

## **22/1143 Electric Vehicle charging points**

To review opinions submitted via the council website.

At this point in time I would be against public funds being used for something which can only benefit a very small minority of people at this time.

Having a single charge point means only one person can use it at any one time. Even if it is a fast charge point it relies on the owner of the vehicle only parking there as long as is needed before vacating the space for someone else to use. eV points at places such as service stations or supermarkets will have a quick turn-around because there are other factors meaning people need to move their cars on quickly – parking time restrictions with a fining system for example. If a car is parked at a charging point in the village where its owner lives however, there are no external factors encouraging them to move on meaning it is highly likely users will stay longer than required preventing fair usage by any others. It becomes a personal parking space that other people in the village are funding.

I do not think the pub car park is the correct site either. If the owner of the electric vehicle is using the pub then they are likely to be there for several hours, again blocking up the space and meaning no one else can use it. Also, the pub carpark is often full meaning drivers of non-electric vehicles are highly likely to use that space when no others are available, again making it an expensive parking space.

I do understand the need for more charging points across the country, but there seem to be plenty available in Banbury at the moment which village car owners could use. The ones in the Gateway shopping centre are very close and easily accessible. There are also many points outside Tesco and Pizza Hut too, and these all appear very underused. My husband and I have talked about when we might need to change our cars to electric but when we do, we would not want to be relying on a single public point. I cannot imagine there are that many homes that could not use a home charging point. We do not have parking right outside our house but could make it work with a little effort and if not, would access the ones in Banbury. You say that some people will not be able to afford a home charging point but surely this needs to be factored into the costs of buying an electric car in the first place. Also, prices are likely to keep coming down as demand rises for this technology.

With the cost of living crisis and bad feeling about previous Parish Council budgets, I don't think this is the time to be spending money on something which most of us in the village either do not need yet or would be unlikely to be able to access even if we had use for it.