



Dear Westminster Councillors,

Contrary to the inference given by your colleague, Councillor Danny Chalkley, the British Motorcyclists Federation (BMF) and the Motorcycle Action Group (MAG) have never supported the introduction of motorcycle parking charges in the City of Westminster. In fact, we have been opposed to this measure ever since the idea was first mooted to us in late 2006 during an informal consultation. We were particularly aggrieved by the fact that we were not given an opportunity to present our case to the councillors before you made a policy decision on the issue based on false information. We have now witnessed Councillor Chalkley, on numerous occasions, stating that both MAG and BMF had been consulted on this point and thus inferring that we were in tacit agreement. I think you will find that we are clearly not, as evidenced by our strong support for the No To Bike Parking Fees Campaign, our historic campaigns against motorcycle parking charges and this letter.

As a point of interest, had you been correctly informed of the hostility of our responses to the suggestion of charging for motorcycle parking, and in particular the fact that there would be no free parking for motorcycles anywhere within the City of Westminster, you may have been suitably informed of the public opposition to the scheme. This in turn may have instructed you to adopt a different course of action. This, after all, is the point of consultation.

We hope that this letter will totally clarify both MAG and the BMF's position on paying for motorcycle parking, i.e. we are totally opposed to paying for motorcycle parking anywhere. Further to this, we are very much in favour of increasing free, secure motorcycle parking to meet demand in line with what has been achieved by other local authorities in similar positions to Westminster City Council.

Yours sincerely,

Cathy Phillpotts  
BMF Greater London Regional Chairman and Director of Political and  
Technical Services

Gerard Livett  
President of the Federation of European Motorcyclists' Associations  
Former MAG Greater London Regional Representative and Director of  
transport planning.