

Further (limited) survey by Councillor David Bennett

Tuesday 20th August 2024 11:00 – 11:15

	Total Spaces	Occupied Spaces	Plus
Recreation Close (BDC site)	21	21	
Next to Nag's Head (BDC site)	35	35	1 outside marked bays
Aldi	78	70	A number parked on crosshatch and double yellow lines
Springs Medical Centre	35	35	1 on crosshatch and 2 on access road
Community Centre	24	24	1 outside marked bays
Recreation Close (between the Community Centre & North Road)			A number of cars parked on the pavements on both side of the road restricting ambulance access to the Health Centre.

Note, August is a month with people away on their holidays. Tuesday is a working day with people going outside the village for their work locations. Therefore, the car park occupancy rate would have been much lower than it would be at the busier time of a weekend.

The development is for 1,800 properties, albeit over some 20 years, but we have to look at what the long-term infrastructure requirements will be.

Using an average of 2 cars per household, this means there is a potential for 3,600 more cars in Clowne.

Obviously, not all these cars are going to descend on the centre of Clowne at the same time. However, if we just suppose that only 10% would want to come in for shopping and other needs such as the doctor, dentist and socialising, that is an extra 360 car parking spaces that will be needed. We do not have the land in the centre on which to build car parking to that volume. If people can't park to shop in Clowne, they'll shop elsewhere.

There is one mention of car parking in the Planning Officer's report (Page 82). There is no mitigation offered nor is there any proposed solution by the Applicant.

Councillor Hiney-Saunders' report, ignoring the defunct Wilko's car park, gives an average of 75.5% usage (the maximum being 79.65%). Uplift this by the 51% increase in population gives a potential requirement of 113.25% (119.5%).

Whichever way one reviews the future car parking requirement, I submit that a development of this level, in a conurbation the size of Clowne, is unsustainable in the long term. The heart of the village will become so clogged it will stop beating.