Stantec, didn't have detailed information either. Their representative said it was only a Consultation and that detailed information was either not needed or was not given to them by Our Council.

I have deliberately used the word 'Our' to clarify that we pay for an organisation (East Lothian Council) to run Our County in the way we want and have it run in our own best interests. We employ a Top Man (Chief Executive) and employ Councillors to carry out the work on our behalf. We employ Sub-Contractors when additional help is needed. In summary, we are the employers of East Lothian Council, the Top Man, Councillors, Stantec and therefore they are our employees.

### **QUESTIONABLE**

We paid for a Consultation. Our Employees failed to gather information and pass it onto Our Sub Contractor. Our Top Man signed this off, knowing full well that the information given was very limited. Our Sub Contractor issued an online questionnaire which was extremely biased and misleading. All the questions asked made the end result an overwhelming need for traffic regulations. This questionnaire would have to be approved by Our Councillors and Our Top Man who approved this knowing full well of the outcome.

### **ALL LIVES MATTER**

One question that came to me during the event was worrying. I completed the survey and at the last page I was basically asked the colour of my skin and race. What on earth has the colour of my skin to do with cars and parking? Everyone in the County is equal. The ability to separate data up, can allow use for negative purposes. I do not want racism in Our Council and don't want to employ racist staff or give Our staff the ability to use race inappropriately. More importantly, I do not want a Top Man, who allowed this question to be asked, to be on my payroll.

If I was his sole employer, I would have him in for questioning and probable immediate dismissal. However, I am not his sole employer and therefore cannot do this. I am sure the rest of the County will accept an apology from him, with no further action required.

### **THE QUESTION OF INDEPENDANCE**

We have the ability and sensibility to answer our own questions and ask you to deal with our own problems. We can have debates and consultations, but at the end of the day it is up to us. We want our County's roads / parking rules & regulation running in a way that is best for us and our County. Was a Sub-Contractor really needed to do this? How much of Our money did Our Top Man pay to Stantec to carry out the work? Work that Our Employees at the Council could have done. We do believe that there is a parking problem in Dunbar—but this is purely down to non-enforcement of current rules. Discussions afterwards, it seems clear that many think Enforcement Officers were deliberately removed to increase the problems. I hope our Top Man didn't authorise something as underhanded as this to happen.

### **POWER TO THE PEOPLE**

When leaving the event, there were volunteers debating the event outside and handing out independent questionnaires with more sensible questions. More importantly, these volunteers were not interested in the colour of my skin. We are now in a position where we have to ask volunteers to help make sure Our Council works to our standards and expectations.

### **DUNBAR DEMOCRACY**

Any big decisions must be agreed with the people of Dunbar. This is called democracy, and we want to pay for a democratic Council. We want a Top Man who believes in democracy and equality. As the Employer, we want the final decision to be with us.

#### **MONEY MATTERS**

After discussions with the public outside the event, it is clear the majority see this as a money raising plan. I do not want to employ an organisation who takes advantage of the County. We want to employ people who do not steal or take money from us by underhand methods. I asked why a warden was not re-introduced to control the situation. I was told that Council Tax would have to go up to cover this. This is utter nonsense, and has probably been a slip of his tongue. Infrastructure is already in place for enforcement (it was working for 1 day last month) and would only cost the salary of a member of staff. Income generated from tickets issued could more than cover this, and would probably provide Our Council with a few extra Pounds as well. Withdrawal of this plan and enforcement re-introduced is the option the majority of us want.

#### **MUSK SPEND WISELY**

At the end of this process, an independent summary of costs involved, must be made public. All the County feel that there tends to be wastage of Our money within Our Council and demand this is dealt with. Perhaps once he has left the Trump Administration, it may be worth our Top Man arranging a video call with Elon Musk to discuss saving initiatives and unintentional spending within Our Council.

#### **THANKS, BUT NO THANKS**

From discussions with the volunteers and the public, it is clear this plan is not wanted. The vast majority of the County do not want it. Why is our Top Man spending Our money on something he knows full well is not wanted? If Our Council continue spending Our money on this proposal then we expect it to be up to us to give the final go-ahead.

#### **JOB DESCRIPTION, SUITABILITY, EXPERIENCE AND DUTY OF CARE**

As your boss, I demand that your Employers are given the final decision. Our County does not want an undemocratic, racist, thieving, underhanded, lazy, incapable or unfair Council. We expect much, much more. Because of these suggestions and current feelings within the County, a referendum or similar method of approval is needed—an approval by us. As your employer, we demand the final say. More appropriately would be a withdrawal of these ridiculous plans. This would prevent further costs building up, further damage to your reputation and would give you a good opportunity to gain our trust again.

Regards

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To Dunbar Community Council

Dear Sir/Madam

I am a Dunbar resident & am writing to express my disappointment with the proposed car parking charges particularly on & around Dunbar High Street & Lauderdale Park.

The proposed 30 minutes of free parking is not sufficient time to allow local residents or visitors to shop freely & is bound to be detrimental to the businesses that operate on the street which is terribly sad. Imposing charges around the park will be really sad for families who currently enjoy making full use of the park & often enjoy staying for hours as it is a meeting place for family & friends.

We strongly hope the proposed changes do not go ahead.

Regards

Date: 20 May 2025 at 22:25:10 BST  
To: dunbarcommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Hi Team,

I'm writing to express my serious concerns regarding the proposed introduction of parking charges in Dunbar.

I previously responded to the recent questionnaire, and it seemed to operate under the assumption of an existing parking problem, which isn't something I personally experience. While I'm fortunate enough to usually cycle or walk to Dunbar High Street, even on the occasions I drive, I rarely have trouble finding parking on the High Street or near the swimming pool.

It feels as though these charges are primarily a revenue-raising measure, which I understand given the budgetary pressures ELC may be facing. However, I believe this will negatively affect our valuable independent traders on the High Street. Many customers who are unwilling or unable to pay for parking may choose to shop elsewhere to avoid the cost.

Furthermore, these charges will disproportionately impact those less able to walk or cycle, such as elderly individuals and families with young children. On this point, I'm not sure if the council is aware that the new Robertson and Cala housing developments near the cemetery lack any public transport options. It appears that public transport in Dunbar currently stops at Spott Road, which seems outdated given the hundreds of new homes that have been built. For residents in these areas, driving and paying for parking may be their only option for shopping locally, or they may be forced to go to other areas. For example, Google Maps indicates that it's a 1.2-mile walk from Pikemen Crescent to the Dunbar Medical Centre.

I believe a more reasonable approach would be to implement and enforce a 90-minute parking limit to ensure a turnover of spaces. This would allow people enough time to stop for coffee, have lunch, or visit several shops.

Thanks for considering these points.

Best regards,

---

Subject: Parking Charges - Dunbar  
Date: 4 June 2025 at 21:23:45 BST  
To: "dunbarcommunitycouncil@gmail.com"  
<dunbarcommunitycouncil@gmail.com>

Hi,

I'm a relatively recent new resident in Dunbar.

I find East Lothian Council's proposal for Dunbar to be a revenue raising solution looking for a problem.

I cannot comment about elsewhere in the county, but for Dunbar their proposals appear to be a sledgehammer to crack a nut.

The main issues I observe are

1. the difficulties residents around the Harbour and East Beach have in parking close to their front doors. I am unclear whether this is because "outsiders" park in these streets long term (i.e. for the day whilst commuting in to Edinburgh) or because the housing is densely packed and there is just not enough space for the immediately local residents. The former might be tackled with a parking permit system.

2. The parking of motorhomes/campervans for free, for a long stay, possibly overnight, in the leisure pool car park. Some kind of charging system for stays over a fixed period of time might resolve this issue.

I have filled in the council's consultation questionnaire, but this seemed to push their solution without providing any real opportunity to formally recognise other solutions. I see that the council contracted out the "consultation" and wonder what their brief was? Was it to actually solve specific local parking issues? Or was it to find ways to raise more revenues, primarily from the local taxpayers?

I wish you well with the campaign

Regards

Subject: Proposed parking charges  
Date: 5 June 2025 at 17:35:38 BST  
To: dunbarcommunitycouncil@gmail.com

I am writing to express my anger and concern about the proposed parking charges and permits in Dunbar.

This idea is a travesty and will destroy the high street shops. The permits are unnecessary and just a money-spinner for the council.

Please pass on my concerns by way of a petition or feedback to the council.

Yours sincerely, (Concerned Dunbar resident).

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Subject: Parking charges  
Date: 5 June 2025 at 15:05:48 BST  
To: dunbarcommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Good afternoon,

Below is a copy of my email to ELC regarding my thoughts on parking charges in Dunbar.

As stated below I feel the proposals will result in an extra burden on our council tax bills.

The income derived from parking charges will be more than off set by the loss of income to the council as shops close due to less people shopping on the High Street.

The charges will also have a negative effect on the community organisation in the town (including churches) leaving work presently done by volunteers to be done by the council at great expense.

The council needs to see beyond the little box of income from parking charges to the wider cost implication on the council.

regards



*Good Afternoon*

*For many reasons I fail to see the advantage of introducing parking charges in the centre of Dunbar.*

*Firstly*

*Economically the income derived for ELC will be countered by the loss of council tax from shops that will be forced to close through a loss of trade.*

*With the proposals to extend shopping near ASDA the introduction of parking charges in the town will KILL Dunbar centre.*

*With only 30 min no cost parking the café use will also decrease.*

*Ease of living*

*As a resident, Dunbar will become a less pleasant place to live. It will become a more inconvenient and a more lifeless community.*

*There also seems to be a charge on Sundays. This will impact on church life withing the community. It will also impact on the ability of the churches and other bodies to meet the need of the community.*

*This work will then need to pass to the ELC at far greater expense then any parking charge could ever bring in.*

*For those who still make the effort to shop in the town there will be a temptation to park on the residential streets on the fringes. Again resulting in a loss convenience.*

*For many reasons the imposition of parking charges is negative and needless action against the residents, the businesses and the visitors in Dunbar.*

*For a few pounds of income the joy of living in Dunbar will be diminished, jobs will be lost and voluntary services will be challenged.*

***DON'T***

*Regards,*

## **APPENDIX D – RECORD OF PUBLIC MEETING WITH AUDIENCE COMMENT**

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## **DUNBAR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS**

### **RECORD of PUBLIC MEETING**

**8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2025**

Following the launch of ELC's Parking Management Plan for Dunbar, framed by Stantec, Dunbar Community Council (DCC) has:

- a. Fully supported the drive to get as many people as possible to engage with the Stantec report and complete the Stantec questionnaire
- b. Launched an independent questionnaire to ascertain the potential impacts of the proposed management scheme and the levels of support for same
- c. Held a public meeting to which
  - Cllr Norman Hampshire
  - Cllr Donna Collins
  - Cllr Lyn Jardine
  - Cllr John McMillan
  - Paul McLennan MSP
  - Craig Hoy MSPwere invited to speak to the proposals and take questions.

The public meeting was widely advertised and oversubscribed with 130 people attending on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 7pm at St Anne's Church Dunbar. The meeting was chaired by Pippa Swan, Chair of DCC. Lyn Jardine was unable to attend but submitted a statement. Ten questions were posed to panel members who were able to speak to questions as they chose. Questions were framed from the hundreds received by DCC in the period between 28<sup>th</sup> May and 7<sup>th</sup> June to cover the main areas of concern expressed by contributors.

The following papers include:

- A copy of the questions asked
- A link to the full recording of the event  
<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/gtmu8ntmbm1hxsq816w1u/AMHpMtEaACUW0gC0-DO-K7E?rlkey=ser7ez539w189vbecanuay3jl&dl=0>
- A record of public feedback received at the meeting
- A record of the 'messages' that Dunbar Community Council and Dunbar Trades Association members took from the responses of the panel to the questions posed.

End

**DUNBAR PARKING  
PUBLIC MEETING  
8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025  
QUESTIONS TO COUNCILLORS/MSPS**

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**1. Evidence**

The proposed parking management plan out for consultation now is founded on ELC's Local Transport Strategy of 2018 which was, itself based on data collected in 2009.

- a) What qualitative evidence—such as business feedback, resident observations, or recorded enforcement data—supports the claim that parking turnover in Dunbar is currently insufficient and...*
  - b) Has there been any analysis distinguishing between true low turnover and inadequate enforcement?*
- 

**2. The Angus Experience**

Earlier this year, Angus Council removed parking meters, introduced just 7 years ago, from all of its car parks, because car parks 'emptied overnight'. A fraction of the anticipated income was generated because drivers were driven away from parking areas and parking charges were ultimately deemed to be an economic and political disaster for Angus Council.

***What is the anticipated net income from parking charges in Dunbar and how will the 'Angus Experience' be avoided?***

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**3. Financial Motivation**

Overwhelming public feedback is that the introduction of parking charges is driven solely by the imperative to increase revenue to East Lothian Council to deliver the services that we all value.

***Is this the case? If it is, and parking charges are not introduced, what other moves might be taken to close the budget gap?***

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#### 4. Local Economy

The Dunbar Trades Association's firm position is that we:

- **do not accept that there are significant parking problems in Dunbar**
- **do not agree that parking charges and permits should be introduced in Dunbar**

The ELC consultation document is biased toward evidencing a problem but we believe that most issues are caused by a lack of enforcement, lack of signposting to existing car parks and currently, a very large number of vehicles parked due to ongoing works on the High Street.

If ELC drives forward with the charges and permits this will impact our local economy, one that your own Local Plan wants to flourish, to quote:

**Grow our Economy** – increase sustainable and inclusive growth as the basis for a more prosperous East Lothian

The Dunbar Community Council survey shows that 85% of people will use the town centre less often if these proposals go ahead - how will this grow our economy? The proposals will affect business owners, customers, residents, staff and tourists in a wholly negative and destructive way. The effects can be seen in small towns and villages up and down the country.

***"How does the council justify introducing parking charges when the local business community overwhelmingly opposes them and fears the impact on footfall, trade, and economic vitality?"***

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#### 5. Health and Wellbeing Impacts

*Dunbar Community Council's impact questionnaire has been answered by over 1100 people in just 10 days. 19% of respondents lived in the control area, 65% lived outwith the control area but within Dunbar and 16% of respondents lived outside of Dunbar and travelled into the town.*

*Of the 1100 responses, 85%, 920 people, said that charges would make them use the Leisure Pool and High Street less*

*84%, or 910 people, said that charges would make them use Lauderdale Park less*

*82%, or 886 people, said that charges would make them use Bleachingfield less.*

*A downturn in visitor numbers to any one of these important social and health supporting destinations could have a huge impact on people's health and wellbeing and on the finances of Enjoy Leisure and ELC.*

***How can the social and economic impact of parking charges be reconciled with the ambition set out in East Lothian Council's Plan 2022-2027, which seeks to create places where 'communities and people flourish'?***

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## **6. Resident Only Parking**

*Dunbar has historically been seen as a welcoming town for people looking to enjoy the warm hospitality of a seaside holiday, or people coming to stay with their families. Now it is proposed that the area to the East of the High Street to the sea, and Parsonspool, should be Residents Parking Only.*

***What impacts have 'resident parking only' designations had on other towns, on their holiday visitor numbers and on the social lives of local residents?***

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## **7. Charges on those least able to pay**

According to East Lothian Council's 'Dunbar and East Linton Ward Profile' of December 2024, the proposed parking management and charge area is entirely comprised of 'Middle Group' and 'Second Most Deprived' zones as assessed by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). According to ELC's profiling, these areas have declined in prosperity since ranked in 2012 and 2016.

***How can it be right or proper to impose additional and inescapable charges on those least able to afford it?***

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## **8. Displacement**

***As the proposed charging zone in Dunbar is so large how can you reassure residents in the Streets just outside the Zone that their streets shall not just become deflected car parks ?***

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## **9. Train Station**

Dunbar has grown rapidly over the past decade with hundreds of new homes to the south and east of the High Street, creating a dormitory town for people working in Edinburgh.

The southern platform at the station was completed almost 6 years ago. We were promised at that time that all efforts would be put in by Scottish Government and our local politicians to ensure that there was 'joined up thinking' – with extended car parking and proper pedestrian and cycle access to the north side of the track and proper pedestrian and cycle access direct to the southern platform. None of this has happened.

***When and how will we see both of these important infrastructure projects completed?***

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## **10. Political Future**

Our feedback shows that the community is overwhelmingly against the introduction of the proposed changes to parking management in Dunbar.

What impact would the implementation of a manifestly unpopular policy have on your own chances of re-election?



## DUNBAR PARKING MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS 2025

### PUBLIC MEETING

Hosted by Dunbar Community Council

8<sup>TH</sup> June, 2025

St Anne's Church

### DCC/DTA 'Take Aways'

ELC has already determined that it will impose charges on Dunbar and the 'consultation' is a tick box exercise

Despite what John McMillan says, we DO NOT believe that ELC is listening at all.

The proposals are not based on any kind of robust assessment of the **current** and/or projected traffic/parking situation in Dunbar.

There is no business case for the proposals

There is no risk assessment in respect of the local economy

There is no social or economic impact assessment specific to Dunbar, , which should be essential before any decision is made.

Angus Council has recently removed all of its parking charges, after finding that the imposition of charges had severe economic and social impacts on its towns, and that the planned financial benefits had failed to materialise. The meeting was not told how these risks of social and economic damage were worth taking in East Lothian without learning the lessons from other parts of the country. Dunbar itself had a history of lost business and economic damage the last time it tried to impose parking charges in the centre of town.

The audience feared a negative impact on both Bleachingfield and the Leisure Centre, neither of which can afford a decline in their footprint.

We do not believe the cash numbers. NH spoke of the roll out costs being £750k with an anticipated income of 'at least £750k'. He then spoke of the need to impose parking charges to raise revenue to help to bridge a £23m budget gap. The two scenarios are entirely contradictory.

The financial model is either non-existent or, more likely, it is being deliberately obfuscated, which the meeting consdieret to be disappointing at a time when trust in politicians is so low.

Lyn Jardine stated that any funds raised can only be used to

- fund greater enforcement,
- address congestion,
- tincrease parking turnover,
- balance the use of limited parking provision,
- manage traffic flow, and
- fund parking spaces.

ie. The funds CANNOT be used to fill a funding gap

The meeting did not believe that any of the above factors justified the imposition of parking charges, but agreed that the management of East Lothian Council's own regulations would further improve the existing parking arrangements.

NH assured the meeting that the access to the Railway Station would allow residents to use their bikes to the Southern Platform by the end of this year, and that the extended station car park will be brought into operation once the land can be purchased from Network Rail. Both of these initiatives will ease the pressure on parking in Dunbar

The meeting was told that there will be no Residents' Parking Zones unless the residents themselves want it.

## **DUNBAR PARKING MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS 2025**

### **PUBLIC MEETING**

**Hosted by Dunbar Community Council**

8<sup>TH</sup> June, 2025

St Anne's Church

### **AUDIENCE COMMENT**

If Councillor Hampshire states that if permits for residents are not wanted by the majority, then why do we not apply the same criteria to High Street charges?

Listen to traders and local residents. Needs evidence based information and cost analysis.

Employ some parking attendants. Job done.

The East Lothian Parking Management review by Stantec. Survey was poorly constructed. Full of closed questions and did not allow for an outright rejection of the proposal. Can ELC not use any information this gathered?

I live in Stenton. My boys attend Dunbar Grammar School. There are no buses, no cycle routes, and increased traffic coming with BESS storage at Pitcox. I drive my boys up and down to clubs multiple times a day and have to wait sometimes for hours. This will have an additional financial impact on our already heavily taxed household.

What is the mitigation plan for Dunbar High Street when charges are implemented to prevent its demise? More evidence to support claims made by ELC. Will we really be listened to?

Good to hear MSP asking for evidence and impact statements. Need feedback from ELCA following this another consultations. A good debate tonight.

More long term all day car parks required, particularly near the station.

Stop trying to fix something that isn't broken.

No to parking charges. Make the housebuilders pay for access and car park to the south and this will free up spaces to the Abbeylands car park. This is full because cars parked here as people using the train.

Alas tonight confirmed there is no evidence, no impact analysis, no risk assessment, and in short, there's no strategy and no business case. The permits for residents would be needed for all residents to avoid a shift of the problem.

Listen to the people, they do not want parking charges!!! If you create parking charges, you will kill the town of Dunbar! Mr Hampshire threatens us that if we do not charge for parking we will lose the leisure centre and flower beds. But he also said the parking charges would be ring fenced for transport. Therefore these are hollow threats. We understand there's financial pressures, but the answer seems to be we need to enforce current parking restrictions that would create more revenue and encourage turnover. Why can't you just employ more traffic wardens which will pay for themselves? You say you're here to consult and listen. Please be people of integrity and listened to those who elected you and trusted you unlike what you did in North Berwick!

Shame on Norman Hampshire!! Enforcement of tax on local people!! No evidence, no figures. Listen to the community!! No parking charges!!

The council threatens us with closure of toilets and of the leisure pool and a reduction flower bed and landscaping, but they've not taken on board the suggestions of extra wardens, making money or extra campsites, earning revenue.

ELCA has provided no evidence for a business case for parking charges. Or any meaningful risk assessment.

No facts, liars.

No to parking charges. No evidence that they are needed. It will be the death of the High Street.

Badly thought out plan with no robust evidence to support. Alternatives need to be found.

Give each town a parking attendant. That way there would be no problem with parking on the High Street. Car park behind Hector's 90 minutes Max should stay as a car park.

No parking charges at all! No permits. All wrong.

Parking warden needed.

Parking charges will be the death knell of the town centre, killing shops and leisure. Listen to the people. Don't do it.

If it goes ahead, it will cause more problems than solve. Other solutions must be explored. The town will deteriorate.

No to charges and permits.

Where is the evidence and or modelling that supports the introduction of parking charges?

Less uses at the library? What about all the volunteers? What about our shops? Never have trouble getting parked?

Norman, you are a liar.

No parking charges.

Reinstate a full time traffic warden which would be self funding and review the results after 12 months.

Change in shopping post COVID already impacts the local High Street. Outdated evidence, survey and data collection. Impact on local families to use local parks and leisure facilities due to costs. Impact of large mobile homes in parking in town taking several car spaces. Double parking due to deliveries and restoration work on High Street over the last few years. What about permits for residents? Costs unknown and impact on streets next to permit ones?

When the child is hit by displaced traffic as a result of these proposals and people are parking in residential streets, where children play, Who will be responsible?

Why are there 2 taxi ranks and why are skips and work vans allowed to park in High Street? Please please police this. Enforcement is required. Lauderdale Park is a leisure place. Can it not be part of coastal car parks? If the spaces were defined, more cars would be able to use it. Please don't kill the petanque /wishing tree facilities. Beth might as well add £5 to all her prices. The impact to our friendly community would be devastating.

If the council forced the railway to sort out its parking, he would free up a lot of spaces. This issue has been going on for over 10 years.

Praise to DCC for their support in raising awareness of these issues and for representing the overwhelming views of local traders whose livelihood is at stake.

Lyn Jardine raised interesting points about the acceptable reasons for introducing parking charges, none of which included raising money for the council. This point requires further investigation and discussion.

Evidence of past events from Donna Collins demonstrates what could happen to the town if parking charges are introduced .

Donna was clear in her support.

Donna provided a rough analysis of costs involved in hiring enforcement officers.

Paul McLennan was the voice of reason but I didn't like his defence of SNP Scottish Government who are responsible for cuts to council budgets

The 92 year old man could testify to the fact that parking spaces are available

Craig Hoy argued on behalf of the provision of evidence based decision making

Norman Hampshire informed the room about the planned increase in parking spaces at the railway site

The information which clearly indicates that the data used in the consultation has been taken from facts collected as far back as 2009!

The booklet produced by Samtec was published from 2018. This is pre Covid, how people shop and use the High Street has changed enormously.

Lord Provost provided no factual evidence .

Telling people to "walk" was offensive to those of us with limited mobility , exercise would have been a more inclusive term.

Norman Hampshire could not stick to the topic of parking charges, he avoided answering any questions by waffling about another topic.

Norman could not speak about Dunbar, he concentrated on the collective. Dunbar cannot be compared to North Berwick or any of the others, each has different needs.

Norman appeared to retract charges for residents permits

Residents perspectives were ignored, this led to people speaking out

No risk assessment or impact assessment has been conducted

No cost implications of administration and enforcement costs could be provided

No information for people with leisure centre memberships, do they need to pay?

No evidence to say that Dunbar has a parking problem

Norman referred to double parking on the High Street. This occurs at lunchtime when workers queue up inside The Food Hamper for lunch. This is not a regular occurrence at other times.

The majority of vehicles on the High street are a mixture between residents and workers . This happens in every town and is not a true reflection of the parking situation Norman described.

Impression from Norman was very negative, this proposal is going to be a reality whether we like it or not.

No recognition of how the community, especially the elderly and disabled will be affected by parking charges

Lack of consideration for High Street residents who will be displaced from car parks to surrounding areas

We propose to ELC: a. No car parking charges yet. b. Develop new parking areas eg station coalyards etc. c. Reassess any changes to parking after survey after (b) park development is completed and established



5. I value our high street. We currently have a lovely selection of shops and businesses that serve locals and visitors equally well. Charge for parking and we have less incentive to keep them open. It is easier to shop online but so much more enjoyable to do so in person. Charging for the joy will kill community spirit. When this happens, the town stops being a place people want to live and visit. You'll be shooting yourselves in the foot when there aren't people to pay the taxes to cover basic amenities, to warrant the cost of having a council.

6. Nobody should need to buy a parking permit to park outside their own property.

7. When the buses are frequent and costs reasonable, public transport will flourish. When I travel on the bus I notice that the majority of people are using concession cards, not paying by debit card or cash. I'd also travel by bus if didn't cost me more than I was going to spend if I needed a pint of milk.

**I STAND FIRMLY AGAINST CHARGING FOR PARKING IN DUNBAR.**

It is clear that ELC want to implement these charges irrespective of the views of local people. I particularly disliked Norman Hampshire's veiled threat that the Townhouse and JM Birthplace could be closed. Lynn Jardine seems to have lost sight of the fact that she's elected to represent the people who voted for her, not to be coy about her own opinion.

However, that's not the point I wish to make. Clearly no costing has actually been carried out. ELC have no idea if the introduction of parking charges will actually produce income. Presumably if charges are introduced an army of wardens will be required to actually police the affected areas. Since we are lucky to see a parking warden on any given day of the week, this will be a major recruitment issue and cost. Otherwise, the expense of installing meters will be an additional and pointless cost as people will not change their behaviour if there are no wardens to carry out regular checks. Perhaps my understanding of the situation is flawed, in which case I apologise for making you read this, but good luck in the fight against the introduction of parking charges