

CABINET

16 JANUARY 2008

REVIEW OF CAR PARK CHARGES 2008/09

REPORT OF HEAD OF ACCESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

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RECENT REFERENCES:

CAB1462 - Off-Street Car Park Charges 2007/08 Further Amendments – 30 May 2007

CAB1410 - Review of Car Park Charges – 14 February 2007

CAB1183 - Discounted Parking for Low Emission Vehicles – 19 January 2006.

CAB1169 - Review of Car Park Charges – 14 December 2005.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report presents proposals to increase car parking and on street parking charges for 2008/09. The proposals are broadly in line with inflation. It also considers coach parking facilities to serve the South East of the Town.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the parking charge increases as set out in this report be agreed for implementation as from 1 April 2008.
2. That notice of intention to make an order varying the Winchester City Council (Barfield and St. Catherine's View) (Off Street Parking Places) Order 2003 to permit coaches to use St. Catherine's View car park and introduce a charge therefore be advertised and the Head of Legal Services be authorised to make the order if no objections are received.
3. That public notice of the variation in charges set out in the report (other than for St. Catherine's View) be given under Section 35C of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended).

CABINET16 January 2008REVIEW OF CAR PARKING CHARGES 2008/09Report of Head of Access and InfrastructureDETAIL:1. Introduction

1.1 This report proposes revised charges for off and on street car parking across the District in accordance with the policy to revise these from April 1st each year. The report does not cover proposals for any amendments to the residents' parking scheme as these were amended last year.

1.2 Car parking charges in the District were last reviewed in February 2007 (CAB1410 refers) and increases were implemented from the beginning of April 2007. Minor amendments were agreed by Cabinet in May 2007 and these have been incorporated into the schedule attached as Appendix 1 and accounted for in the revenue projections. Income from off street parking charges so far in 2007/08 is slightly above the projected budget reflecting slightly greater usage levels than in 2006/07.

2. Proposed Car Parking Charge Increases for 2008/09

2.1 The full list of proposed revised car park charges for 2008/09 is set out in the appendix to this report. The proposed increases, when considered across the board, are broadly in line with inflation and have been rounded to make the charges simpler to understand for customers and to address some anomalies which have developed in recent years.

2.2 In summary the proposed changes are as follows:

- 1 hour charge increased from 90p (from 70p in Chesil car parks) to £1;
- 2 hour charge increased from £1.70 to £2 and from £1.40 to £1.50 for car parks out of the immediate central area;
- 3 hour charge increased from £2.40 to £2.50;
- 4 hour charge increased to from £3.40 to £3.50 and from £2.60 to £2.70 for car parks out of the immediate central area;
- Over 4 hour charge increased only in Tower Street and Gladstone Car parks from £6.50 to £7.

2.3 It is not proposed to increase the park and ride charges. Following charge increases in April 2007, ticket sales reduced but over the last 3 months they have started to increase back towards levels of sales during 2006/07. It is suggested that no increases to the park and ride charge are made in April 2008, in order to continue to encourage its use. The discounts for pre-purchased cards (shown as card vend on

the schedule in Appendix 1 to this report) as opposed to cash payment (shown as cash vend on the schedule) have been maintained.

- 2.4 The proposals include increases in on-street charges to keep these in line with off-street charges. This will help to discourage drivers from hunting for cheaper on-street space, something which is detrimental to the environment and to traffic circulation. Rural car park charges have not been increased, with the exception of the 1 hour charge at Wickham Square, which is proposed to increase from 20p to 30p to bring it in line with other rural car parks in Alresford and Bishops Waltham.
- 2.5 It is not proposed to make major changes to season ticket prices this year. It is, however, proposed to increase the cost of season tickets in Barfield Close from an annual cost of £340 to £400. The price of these season tickets is unrealistically low when compared to the cost of season tickets in the Chesil Street car parks and the annual cost of using the park and ride service.
- 2.6 Coach parking in the Town has been raised as an issue as part of the development of the Winchester Town Access Plan particularly in relation to the lack of a facility to the south east of the Town. The only current coach parking facility is off Worthy Lane which means that coaches dropping off in The Broadway then have to travel around the one-way system, through the Town, to park. It is, therefore, hoped to provide some coach parking spaces within the St Catherine's park and ride site. This is currently being considered and will be reported to Cabinet as part of the car parks improvement programme report in February 2008. The cost (charge) of such coach parking has been included in the attached Schedule in order that it can be advertised and any representations considered before deciding on whether to implement coach parking at the St Catherine's site. Design and planning considerations are currently being investigated.
- 2.7 Hampshire County Council has been consulted on the proposed charges for 2008/09. In general terms the County Council support rises in central car parks and not at the park and ride in order to encourage greater use of park and ride services and to deter commuters and visitors from seeking to park in the Town centre. The County Council, however, has concerns over the free half hour on street parking as this contributes to circulating traffic and feels that the City Council's parking policy and associated charging structure could go further in terms of discouraging central car parking and encouraging existing and future, park and ride services. These comments are acknowledged and will be considered very carefully as part of the Winchester Town Access Plan and planning for the South of Winchester Park and Ride. The City Council remains committed to park and ride and the changes to car park charges this year begin to address the County Council's concerns but further thought will be given to this over the next 12 months. On this basis the County Council is content that these proposed changes proceed.

3 Budget Implications

- 3.1 The table below shows the estimated total amount of income that would be generated by the proposed revised scale of charges. The overall increase in income is approximately 4%. It should be noted that all estimates for 2008/09 car parking income are based on current levels of usage and make no allowance for changes in parking behaviour. However, there are no changes in the scale of charges which would seem likely to have a significant influence on that behaviour.

	Projected Income (£000)
Car Park Charges	3,747
On street permits	230
Penalty Charge Notices	400
Season tickets	475
Total	4,852
2007/08 Base Budget	4,671
Increase	181

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

4 CORPORATE STRATEGY (RELEVANCE TO):

- 4.1 The proposals accord with the corporate priority for safeguarding our high quality environment.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 There are significant budget implications associated with the setting of car parking charges for 2008/09. It is estimated that the proposals presented would generate increased car parking fee income in 2008/09 of around £181,000 over the 2007/08 base budget. Income levels for 2007/08, so far, for this year are slightly above the predicted budget figure and this will also be taken into account when setting the 2008/09 budget, along with the financial implications of the changes being introduced in accordance with the Traffic Management Act 2004 which are detailed in a report elsewhere on this agenda.

- 5.2 Staff resources are available to implement the proposed changes to the charges as outlined above.

6 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

- 6.1 None.

7 APPENDICES:

Appendix 1: Proposed charges 2008/09.

WCC - Parking Office - Current and Proposed Car Parking Charges													Annual Seasons		Quarterly Seasons	
	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed
	Up to ½ Hour	Up to ½ Hour	Up to 1 Hour	Up to 1 Hour	Up to 2 Hours	Up to 2 Hours	Up to 3 Hours	Up to 3 Hours	Up to 4 Hours	Up to 4 Hours	Over 4 Hours	Over 4 Hours				
Short Stay Car Parks																
The Brooks			£0.90	£1.00	£1.70	£2.00	£2.40	£2.50	£3.40	£3.50	£15.00	£15.00				
Middle Brook Street			£0.90	£1.00	£1.70	£2.00	£2.40	£2.50	£3.40	£3.50	£15.00	£15.00				
Colebrook Street			£0.90	£1.00	£1.70	£2.00	£2.40	£2.50	£3.40	£3.50	£15.00	£15.00				
Friarsgate			£0.90	£1.00	£1.70	£2.00	£2.40	£2.50	£3.40	£3.50						
Guildhall Yard (Saturday Only)			£0.90	£1.00	£1.70	£2.00	£2.40	£2.50	£3.40	£3.50						
Jewry Street			£0.90	£1.00	£1.70	£2.00	£2.40	£2.50	£3.40	£3.50						
Cossack Lane			£0.90	£1.00	£1.70	£2.00	£2.40	£2.50	£3.40	£3.50						
Upper Brook Street			£0.90	£1.00	£1.70	£2.00	£2.40	£2.50	£3.40	£3.50						
St.Peters	£0.30	£0.30	£0.90	£1.00	£1.70	£2.00			£3.40	£3.50			£1,190.00	£1,190.00	£325.00	£325.00
Long Stay Car Parks																
Tower Street			£0.90	£1.00	£1.70	£2.00	£2.40	£2.50	£3.40	£3.50	All Day	All Day	£1,190.00	£1,190.00	£325.00	£325.00
Gladstone Street			£0.90	£1.00	£1.70	£2.00			£3.40	£3.50	£6.50	£7.00	£1,190.00	£1,190.00	£325.00	£325.00
Chesil Street (Multi-Storey)			£0.70	£1.00	£1.40	£1.50	£2.00	£2.00	£2.60	£2.70	£5.00	£5.00	£790.00	£790.00	£215.00	£215.00
Chesil Street (Surface)			£0.70	£1.00	£1.40	£1.50			£2.60	£2.70	£5.00	£5.00	£790.00	£790.00	£215.00	£215.00
Durmgate					£1.40	£1.50			£2.60	£2.70	£5.00	£5.00	£790.00	£790.00	£215.00	£215.00
Cattle Market					£1.40	£1.50			£2.60	£2.70	£5.00	£5.00	£790.00	£790.00	£215.00	£215.00
Worthy Lane					£1.40	£1.50			£2.60	£2.70	£5.00	£5.00	£790.00	£790.00	£215.00	£215.00
Coach Park (Cars)					£1.40	£1.50			£2.60	£2.70	£5.00	£5.00	£790.00	£790.00	£215.00	£215.00
Coach Park (Coaches)											£6.00	£6.00				
River Park Leisure Centre			£0.30	£0.40	£0.50	£0.60	£0.70	£0.80	Up to 5 hours £3.20	Up to 5 hours £3.30	£6.00	£6.00				
Rural Area																
Lower Lane, Bishop's Waltham			£0.30	£0.30	£0.60	£0.60	£0.80	£0.80	£1.20	£1.20	£1.50	£1.50	£275.00	£275.00	£75.00	£75.00
Basingwell Street, Bishop's Waltham*	£0.00	£0.00	£0.30	£0.30	£0.60	£0.60	£0.80	£0.80					£137.50	£137.50	£37.50	£37.50
The Square, Wickham	£0.00	£0.00	£0.20	£0.30	£0.60	£0.60	£0.80	£0.80								
Alresford Station, Alresford			£0.30	£0.30	£0.60	£0.60	£0.80	£0.80	£1.20	£1.20	£1.50	£1.50	£275.00	£275.00	£75.00	£75.00
Season Ticket Holder Only																
Crowder Terrace													£790.00	£790.00	£215.00	£215.00
The Lido													£790.00	£790.00	£215.00	£215.00
Barfield Close													£340.00	£400.00	£92.50	£110.00
Park & Ride																
								Current	Proposed**				Current	Proposed		
Card Vend (Cars)													£2.50	£2.50		
Cash Vend (Cars)**								N/Avail	£1.50**				£2.70	£2.70		
Cash Vend (Coaches)***													N/Avail	£6.00***		
On Street Pay and Display																
	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed								
	Up to ½ Hour	Up to ½ Hour	Up to 1 Hour	Up to 1 Hour	Up to 1 1/2 Hours	Up to 1 1/2 Hours	Up to 2 Hours	Up to 2 Hours								
All current locations	£0.00	£0.00	£0.90	£1.00	£1.20	£1.50	£1.70	£2.00								

* Only available for residents of High Street, Bishop's Waltham

** £1.50 3 hour charge for Saturdays only. Car Parking will also be free after 4pm. NB these changes were agreed by Cabinet in May 2007 but have yet to be advertised.

*** This is conditional upon the capital programme review of car parks improvements to be considered by Cabinet and Council in February 2008 and planning conditions/approvals.