

## **Appendix 5: Other responses : Garforth, Guiseley Horsforth & Rothwell**

### Wording of Guiseley petition

Leeds City Council are proposing to introduce parking charges at Guiseley's Netherfield Road Car Park. In the proposal papers published this afternoon (5th Dec 2023), Leeds City Council refers to Netherfield Road car park as being in a district centre location, categorising it as a lower risk for traffic displacement. This analysis of the car park could not be further from the truth.

The introduction of parking charges will be hugely damaging, creating anti-social parking problems for the adjacent residential communities all along Netherfield Road as drivers will look to avoid charges by parking in the local streets. Netherfield Road car park is predominantly used as a commuter car park for those travelling onwards from Guiseley Station. It seems odd to target those who are actually doing their part to reduce car congestion in the city centre by making use of public transport.

For someone working full-time in the centre of Leeds, it could be as much as an extra £600 per year to get to work, on top of public transport charges. If the Council think that introducing parking charges will help their ambition to increase patronage on public transport in Leeds, then they are sadly mistaken. Residents will remember the proposals to turn Netherfield Road into a multi-storey car park. Through our community coming together we managed to fight those proposals off, and we need to come together and do it again.

### Wording of Horsforth petition

I am a resident of Horsforth, and like many others in our community, I find it unacceptable that Leeds City Council is planning to impose parking charges on local people using Fink Hill Carpark as part of their plan to fill part of their £65 million budget deficit.

Fink Hill Carpark has been a free facility for years and its accessibility has been crucial for local families and those visiting Hall Park alike.

The imposition of parking charges will undoubtedly affect footfall in the area which could lead to reduced business for local shops and services as well as effectively charging local people to visit the park.

This petition already has the support of two Horsforth Town Council Hall Park Town Councillors, Richard Hardcastle and Tracy Stones.

Both Tracy and Richard have stated:

"If parking charges are introduced at Fink Hill car park, there will need to be strict parking restrictions on Hall Lane and surrounding roads, or the whole of West End will become like a commuter car park!"

I understand that city councils across the country are facing financial pressures but burdening residents with additional costs is not a sustainable solution.

Therefore, I urge Leeds City Council to reconsider this decision and explore other avenues of revenue generation that do not directly impact residents' pockets.

Please sign this petition if you believe in maintaining free access to Fink Hill Carpark – let's show Leeds City Council that we value our community spaces!

**Update:** On 21st February 2024 the lead administration at Leeds City Council voted through their damaging plans to impose a parking charge at Fink Hill!, despite 3 different opposition groups providing 3 costed amendments that would have seen the Council able to remove the parking charges from the budget, whilst maintaining a balanced budget.

They chose to ignore these amendments, and they also voted through their plans before the results of the public consultation were published.

**All is not lost:** Highways will now be the next to consult before the charges are put in place. Let's keep fighting and spreading the word.

back in value of services and this would be an extension of penalties that even extend to having to pay for our own Christmas lights!

At the very least the Town Council suggests that the proposals be 'parked' for a year to allow stakeholders to look at the various issues surrounding highways and parking and put forward a comprehensive plan having studied the issues and impacts properly.