

Car Parking in Oadby - Update

The table below shows the current number of public car parking spaces in East Street and Sandhurst Street car parks; the number of spaces shown on the Masterplan in the Published Area Action Plan in October 2011; and, the number of spaces shown in the subsequent amendment to the Masterplan which was put forward to the Inspector as a suggested change in March 2012.

Car Park	Current Situation	Published Masterplan (Oct 2011)	Suggested Change (put forward to Inspector: March 2012)
East Street	182	126	161
Sandhurst Street	191	212	212
Total	373	338	373

The suggested change incorporates a shared use public square accommodating 26 car parking spaces. This requires the removal of the retail/leisure units that were proposed in the published masterplan to the south of the square, but retains the south facing retail/leisure units to the north of the square which would form part of the residential development. It includes high quality of public realm, surfacing and planting to ensure that it would feel like a public square when being used as such.

In addition, with the better use of space in the remainder of the car park (eg by following the eastern boundary of the car park to the south of the Methodist Church), an additional 9 car parking spaces have been identified.

The outcome of this is that the Masterplan would make provision for the same number of public car parking spaces in Oadby town centre in the future as there are currently. There would be 21 fewer public car parking spaces on East Street car park (Brooksby Square) which would be relocated to Sandhurst Street car park (Baxters Place).

The suggested change would allow for 6 disabled car parking spaces on the public square, however, the actual number of disabled car parking spaces is considered a more detailed matter than is appropriate for the Area Action Plan.

With regard to the existing 38 private car parking spaces currently situated on East Street car park, the Delivery Strategy for the Oadby Town Centre Masterplan (prepared by BE Group as supporting evidence to the Area Action Plan) suggests that matters of if and how these spaces would be accommodated in the town centre would necessarily need to be a matter for detailed discussion by all relevant landowners/development partners at the time that a scheme for Brooksby Square were being considered.

However, it should be noted that if such discussion were to result in their removal without the provision of replacement private spaces, the Council's car parking surveys (January 2012) indicate that there would still be sufficient capacity in the town centre to account for this (ie when the car parks were at their busiest there were still 100 available car parking spaces in Oadby; plus, an element of proposed retail/leisure has been removed from the Masterplan in order to allow for the shared use public square which would reduce additional parking demand).

23 March 2012