

Important Notice for all Residents: Babergh Car Parks

The Clerk to the Council and Council Officers, together with the Chairs of the Lavenham Community Council and Love Lavenham, met on January 4th 2024 with Officers from Babergh District Council to hear the District Council's plans to introduce its Parking Strategy.

Babergh District Council owns and operates the Cock Horse Inn Car Park and the Prentice St Car Park.

A document prepared for the meeting of the Babergh District Council Cabinet on January 9th 2024 can be found here:

<https://baberghmidsuffolk.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s33213/Babergh%20Car%20Parking%20Report%2020.12.23.pdf>

Babergh Officers explained, that the Cabinet will be considering options for management of its Off-Street Parking Services later this year. Those options are not yet known; therefore the Parish Council can provide no further details at this time.

The Babergh Officers heard from Lavenham representatives that our village currently experiences significant on and off-street parking stress. Some of this is intermittent and/or seasonal.

We firmly explained that any changes to the current car parks regime would have negative impacts on parking elsewhere in the village.

We emphasised that displacement must be handled by Babergh District Council.

Of immediate concern due to the nature of the Cock Horse Inn Car Park is that the Village Hall and all the services provided from that site will be adversely affected by changes as yet unknown.

We also drew attention to the significant usage of the Prentice St Car Park.

The Babergh Officers undertook to keep us informed of their plans as they develop.

Andrew Smith
Clerk to Lavenham Parish Council
January 4th 2024