

Interested party ref 20038785

In our submission **REP 1-060** we quote the following:

***“APP-200 [TR020001-000820-7.02] Transport Assessment Appendices - Part 1 of 3 (Appendices A-E) Potential Area of Residential Parking Restrictions drawing number LLADCO-3C-ARPSFA-SWI-DR-CE-0003 Page 12 of 507.***

***This plan shows a possible extension to the residential parking scheme but ignores the fact that Terminal 2 will have a direct access link road to the ward of Wigmore”***

This week, Luton Borough Council is consulting on expanding the residential parking permit scheme to cover the whole of the Wigmore Ward to combat airport street parking. This is something that the applicant has ignored in their submission, but we predicted would happen despite the lack of a link road.

The Vauxhall Park area of Luton, which is close to an existing airport access road called Frank Lester Way, has been blighted for many years by airport users using residential areas for short, mid and long term parking rather than paying to use airport car parks. A residents’ funded parking scheme was imposed on Vauxhall Park despite the problem being caused by the Luton Rising/Luton Council-owned airport. In 2020 a motion was put before the full Council that the airport operator or Luton Rising should pay for the scheme but this was defeated. This is covered in the above document in great detail. There has now been three votes and three times it has been rejected.

The Council’s and Luton Rising’s view is that the residential victims of airport street parking should pay for a problem caused 100% by their own airport. This cannot be right and is something conveniently ignored in this application. The charges at the moment are £71 for the first car and £91 for two cars. Visitor parking permits cost £29 for 10 tickets. Expanding the scheme to cover the whole of Wigmore would be a cash cow for the airport owning Council and could be coincided as an income source.

We have also noted that closer council housing estates in the ward of Stopsley are not in the proposal, yet they are affected by street parking holidaymakers, but the outer reaches of Wigmore which is not affected, is included.

Checked 20th November. The following Council site can take a minute to download that shows a map of the proposed area via a linked PDF.

<https://engage.luton.gov.uk/project/9909bc8c-5c43-4a18-b3b9-d3ed687ac970>