



Update for Eight Acres

January 2017

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County Councillor
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Extra Car Parking Spaces At Last!

The parking situation in the part of Eight Acres nearest to Dundale Road was difficult for a long time. For years Dacorum Borough Council refused to take the problem seriously. Many thanks to the local residents who took the time and trouble over the years to organise petitions and take photographs and who have generally kept in touch with both me and the Borough Council about this issue.

Special thanks to Ron and Sue Lanning. This is a good example of where community involvement gets results - it's just a pity it all takes so long!

It was as long ago as June 2011 when Dacorum Borough Council announced a "Verge Hardening" Scheme to convert stretches of grass verge to extra car parking. Yes, that's 5 years ago!

Councillors were asked to suggest suitable places where there was a shortage of car parking spaces. I suggested 17 sites in Tring and was the only Tring councillor to do so.

I included sites such as Sutton Close, Elm Tree Walk, Gannel, Eight Acres, Park Road, Hastoe Hill, Grove Road and Wingrave Road. A list of nearly 120 sites was suggested by various councillors right across the borough. Some suggestions were eliminated and DBC drew up a shortlist of 20 high priority sites to be completed during the 2013/14 financial year. Not one of these were in Tring, though.

Then they drew up a new priority list of 50 sites for work to be carried out during the 2014/15 financial year - but Eight Acres was down at number 46 out of 50. Not that this mattered, since the scheme was delayed for a year.

Then in year 2015/16 we got Elm Tree Walk done in May 2015 and then Gannel in October 2015.

And at last, as we know, Eight Acres was done in year 2016/17 - in the Autumn.

So What's Next?

We still haven't got any extra parking at Sutton Close yet, and DBC feel it's too difficult and expensive to make any off-road parking in Wingrave Road. I will leave DBC to do Sutton Close but I intend to use County Council funds to make some changes in Wingrave Road. This will involve moving some signs and cutting back a hedge quite hard, so it will have to be in the next financial year.

E-mail me if you feel there's something local that needs doing (e-address above)

Things eventually do get done by local councils, but I'm afraid it can often take a long time.

Happy New Year from
Cllr Nick Hollinghurst