



# Walsall Area Partnerships

## Report to North Walsall Area Panel

### Participatory Budgeting within Area Partnerships

20 November 2013

#### 1. Context

- 1.1 Through Cabinet on 22 April, 2013 and Council on 22 May 2013 seven proposals for devolution discussed in a report on "Devolution Through Area Partnerships" were approved. The agreed proposals, seek to further develop the Area Partnership model. This report further considers one of those proposals, Participatory Budgeting (PB), as it moves towards the phases of design and implementation, with respect to an opportunity to apply PB to the issue of verge parking.
- 1.2 At its meeting on 18 September 2013, the Area Panel requested a revised list of verge parking schemes, to only include those schemes that were viable to deliver within the allocated budget of £41,600, and feasible to deliver by 31, March 2013.

#### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Area Panel meeting is recommended to note the progress to date in relation to the Verge Parking Participatory Budgeting in North Walsall through the Area Partnership structure.
- 2.2 The Area Panel views on the identified verge parking schemes as set out in table 1.
- 2.3 The Area Panel propose to consult with the community on the shortlisted schemes in table 1.

#### 3. Participatory Budgeting - Verge Parking; North Walsall

- 3.1 For financial year 2013 - 14, there is a borough-wide allocation of £250,000 for verge parking schemes, providing additional parking spaces. If devolved to each Area Partnership on an equal basis this provides an indicative budget of £41,600 per Area Partnership, this will be dependent on what proposals are put forward and will include design, supervision and associated planning costs. If any further funding is identified by the Area Partnership Panel, it is possible to add this to the allocated verge parking funding for your area to include this within the overall scheme costs.



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- 3.2 It is proposed that the PB exercises in each Area Partnership, will inform residents of what budget / resources they are able to have an influence on, presenting a variety of verge parking schemes that have previously been suggested through a range of routes (including requests from members of the public), a comprehensive list of all known potentially viable verge parking schemes (which are provided by the Council's Road Traffic Network Service Team, including the exact location of proposed schemes detailed in section 5).
- 3.3 Over a minimum two week period, utilising a range of media (e-mail, attendance at events, social media, internet etc), residents will be asked to "vote" / indicate their preferred schemes. The Area Partnership team, in partnership with the Engineering and Transportation Service, will produce a range of documents to support the process and will undertake the engagement and consultation in each area. This will provide the community with the opportunity to view and understand potential verge parking schemes prior to "voting". As part of this work there will be a "vote and count" event, which will provide a final opportunity for residents that haven't "voted" to do so and for all "votes" built up over the period and at this session to be counted.
  - 3.3.1 During the consultation and engagement process, where any new / additional schemes are proposed, residents will be informed that we will record these suggestions to inform future verge parking scheme considerations.
- 3.4 The results of the "vote" will go to the next appropriate Area Panel for ratification, as appropriate. This may also involve, where agreed with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Area Panel, a special meeting of the Panel being convened.
- 3.5 The prioritised verge parking schemes will then be subject to the necessary in-depth checks to consider issues such as ground conditions, proximity to services, (eg, gas, water, utilities), any relevant / required permissions, etc, and that the scheme is fully viable.
- 3.6 Following the prioritisation and viability checks, the finalised schemes will be confirmed and work should commence early 2014. This is subject to planning permission and land owner permission.
- 3.7 Through the learning from undertaking this pilot, it will inform how we undertake PB to influence and inform expenditure during 2014 / 15, to provide a improved process for PB to inform local priorities, within the Clean and Green service area, focusing on street cleansing and grounds maintenance, and Highways Maintenance, focussing on road safety and maintenance.
- 3.8 It should be noted that these pilots will run alongside a set of core services that the Council undertakes to ensure the Authority meets its obligations to local communities.



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## 4. Participatory Budgeting - Verge Parking in North Walsall Area Partnership

- 4.1 At its meeting on 18, September 2013 the Area Panel considered the list of verge parking schemes provided and requested a revised list of verge parking schemes for North Walsall, removing those schemes that would not be viable or deliverable in the current financial year.
- 4.2 The Area Panel is requested to consider the process detailed in section 4 of above and identify local variations where necessary.
- 4.3 Detailed in the table below is a list of identified verge parking schemes in the North Walsall Area Partnership that it would be possible to deliver prior to 31 March 2014. Note, It is only possible to fund one of the identified schemes in the current financial year.

Location	Area	Scheme outline	Spaces provided	Estimated cost
Abbey Square	Mossley	200m Access Road	Approximately 6	£41,600
Irvine Road	Bloxwich	180m Echelon Parking	Approximately 6	£41,600
Jenner Close	Beechdale	30m Echelon Parking	Approximately 6	£41,600
Kelvin Road	Beechdale	350m Lay By and 12 Space Car Park	Approximately 6	£41,600
Lancaster Place	Bloxwich	Major Parking Scheme	Approximately 6	£41,600
Lister Road	Bloxwich	Echelon Parking	Approximately 6	£41,600

- 4.3 The Area Panel can view the location of the identified schemes in table 1, these are attached at Appendix 1.

### Author:

John Leach,  
Head of Communities and Partnerships  
(01922) 653702 [leachj@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:leachj@walsall.gov.uk)

### Contact Officer;

Laura Terry, Partnership Officer  
Communities and Partnerships  
(01922) 653705 [terryl@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:terryl@walsall.gov.uk)





**Walsall Council**

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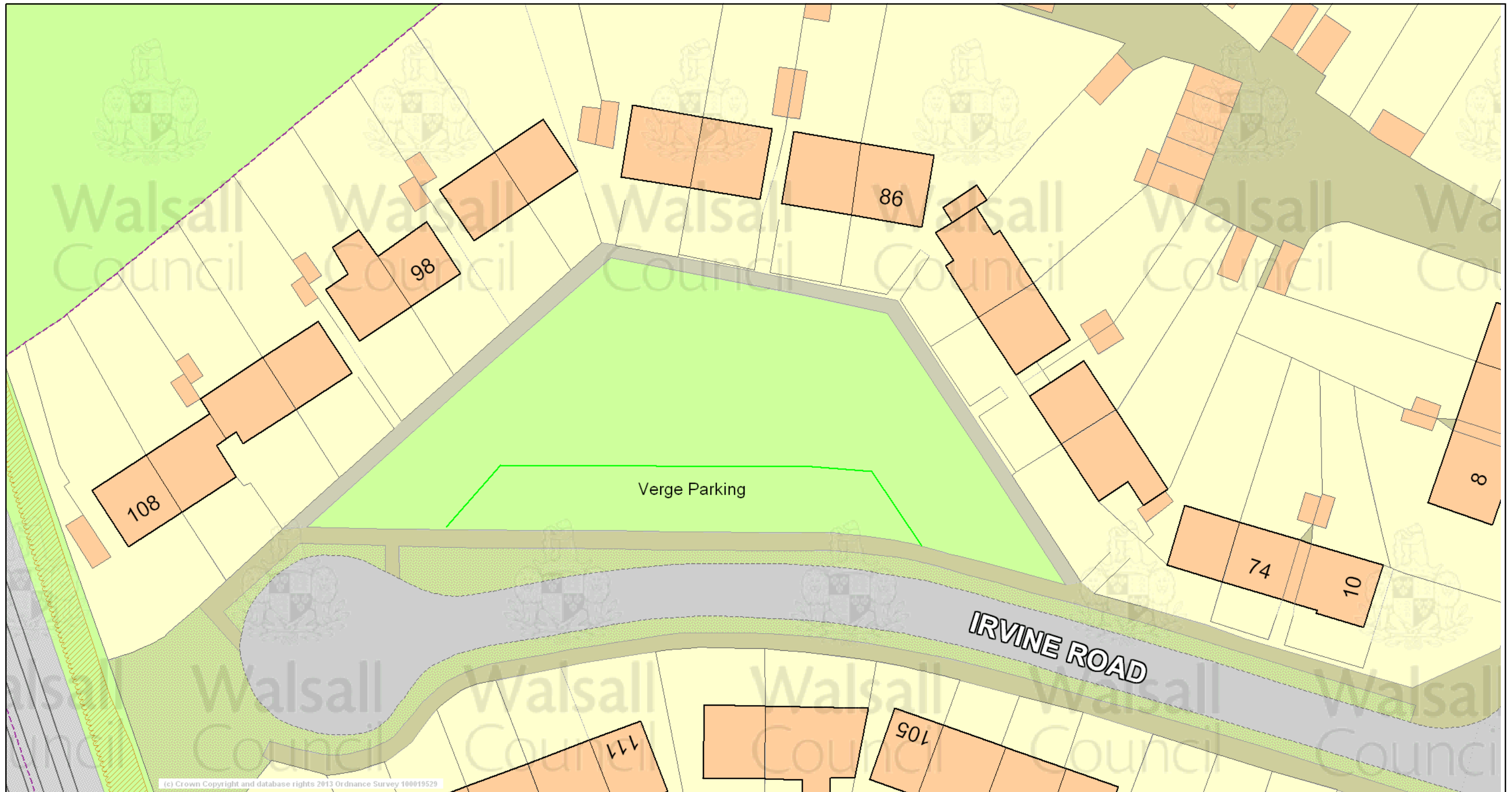




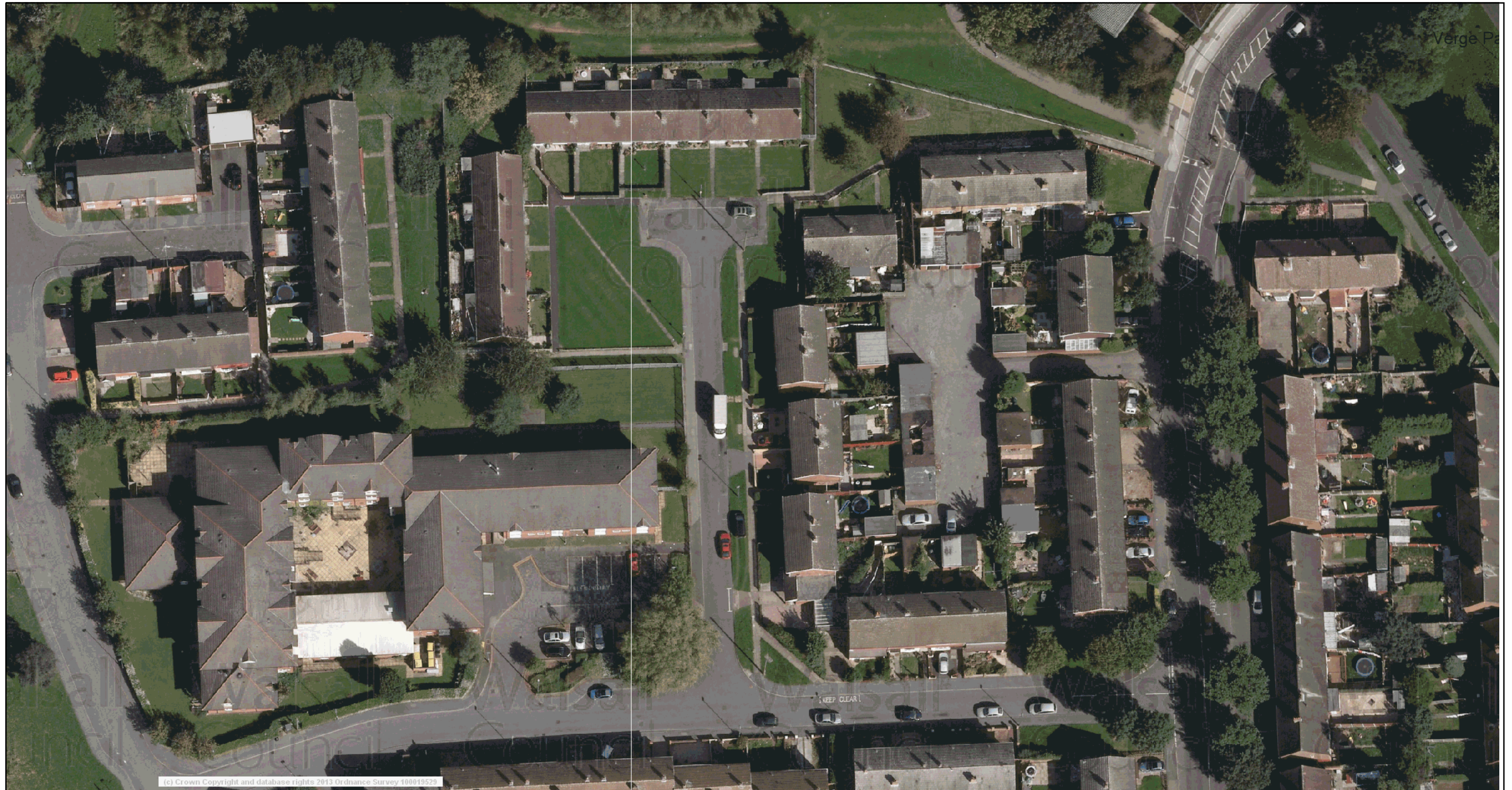












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# Jenner Close Verge Parking 2



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## Kelvin Road Verge Parking



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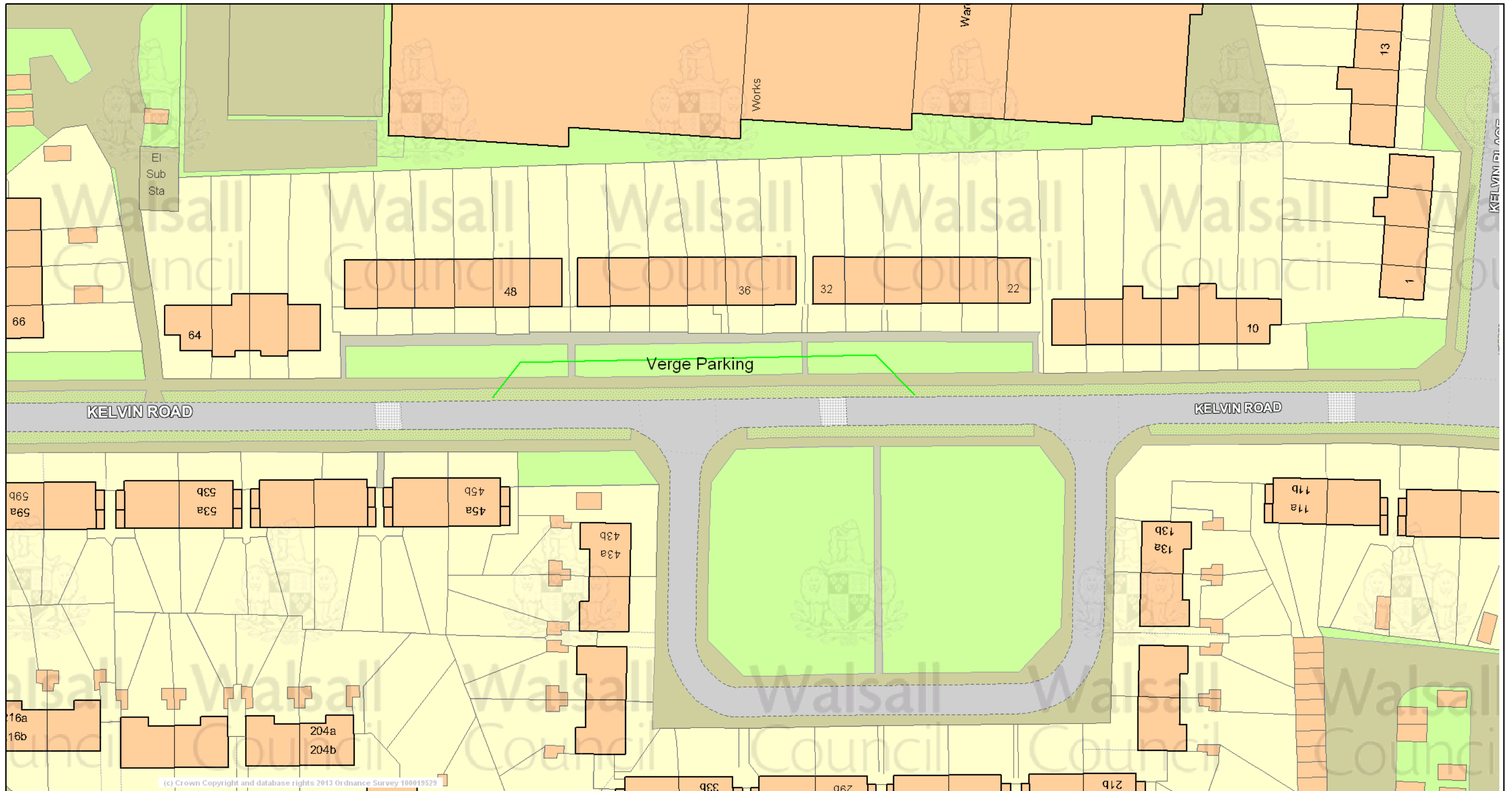
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# Kelvin Road Verge Parking 2







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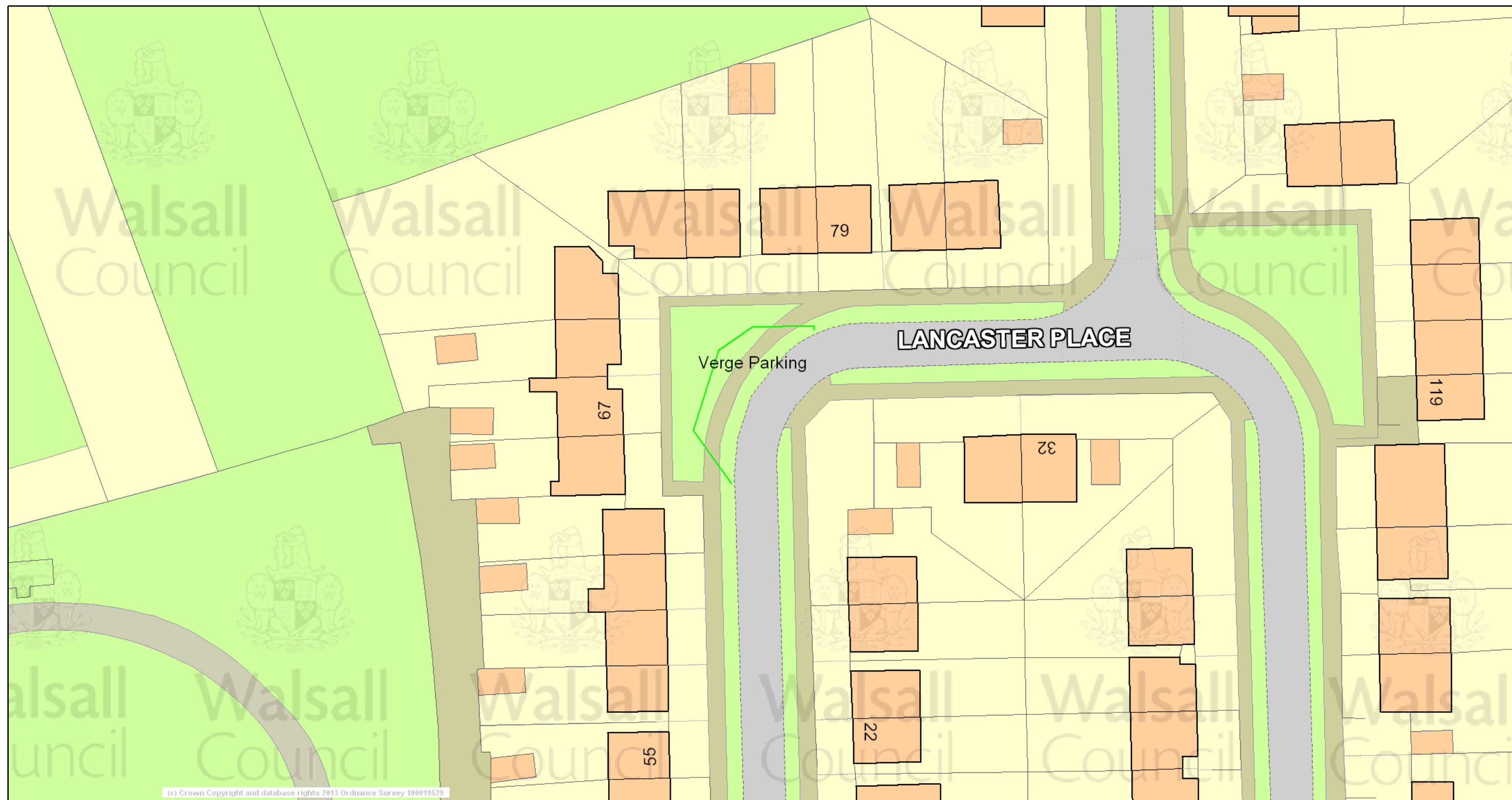
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## Lister Road Verge Parking



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