

CABINET (TRAFFIC AND PARKING) COMMITTEE

5 NOVEMBER 2009

WICKHAM RESIDENTS' PARKING SCHEME

REPORT OF HEAD OF ACCESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

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RECENT REFERENCES:

None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report considers the Wickham residents' permit scheme which is currently under review following consultation with Wickham Councillors and a survey undertaken in spring 2008. Further meetings then took place with local Members resulting in a letter to local Members and permits holders later in the year.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1 That the principle of charging for residents' and visitors' permits in Wickham Square at the rate set out in the detail of this report.
- 2 That the Head of Access and Infrastructure (in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Access and Ward Members) be authorised to determine the detailed criteria for eligibility for residents' permits.

- 3 That the Head of Legal Services be authorised to make the appropriate order under the Road Traffic Act 1984 (as amended) to implement the changes set out in the report.

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#### DETAIL:

#### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the background and some history of the residents' parking scheme in Wickham.
- 1.2 The scheme has been in place in its current form since before 1994, during which time residents and visitors have been able to obtain free permits for parking in the Wickham Square car park on application to Winchester City Council. Parking is limited to two hours, with no return within three hours. The permit allows holders to remain longer than the two hour limit.
- 1.3 The aim of permit schemes administered by WCC is not to generate a surplus of income but to recover the administration costs of issuing permits and to supplement the cost of enforcement officer patrols.

#### 2 Current Proposals

- 2.1 A survey titled "Wickham Square Questionnaire Information and Analysis" was sent to all current permit holders in spring 2008. The scheme in its current form needs to be reviewed in order that a fair and agreed system is put in place, which balances the needs of residents with that of businesses and shops, whilst recognising that there is limited parking capacity in Wickham. The results were discussed with local Members (Councillor A Clear and Councillor T Evans, together with Parish Councillors) on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2008. The survey indicated that the vast majority of residents would continue to apply for one or more permits if charging was introduced.
- 2.2 A letter was sent to all local Councillors and a separate letter to current permit holders with more detailed proposals, including costs. Following the consultation with local Councillors, a review of the properties to be included within the scheme has taken place. The map attached as Appendix 1 shows the scope of the scheme and will be discussed further with local Councillors on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2009 with a view to agreeing on the properties to be included within the residents' scheme. These discussions will be considered by Committee who will make the final decision.
- 2.3 The agreed proposed cost of permits will be £10 for the first and second permits, £30 for a third permit, (a maximum of 3 permits per property will apply). In addition the City Council will take over the administration of visitors' permits currently issued by Warwick's. Visitors' permits will be available priced at £5 for a book of 10.

- 2.4 All of these prices provide excellent value for money when considered against the cost of daily parking.
- 2.5 If the Committee agrees the recommendations, it is envisaged that the scheme will commence from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

3 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN (RELEVANCE TO):

- 3.1 The scheme will contribute to the corporate objectives of a high quality environment and safe and secure communities.

4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 4.1 Some additional administrative work by the Council's Parking Team will be required to administer the visitors' scratchcards and residents' permits.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 5.1 Reduction of risks in respect that WCC parking dept will be able to maintain records of allocation of visitors permits and income for auditing purposes.
- 5.2 Ascertain that the correct criteria is being followed in the allocation of visitors permits and maintain detailed records for reporting on user numbers.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 – Map of Proposed Scheme

