

## Parking Measures Update

24 March 2026

The councillors and council officers continue to work together to address parking concerns across the ward. Over the past year, a number of measures have been introduced using the ward highways budget. Each year councillors have a delegated budget (currently £10,750 per ward) to spend on highways matters; this can include signs, road markings, traffic count surveys and bollards etc. It often takes a frustratingly long time to go through the approval, legal process and consultation phases. We usually expect 18 months - so the 11 months this has taken is super quick! We are grateful to officers who have responsive to our requests for this work to be completed as quickly as possible.



We've also spent some of our budget this year on KEEP CLEAR and NO ENTRY markings which we hope will discourage drivers from going the wrong way down the service road in front of Tesco's and keep the flow of traffic moving off Finney Lane.



Whilst yellow lines alone will not prevent anti-social parking, these new measures do mean that tickets can be issued immediately without any grace period.

Parking around Jim's Takeaway on Finney Lane continues to be a concern, particularly at peak times. The renewed double yellow lines and loading 'pips' mean that stopping is now not permitted directly outside the premises and tickets can be issued immediately for anyone contravening this. While road markings alone will not completely stop anti-social parking, they are a necessary step to allow enforcement to happen. As reported previously, Heald Green receives frequent visits from the council's Civil Enforcement Officers with over 1000 tickets issued in the area over a 12 month period.

Regardless of the progress already made, the councillors continue to push officers about the parking issues and, at a recent meeting with the council's Head of Thriving Neighbourhoods, several further points were discussed:

- We enquired whether planning rules could be used to address parking problems linked to specific businesses. However, the council has confirmed that planning enforcement is not an available route at present to deal with these issues.
- Pavement parking remains a major frustration for many residents. Currently the council has no direct powers to enforce pavement parking in most situations and responsibility largely sits with the police, but enforcement is limited. We also asked about upcoming pavement parking legislation. At present, the council has no clarity from government on when or how this will be implemented. We hope that when introduced, it will provide stronger and clearer powers to tackle this issue.

Residents continue to play an important role in tackling parking issues. You can help by reporting hotspots where additional parking enforcement is required [here](#). Regular reporting helps build evidence and ensures enforcement teams focus on the areas of greatest concern.

Parking is a complex issue with competing demands from residents, businesses and visitors. Not every issue can be resolved immediately. However, your councillors remain committed to working with residents and businesses to improve safety, access and fairness across the ward.