

SAVE NEWLANDS CORNER

ACTION NEEDED NOW

On 13 September 2016 Surrey County Council applied to the Planning Inspectorate for Commons Consent to put three parking charge machines at Newlands Corner. If Surrey County Council gains permission for these, we understand it intends to:

1. Charge for parking at £1 an hour up to a maximum of £4. Only those who stay for less than 20 minutes, blue badge holders and bikers parked in designated spaces, won't have to pay.
2. Install and maintain seven large, artificial play structures in cleared areas of the woodland - turning Newlands Corner into a theme park to attract paying visitors.
3. 'Restructure' the parking area to increase revenue – almost certainly taking away even more natural landscape – with plans to hugely increase the number of vehicles from 255,000 to 365,000 a year.
4. Build a large new visitor centre, restaurant, 'retail space' and coach park - possibly in a 'forward' position (i.e. on the slope), affecting the view.

The whole character of Newlands Corner and its natural surroundings would be changed by this commercialisation – even though it is designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Also, families, elderly visitors and others who cannot afford the parking charges will no longer be able to go there.

Surrey County Council says it will cost a massive £319,000 a year to fund and maintain the car park, play structures, toilets and trails if these proposals go ahead – to be met out of your parking charges.

Positive changes include improving the toilets and hard trail – but these could be done without this commercialisation. The proposals will spoil the character of Newlands Corner. Please email or write to the Planning Inspectorate and object as set out overleaf.

Go to www.savenewlandscorner.com for lots more information

YOU ONLY HAVE UNTIL 21ST OCTOBER 2016 TO OBJECT

NEWLANDS CORNER DEPENDS ON YOU

HOW TO OBJECT

The Planning Inspectorate can only consider whether the parking charge machine structures are appropriate, not whether parking charges are appropriate. Below are some ideas of how you may wish to object. You can cut and paste – but preferably use your own words. Give your name and address and state your interest in Newlands Corner – e.g. your right to recreation in open country, or your right to access to the common.

Email: commonlandcasework@pins.gsi.gov.uk

Or write to: **Planning Inspectorate, Commons Team at 3F Temple Quay House, Temple Quay, Bristol. BS1 6PN**

Title: **Common Land at Albury Downs, Newlands Corner (CL344)**

Object to the proposal to put parking charge machines at Newlands Corner because:

1. They do not conserve and enhance the fragile, natural beauty of the landscape in line with Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) requirements.
2. They add to the cluttering of the common (adding to the existing café, visitor centre, toilets, signs, dog poo bins, litter bins, benches and picnic tables).
3. They prevent right of access to the land on which they are placed.
4. There has been no consultation, in line with the AONB requirement for 'partnership with local people', to determine if there is an alternative approach.
5. The plan to increase vehicle numbers from 255,000 to 365,000 over 4 years, by introducing play structures (funded by income from the machines), is not in line with the AONB requirement for low-key, long-term action.
6. Charges, made possible by the meters, effectively deny access to the common to those on lower incomes, including families, the elderly and disabled people.
7. They cause displacement of people who cannot afford to pay the charges, with cars parking in local roads and villages to the detriment of the AONB.
8. The parking machines are directly linked to the introduction of artificial play structures, designed to increase income, and in due course a large new visitor centre. These will:
 - Go against the AONB principle of the need to meet quiet enjoyment of the countryside.
 - Go against the AONB principle to conserve and enhance beauty.
 - Go against the Green Belt principle that any infill should only take place in very special circumstances.