Respondent	Comment	Objection/Support	Officer Comment
Parish Council	Melksham Without Parish Council have queried why the charges are different to the other Wiltshire Council car parks in Melksham; as they do not charge 6pm to 8am. Would you be able to confirm this please. And can you also confirm how the pricing works if you park for 24 hours? It could be quite complicated, so guess you would do £7. Would the machine calculate it for you if you give a time of departure or if pay on exit? Or does this need explanation at the machine?	Query	The charges at the station have been set to encourage usage of the alternative travel method, the train. You will note they are cheaper than the town Car Parks. Charges apply at all times as location of this car park is quite different from our others and will attract a different customer set. If you wish to park for 24 hours you purchase an all-day ticket. Signage will be present to advise of this. There will not be a machine installed at this location and payment will be made vis MiPermit. The reason for this is due to the remote location, this would leave the machine vulnerable to theft and vandalism and we have also considered that MiPermit payments are now greater in volume than cash across our parking stock.
Melksham Transport User Group	I am concerned that the proposed tariff appears to offer little consideration for people parking at Melksham Station for overnight business and leisure trips, including weekends away. There is a gap in tariffs offered from the "all day" rate (expires midnight?) at £3.60 through to the one month season at £41.50. Please provide a way to enable the use of the train for such trips; I note that your proposal does not offer the £12.50 option of the previous operator.	Query	For those drivers wishing to park overnight, they can purchase multiple blocks of 24 hours (all day) via the MiPermit App. We are not installing a machine at this location. Not only does the location leave the machine vulnerable to theft and vandalism, MiPermit offers greater flexibility when paying for Parking. For example, if your train is delayed you can extend

	Although you state that you encourage the use of the train as an alternative means of transport, your tariff regime does so only for day trips; for longer trips the lack of longer-term parking provision encourages these travellers to drive out of Melksham (perhaps all the way to their destination) rather than take the train.		your parking from your phone. Season Ticket prices are set a rate to encourage motorists to leave the car in Melksham and not drive to other Towns for example Chippenham.
Member of the public	With Wiltshire Council's proposed parking charges at Melksham Station, it's going to be easily predictable that parking will decrease to single numbers. This, in turn, will affect the Melksham train service. I point to Melksham Station's recent history concerning parking and a bus/rail connection. When Melksham's train service increased in 2013, one of the selling points was that people had been driving to Chippenham and paying for parking there because the service was more frequent. With a decent service, residents could park at Melksham Station for free and avoid the longer car rides and parking charges at Chippenham Station. The service became the fastest growing in the nation. An experimental bus service to Melksham Station established a good bus/rail link, and for a while it was gaining		For those drivers wishing to park overnight, they can purchase multiple blocks of 24 hours (all day) via the MiPermit App. We are not installing a machine at this location. Not only does the location leave the machine vulnerable to theft and vandalism, MiPermit offers greater flexibility when paying for Parking. For example, if your train is delayed you can extend your parking from your phone. In the longer term the bus provision at that location will be reviewed.

	popularity. But the service was sidetracked elsewhere to another project and was never re-established. This caused a problem for some people who'd come to rely on the bus/rail link and the quickly growing convenience was lost. (You may argue that nearby bus stops should suffice, but they don't. I invite those who argue this to actually physically walk the distance, uphill and dangerous crossing at a busy road with blind spots; bus shelters that are too confined and too close to the road to safely manoeuvre. Anyone with luggage or pushing a pram or holding a child's hand struggle; a wheelchair user will find the passage impossible.) Later on, a larger car park was built at the station and parking charges went into effect. Covid affected train travel, certainly, but now that we are beyond, you would have expected the Melksham train service to have bounced back more than it has. Train strikes and staff shortages do not help, especially when a lesser service also becomes less reliable. But people have flocked back to driving to alternative stations, such as Chippenham, instead of parking at Melksham Station and using the Melksham service. I don't expect my words of		

	prediction to gain much attention from Wiltshire Council. Just don't be surprised that the amount of money that will be spent setting up parking charges at Melksham Station will be money wasted. You will do better by re-establishing a bus/rail link and taking in bus ticket sales. Certainly do not increase the parking rates that are currently being charged. And for goodness sake, offer opportunities to pay for a parking space to those who require more than just daily but less than a monthly rate. In other words, actually THINK like a rail user.		