

Appendix 4: Results and Comments from the Survey of Chetwynd Drive residents  
(relevant to the proposals and parking around the University)

Are you in favour of Permit Parking restrictions?		If approved what period of operation would you prefer?	
Yes	No	Annual	Oct 1 - 31 May
17	5	11	13
77%	23%	46%	54%

1. In our opinion, restricting parking at the top of the road is an important safety issue. It is not necessarily only students who could park there thoughtlessly and impede emergency/service issues access (a "do" at the church could also create congestion) so year round restrictions are a safer and more practical option.
2. As well as students parking in Chetwynd Drive, there has been an increase of cars being left in the Drive all day, when owners have then made the journey into town by the local bus. This is bound to continue due to the increase in parking changes in the City, especially if there is a charge for parking on business premises. It is therefore necessary that parking restrictions are in place all year round. You have provided details of the objections to parking restrictions in Chetwynd Drive. It should have been pointed out that all these objections were from one person, and that this represented a significant minority response to parking restrictions. You have provided this one person with an unfair platform for his objections. You also failed to point out that these objections were rejected by Councillor Mr Alec Samuels.
3. There has been no problem with parking during the university summer holidays.
4. Period of operating to include Easter period and Christmas? Needs to be free to residents then. Against any restrictive parking scheme which involves paying for. I pay Property Tax and Rates. Note that from No 5 upwards to Chetwynd Road there is already restrictive parking (i.e. double yellow lines). Therefore do not see why they should be allowed to comment/vote on restrictions affecting others in Chetwynd Drive. The university parking issue needs to be tackled. At the moment residents may have to foot the bill again.
5. Very good idea (Oct 1 to 31 <sup>st</sup> May operation) seeing as the problem only stems from student parking!
6. Sounds like a good idea (Oct 1 to 31 <sup>st</sup> May operation)
7. For some time I have been of the opinion that the University should take responsibility for parking of their staff and student cars, and that the council should forbid any expansion of university building until the university provides, if necessary, multi-storey parking, on the main site and also at student accommodation. Now that the university is down, many of the roads around the Bassett area are much clearer from parked cars and safer to travel along. One particular road is Mayfield Road which connects Thomas Lewis Way with access to Bassett Avenue. At busy times this road is virtually impassable except by pulling into few gaps to allow cars to move along. In Chetwynd Drive we have an additional hazard if cars are parked on both sides of the throat of the cul-de-sac. No large delivery vans can enter, and there have been occasions when dustbins are not collected. My own home has parking for one car in the road. I have four children and a grandson who like to visit us on special occasions, such as birthdays etc. That is the possibility of five cars to be parked. At present we have good relationships with neighbours, but students cars in addition do not make for patient acceptance! Why should we put up any forced inconvenience to parking in our road if the university is not made to do something about the problem that is of their doing. Undergraduate students should be banned from having cars. That at least would reduce the volume, accepting that postgraduate students are likely to have and may need cars. I ask the council to protect us from those providing the nuisance.
8. A reduced period permit parking scheme covering term-times only would be better than the option proposed. This would ensure no parking restrictions when many residents have friends and family staying over Christmas and Easter. However, this stated, we firmly <u>oppose</u> the introduction of <u>any</u> parking scheme requiring the introduction of further parking restrictions or permits. Much of the/ <u>any</u> problem is being caused by residents not students
9. To avoid confusion we feel the annual scheme for permit parking to be the better option. However either option would be far better than that currently experienced, due to inconsiderate parking by students & others which has caused considerable difficulties particularly in the recent past.
10. Our house is on the east side of Chetwynd Drive adjacent to Chamberlain Halls and we are probably one of the worst affected by the problems. It is not a simple issue of cars being parked during the day. Daytime parking when most residents are out at work is not a problem (as generally recognised on the Councils website pages on resident parking schemes). We would actually need restricted parking after 5pm weekdays and at all times weekends to be effective addressing the

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problem of long term student parking in Chetwynd Drive. The significant problem is one of long term parking outside residences by students and by long term I mean weeks on end without vehicles moving. The problem is such that we mistakenly reported a number of vehicles outside our house to the Council as "abandoned". A consequence of students parking is also that they have begun to attempt short cuts back to the University Halls to the extent that they have created a path through the undergrowth and broken through the boundary fence between Chamberlain Hall and Chetwynd Drive. In addition to the parking nuisance, we also suffer from late night/early morning comings and goings often in the early hours of Sunday night/Monday morning as students find a "home" for their cars for the coming week before the parking restrictions in Glen Eyre Road come into force on the Monday.

One of the attractions of Chetwynd Drive was how quiet and traffic free it seemed when we first viewed our house and indeed it so when the students go home at term end. The University Community Liaison Officer has been extremely helpful in trying to deal with the problem but I get the sense that he is frustrated that he cannot do more to solve the issue given the policies that he has to work under. Due to the exasperation with the parking issues and as many of my long standing neighbours confirmed that over the last 12 months the problem was the worst they had seen so far, I did support the survey on parking restrictions. However given the proposed charges and likelihood of additional charges for visitor permits I am not in favour of the scheme unless all the other solutions have been discounted first for good reason. I have an alternative suggestion which I will cover later. If a scheme were introduced why do permits have to be vehicle specific? Why can't permits be issued to households stating the address to which they are issued? This means that they can easily be transferred between vehicles in a household as necessary and cuts down administration costs for the Council, particularly when a household changes a vehicle. You mention that if additional No Waiting at Any Time restrictions were to be added that they would have to be added to one side of Chetwynd Drive rather than only for the short distance along the Chamberlain Hall side. I don't understand why this is so given that that already exists non-contiguous (i.e. stand alone) double yellow lines for about 15 metres either side of the large fir tree in the middle of the road at the top of the Drive. Introducing restrictions into Chetwynd Drive would I believe only force the problem to another street or streets. Students are ever resourceful and I could envisage that soon after Chetwynd Drive is restricted the Council receiving similar complaints from residents as far away as Saxholm Way or Bassett Heath Avenue.

A 15 minute walk for free long term parking wouldn't faze the first year student who is determined to bring a car to Southampton irrespective of the University's policies, preferences and advice etc. Indeed there are many posts on student internet forums, some as recent as last week, seeking advice and getting it, on the best places to park unrestricted in roads around the Glen Eyre Halls area given that the University policy is not to allow first year students to apply for a parking permit within the halls. The root cause of the problem is well known. Without repeating the full background factors, transport policies etc, etc, I liken the University's policy of not generally allowing first year students to apply for parking permits to one of an employer not allowing his fixed term contract staff to benefit from workplace parking even though there are spaces available. The University is responsible for its students in a similar way that an employer has responsibility for its staff.

I am a director of a Southampton city centre employer with workplace parking for staff. If we denied employees parking they would simply park their vehicles in surrounding residential streets and create a similar problem. This is perhaps an unintended consequence of such a policy but one which would impact other local residents in the same way that the University student parking problem does for those of us living in Chetwynd Drive.

Why don't we go back to basics and consider how else we could solve the problem at source rather than continuing to try and deal with the symptoms and incur further cost and inconvenience for residents and the Council. It is clear that the University policy on first year halls students and bringing cars to City is not entirely successful. If it were there wouldn't be this problem. The relatively few first year students who persist in bringing a car to Southampton want to find long term suitable parking as close as possible to their Halls of Residence. Such parking does exist and I believe the solution is right in front of use. The roads bordering the University Halls and other buildings (Hartley Grove, Chamberlain, Glen Eyre etc) do have on street parking spaces along the University premises boundaries but it is restricted Monday to Friday to 2 hours etc.

Why not simply remove these restrictions on the parking bays adjacent to the University premises on Glen Eyre Road (Hartley Grove & Chamberlain Halls sections) and the initial part of Chetwynd Road and then the students can park there instead?

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- It is very obvious that the primary users of these parking areas are University students. The parking areas are almost entirely empty during weekday restricted hours and completely full during unrestricted weekend periods when the students retrieve their vehicles from the surrounding residential areas.
- There should be little impact on other residents as these on street parking areas are almost exclusively outside University premises and not other residential properties
- There would be no change or issues with traffic etc, as if traffic management issues currently exist surely parking would be completely restricted with single and double yellow lines on all parts of the roads
- Students can park near to their own accommodation, not other peoples
- Little or no disturbance to residents other than students through coming and goings
- Reduced costs for the Council as less time limited parking to police
- No need for restricted parking in Chetwynd Drive, no increase in Council expense and no additional costs for residents!

In summary I believe that it would be well worth trialling such an approach and if it fails to markedly improve matters for Chetwynd Drive and other local residents similarly affected then I would reluctantly support introducing some form of restriction to Chetwynd Drive. I am copying this letter to fellow residents, the Vice Chancellor of the University, relevant local councillors and the local residents association.