

Bibury Informal Public Consultation - FAQs
(Updated 14th November 2025)

Question	Response
Can GCC restrict large coaches?	<p>There are currently no traffic restrictions that allows the council to prohibit coaches. The only enforceable restriction would be a “local buses only” rule. However, this would also prevent school buses and mini-coaches from accessing the village and surrounding roads, which is not practical.</p> <p>Implementing a coach restriction that requires enforcement would necessitate starting the restriction at the nearest diversion points (see map below) as there must be a sensible escape route. This approach would affect a wide area.</p> <p>To enforce a ban on all vehicles except local bus services, Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) systems would need to be installed at four locations (indicated on the map) and due to power supply challenges and prohibitive costs, this isn’t deemed a sensible option.</p>
Can GCC put a structural weight limit on the bridge?	<p>GCC do not have powers to enforce a structural weight limit, this offence is managed by the police.</p> <p><i>Please note: Our Highways Structural Team is currently conducting assessments, and their findings will be shared in due course.</i></p>
Why does GCC need to install Pay and Display Parking?	<p>Since May 2025, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) has significantly increased parking enforcement in the village to help manage traffic, reduce congestion, and improve safety for residents and visitors.</p> <p>This enhanced enforcement is currently subsidised by around 40%, meaning that other areas of the county are paying for this additional enforcement.</p> <p>To keep these higher levels of enforcement in place, additional income is needed - and introducing Pay & Display (P&D) parking provides that solution. Without P&D, we would not be able to maintain the current level of enforcement.</p> <p>Our goal is for visitors to contribute towards the cost of this improved service, which is why we’ve</p>

	introduced concessions for residents to ensure fairness and support for the local community.
Why is permanent enforcement needed?	<p>Permanent parking enforcement is essential to keep Bibury safe, accessible, and enjoyable for everyone.</p> <p>The village attracts a high number of visitors, which can lead to congestion, illegal parking, and safety risks for pedestrians and residents. Consistent enforcement helps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce congestion and keep traffic flowing smoothly. • Protect pedestrian safety, especially in busy tourist areas. • Ensure emergency access for services when needed. • Preserve the character of the village by preventing inappropriate parking on verges and historic areas. <p>Without ongoing enforcement, these issues quickly return, impacting both residents and visitors. The council is unable to use cameras to enforce parking restrictions as this is not permitted in the legislation.</p> <p>Bus stop clearways can be enforced with cameras, however, due a lack of available power supply this is not possible and therefore it is proposed permanent enforcement personnel should remain.</p>
Will residents be exempt from Pay and Display Parking?	<p>We are consulting on views to whether a “Parish Permit” could work within the village designed to support local residents.</p> <p>For a small annual fee, residents living within a defined area would be able to use Pay & Display parking for up to two hours per day at no extra cost.</p> <p>This approach ensures that those who live in the village can continue to park conveniently, while still helping to fund the enhanced parking enforcement that benefits the whole community. The scheme is intended to strike a fair balance between maintaining accessibility for residents and ensuring visitors contribute to the costs of managing parking and traffic in Bibury.</p>

<p>Why do residents have to pay for permits and for parking?</p>	<p>Parking legislation requires that all schemes operate on a full cost recovery basis. This ensures fairness and consistency across the county, so that areas without parking schemes are not subsidising those that do.</p>
<p>Are GCC proposing an off street car park?</p>	<p>GCC is not proposing an off-street car park as part of these current plans. However, we are keen to understand community views on whether such a facility would be welcomed if an opportunity arises in the future.</p>
<p>What is the “Bibury One” Stakeholder Group and who is involved?</p>	<p>The Bibury One Stakeholder Group is a newly formed group (one meeting held) designed with the primary aim of bringing together representatives from the three existing individual stakeholder groups that have been engaging with us since April 25 on potential solutions for Bibury:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Business Group • The Coach and Tour Operator Liaison Group • Bibury Parish Council <p>Each of these groups has nominated representatives to ensure a breadth of local perspectives. In addition, the forum includes participants from Gloucestershire County Council (GCC), Gloucestershire Police, CotswoldPlus Local Visitor Economy Partnership, and Cotswold District Council.</p> <p>The first meeting took place on 16th October 2025 and the group is expected to evolve as it moves forward. The group’s purpose is to provide a space for constructive dialogue, coordination, and shared understanding between the various interests in Bibury.</p> <p>It’s important to note that Bibury One is not a decision-making body. It has no powers to bypass council governance requirements or highway legislation regarding public consultation. Rather, it serves as an extension of the existing liaison groups, bringing them together in a more cohesive and collaborative way.</p> <p>The name “Bibury One” has, in some cases, caused confusion; however, it simply reflects the intention to unite the existing stakeholder groups</p>

	<p>into a single, coordinated forum for ongoing discussion.</p> <p>What are the benefits? The aim of this group is to give residents, businesses, and interested parties a stronger, unified voice. It ensures that decisions about traffic, parking, and visitor management are informed by local knowledge and priorities. By fostering collaboration, the group can help in developing practical, community-led solutions that balance the needs of residents and visitors while preserving the village's character and quality of life.</p> <p>The minutes from the first meeting and draft Terms of Reference are available here: https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/parking/permit-information/bibury-traffic-management-plan/. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th November - if residents have comments they would like to be raised at this group, please email BiburyTRO@gloucestershire.gov.uk.</p>
How long will the process take?	<p>Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal consultation until 3rd December • Formal consultation early 2026 • Formal decision spring 2026 • Implementation by late May bank holiday (subject to successful public consultation).
Are GCC anti-tourism in Bibury?	<p>No. Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) acts impartially, ensuring that all community views are heard and considered. Our role is to support every stakeholder fairly and transparently. We recognise that tourism is a vital contributor to the local economy, and GCC fully acknowledges its importance while balancing the needs of residents, businesses, and visitors. We are committed to working collaboratively with the community to develop solutions that reflect local priorities and deliver long-term benefits for Bibury.</p>
Who is funding this?	<p>This initiative is designed as an "invest-to-save" scheme, which must achieve cost neutrality within three years. To ensure long-term improvements and effective enforcement, Pay & Display (P&D) is a necessary component for the project to progress.</p>
Why do the plans jump from page 1 – 3	<p>Page 2 of the plans referred to reduced 20mph speed limit restrictions. This is no longer part of the current parking consultation because the</p>

	Parish Council have applied directly for this Countywide initiative. Further information is available at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/road-initiatives
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