

Tilgate Parking Committee – Summary

A sub-group of interested Forum members was formed, and began meeting in June last year. There have been five meetings, with between 5 and 11 members attending.

Aims of group:

to examine parking problems in Tilgate

to compile a list of specific problem areas

to compile a list of acceptable solutions or recommendations

and to liaise with relevant bodies or councillors to make known the residents' views.

At the November meeting Cllr. Peter Smith gave us very useful information about various measures to improve parking, and encouraged us to get something in writing for the Council and the Road Space Audit as representatives of Tilgate Forum.

Our concerns centred on insufficient parking, congestion in school areas, and parking problems around Tilgate Park.

We looked at what the local primary schools and the football stadium are doing about parking, and asked Metrobus about the extended no. 2 bus service.

We have written up our concerns and ideas for improvement in a spreadsheet report which will be added to the Forum website. We shared this report in January with our WSCC Councillor Duncan Crow and it has been forwarded to the Road Space Audit.

We are waiting to hear when we might be able to have our say in the Audit process as representatives of Tilgate residents. The involvement of residents' organisations in the Road Space Audit was planned to start this Spring, but has been delayed.

(See report overleaf)

Tilgate Forum Parking Committee report

CONCERN	DETAIL	IDEAS
Insufficient parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Safety of traffic + pedestrians -Gatwick airport increases demand -Rising population in Crawley plus high rate of commuters driving into Crawley increases demand -Leads to dangerous parking, especially on corners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Make crossovers easier + cheaper for residents -Audit garages to find if some blocks of CBC garages could be demolished and the space re-zoned for open parking to make better use of space -Restrict garage rental to vehicle use, not household storage -Enlarge garages to allow larger modern cars -Double yellow lines on corners
Congestion near schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Safety of traffic and pedestrians -Difficulty of delivering children to different schools at same time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Encourage public transport -Encourage foot journeys -School buses for multi-school families
D.Anderson blind bend where Canterbury meets Winchester – longstanding blackspot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Safety for access + traffic. -New housing on previous TBCC Canterbury site will increase traffic and exacerbate existing blackspot. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install roundabout to embed 'give way' behaviour from all directions, <u>before</u> new housing estate is built.
Tilgate Pk overflow parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tilgate Park is a regional park and attracts visitors from far afield, but parking is inadequate on busy days and some drivers park on residential roads to avoid payment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Call halt to further attractions at Tilgate Park -Make Salisbury Road NO ENTRY except for access -Assist residents to get white lines painted across driveways (especially Salisbury Rd.) to deter inconsiderate parking -Introduce Crawley Resident's card for reduced parking in all Crawley car parks
Football stadium overflow parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking on A23 will be dealt with by Police 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crawley Resident's card as above
Private transport used in preference to public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. 2 bus trial includes Tilgate Park on weekends + Bank Holidays only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Start bus pass at age 60 -Encourage car parking in town centre + shuttle bus to T.Park, Stadium and K2. -Encourage cycling – maintain cycle paths
Loss of green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less green space means more pollution, fewer trees to filter the air + so poorer health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -use green membrane /grasscrete to reduce flood risk and keep space green -Don't build more in densely populated areas

Notes:

Looking at Crawley in comparison to other West Sussex towns, it had the highest **population** rise over 20 years during 1995-2015 (19.5% or 18,000 people). (West Sussex Life, westsussex.gov.uk)

It also has a higher “**in-commute**” than Chichester, the County town, averaging over 21,000 inbound vehicles daily in 2015, compared with over 15,000 for Chichester. (West Sussex Life, westsussex.gov.uk)

It has an international **airport**, with many personnel and associated activities based in Crawley.

Holiday parking for Gatwick is noticed throughout the town – adding to the strain on local residential roads which were not designed for even one-car households.

When looking at Tilgate roads, it should be done in the evenings and weekends, when pressure on local roads is greatest from residents and when visitors to local attractions increase the demands.