

# Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Full Council 14/11/2024

## Mini Recycling Centre – West End Road Car Park

**Agenda item 24/094 9: To resolve to support the supply and operation, by the district council, of a small electrical item recycling bin, in the south-west corner of the West End Road car park, in the existing half space, at no cost to the parish council.**

### Cost

Nil.



*Figure 1 Map of Car Park*

### Summary

In line with its strategy, to increase recycling, and for the council to meet its Net Zero by 2030 goal, the district council offers free small recycling banks to communities. It aims to promote recycling by making it easy for residents to recycle items for which there is no roadside collection\*. The district council waste officer reports working “hard putting in new Mini Recycling Centres (MRC’s) around the district and would really like some out in Burghfield/Mortimer”. She is mindful of the need to keep space to a minimum and has focused on recycling items that will not be collected at the roadside.

This motion seeks to gain the parish council’s support for the proposed measure, notwithstanding this car park is leased from West Berks. There is no cost implication to us. District council can arrange for the area to be swept and would clear any spillage or fly tip left near the bank. Experience with other such banks is that there is no fly-tipping problem with these. (An experience apparently borne out by, not council run, clothing bank in that same car park).

### Supporting Information

The suggested spot is not a half parking/motorcycle sized space, so does not notably impact the parking available, particularly if the hedge is cut back before the bin is installed. There don’t seem to be any other suitable areas in Mortimer – layby opposite Horse & Groom and Co-Op car park being two suggestions explored.

The Clerk advises that this car park is leased by the parish council from West Berkshire Council and the lease states:

- To use the demised land only for the purpose of a car park
- Not to erect on the demised land or any part thereof any building or structure other than those necessary for the parking of vehicles.

She notes too that there is already a clothing collection bin – which suggests it must be allowable to add another.

The West Berks Council Waste officers wish to offer these centres to any/all communities that want it and have space for it, so the fact that there is one such bin in the Willink Leisure Centre car park does not mean we should assume this serves Mortimer too. It's seen as important, to make recycling successful, to make it as easy as possible for people. To that end additional items will be collected at the roadside in the near future – just not electrical items.



Figure 2 Image of Small Recycling Bin

Cllr N Carter 08/11/2024