

REPORT FROM: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES MANAGER

TO: COLNE AND DISTRICT COMMITTEE

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REVIEW OF COUNCIL-OWNED CAR PARKS WITHIN COLNE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise members of a report which went to the Executive on 25 May 2017 with regard to a review of Council-owned car parks in the Borough and for members to consider matters regarding various Colne car parks.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That members note a recent report to the Executive regarding a review of Council-owned car parks in the borough and that consideration be given to the following recommendations:
 - (a) The introduction of business permits on Dockray Street Car Park, Colne.
 - (b) The potential use of several bays on Cross Skelton Street Car Park for taxi bays be noted (this remains subject to planning approval).
 - (c) That members note that all other Colne car parks should be retained in their current form as set out in the report to the Executive.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) To provide a framework on which to decrease costs and increase income on public car parks in Colne.
- (2) To ensure the continued access to public car parks for town centre shoppers, long-stay users and residents.

BACKGROUND

1. The Neighbourhood Services Manager submitted a report to the Executive on 25 May 2017 on the current usage, cost, condition and management for all 47 Council-owned car parks in

the borough. The report also recommended future arrangements for management including retention, retention with a proposal for an alternative use or disposal.

In respect of Colne car parks, it was resolved:

- (1) That the current provision and costs for car parks in Pendle be noted.
- (2) That the recommendations... regarding the future provision of each car park be noted.
- (3) That, subject to the above, Liberata Property Services be instructed to investigate the car parks which have been recommended for disposal, transfer or lease.
- (4) That the introduction of business/resident permits on the relevant car parks together with the suggested charge for this, be agreed and a further report be presented to Nelson, Colne and West Craven Area Committees on this issue.

ISSUE

2. The issues specifically relating to Colne car parks are set out below.
3. Since the relocation of Colne Health Centre, the Dockray Street Car Park, which is limited to two and a half hours and is disc-controlled, is under-utilised. Officers have received several requests for business permits to be able to park long-stay on this car park. The Council could benefit financially from the introduction of business permits. It is suggested that initially we offer 10 permits, with a review in 12 months' time.
4. It is suggested that potential users should be advised that £100 (including VAT) is the proposed charge for an annual permit.
5. Following a report to this Committee on 10 November 2016, it was resolved that:
 - (a) It be agreed that the four disabled parking bays on Cross Skelton Street Car Park be reduced to two bays.
 - (b) Approval be granted for three car parking spaces to be rented to BCN Private Hire on Cross Skelton Street Car Park.
 - (c) The annual rent of £250 plus VAT per annum per bay be approved.

Members should note that this resolution is still outstanding as the taxi company has yet to submit their planning application to increase the number of vehicles they have at their base.

6. That members note that all other Colne car parks should be retained in their current form as set out in the report to the Executive.

CONCLUSION

7. Despite the cost of car parking reducing over the years, we are still in a position where we need to make savings where possible, not only to reduce costs but also to be in a better position for the future viability of the retained Colne car parks.
8. It is therefore recommended that:
 - the introduction of business permit parking be considered for Dockray Street Car Park, Colne;

- members note the current statues regarding the bays on Cross Skelton Street Car Park, Colne; and
- members note that all other Colne car parks should be retained in their current form as set out in the report to the Executive.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: The Council does not currently have a policy on renting out long-term car parking spaces.

Financial: As detailed within the report.

Legal: The introduction of business permits would not affect the Council's Off-Street Parking Order.

Risk Management: The Council does not accept liability for any damage to vehicles whilst parked on any of the public car parks. Drivers park at their own risk.

Health and Safety: None arising directly from this report.

Sustainability: By charging rent to users of specific bays on public car parks, the Council can ensure an income which will assist with the continued maintenance of the car parks.

Community Safety: None arising directly from this report.

Equality and Diversity: None arising directly from this report.

APPENDICES

None.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Report to Executive on 25 May 2017: Review of Council-Owned Car parks within the Borough.