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|----------------------------|--|--------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Report To:</b>          | <b>CABINET</b>   | <b>Date:</b> | <b>18 FEBRUARY 2019</b> |
| <b>Heading:</b>            | <b>CAR PARKING ORDER</b>   |              |                         |
| <b>Portfolio Holder:</b>   | <b>DEPUTY LEADER (OUTWARD FOCUS), COUNCILLOR HELEN-ANN SMITH</b> |              |                         |
| <b>Ward/s:</b>             | <b>ALL WARDS</b>   |              |                         |
| <b>Key Decision:</b>       | <b>No</b>  |              |                         |
| <b>Subject to Call-In:</b> | <b>Yes</b>   |              |                         |

### **Purpose of Report**

To seek approval for a range of new policy initiatives to support the town centres and to support green travel.

### **Recommendation(s)**

1. **To agree to a number of initiatives to support town centres and support green travel by agreeing to approve officers undertaking preparations to commence the legal process for varying the existing Ashfield District Council Civil Enforcement Off Street Parking Order. The initiative will include:**
  - **Providing a number of parking bays for free two hours parking and changes to car parking charges**
  - **The installation of electric vehicle charging bays within a number of car parks**
  - **Alteration to the boundary of Piggins Croft Car Park, Hucknall**
  - **Agreeing to allocate £24.2k from the Regeneration Reserve to fund the costs associated with a new Parking Order, upgrading of parking machines and line marking for the two hour free bays.**

### **Reasons for Recommendation(s)**

A revised Parking Order will be required to implement the required changes listed below:

Revise the current car parking charges and to provide up to two hours free parking in the three main town centre car parks within a number of designated and 'marked out' spaces only.

The installation of electric vehicle charging points within a number of car parks within the District. This will support the development of the charging point network across Nottinghamshire, supporting increased use of electric vehicles and reducing air pollution.

To increase the area covered by the Parking Order at Piggins Croft car park, Hucknall to include land acquired during the purchase of the property occupied by Wilkinson's and Central Walk retail properties to ensure effective enforcement action can be undertaken when necessary.

**Alternative Options Considered**

Not to change the car park charges and provide two hours free parking - **Not recommended**.  
 To provide two hours free parking in all car parks - **Not recommended** as the cost would be prohibitive. Additional costs would include alterations to seven tickets machines at an estimated cost of £14k. There would also be significant loss of income from ticket sales, total sales for two hour tickets in 2017 were £64k.  
 Not to introduce electric vehicle charging points - all costs are being met through a grant secured by Nottingham City Council. **Not recommended**.  
 Not to expand the area covered by the Parking Order at Piggins Croft car park, Hucknall. **Not recommended**.

**Detailed Information**

**Proposed changes to car parking charges**

It is proposed to provide a number (shown in table 2) of two hours free car parking spaces at the main car parks in each town centre as part of the Council's ongoing efforts to support town centres and local businesses and increase footfall.

To offset the cost of this it is proposed to increase the tariffs for longer stay parking as detailed in the table 1 below:

|   | 1 hour | 2 hour | 4 hour | 12 hour |
|---|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| <b>2018/19 (Current charges)</b>                          | Free   | £0.60  | £1.50  | £2.00   |
| <b>2019/20 (Proposed charges subject to Consultation)</b> | Free   | £0.60  | £2.00  | £4.00   |

Predicting the impact of the proposed changes to car park charges is difficult, as factors such as the changing retail offer, changes to bus routes and frequencies, weather, disposable income all have an impact. There could be a potential increase in income, however the number of long stay tickets sold could reduce significantly as people seek alternatives such as off street parking, or purchasing a season ticket which has a 20% reduction. Following detailed investigation of the breakdown of income it is considered that the introduction of the revised car park charges could result in the following change in income.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Loss of income for bays being free for 2 hrs | -£4.7k per annum   |
| 4 Hr price increase from £1.50 to £2.00      | +£15.1k per annum (Assumes 100% would pay the proposed price increase)                 |
| Full day increase from £2 to £4              | Nil (Assumes 50% would pay the doubling of the cost and 50% would find an alternative) |
| <b>Estimated increase in income</b>          | <b>£10.4k per annum</b>  |

There is currently an annual inherent budget pressure of £9k on the recovery of car parking income which would be mitigated by the above estimated income increase.

The designated two hours free parking spaces could be provided as follows:

Table 2

| Car park            | No. spaces | No. spaces to be designated for two hours free |
|---------------------|------------|--|
| Piggins Croft       | 322        | 35   |
| Hodgkinson Road     | 66         | 8  |
| Sutton Market Place | 94         | 12   |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>482</b> | <b>55</b>                                      |

To allow for the limited two free hours of parking, alterations to six ticket machines would be required, at an estimated cost of £12k. Additional costs for alterations to the Parking Order, changes to signage and marking out the free two-hour bays are estimated to cost approximately £10,000. It is recommended that these one off costs of £24.2k (including 10% contingency) can be funded through the Economic Development and Place Reserve.

### Electric Vehicle Charging Points within public car parks

Electric charging points will be provided within the following car parks to support the use of electric vehicles and reduce air pollution. The locations have been previously approved through an EDR, this report seeks authority to include the charging points and spaces within the revised Parking Order:

| Car park                                       | No. of units | Type                |
|--|--------------|---------------------|
| Central Council Offices, Urban Road, Kirkby    | 4            | Twin outlets 7 kW   |
| New Street Car Park, Sutton                    | 4            | Twin outlets 7 kW   |
| Kings Mill Reservoir, Sutton                   | 1            | 50 kW Rapid Charger |
| Piggins Croft Car Park, Yorke Street, Hucknall | 1            | 50 kW Rapid Charger |

### Alteration to the boundary of Piggins Croft Car Park, Hucknall

The alterations to the boundary will incorporate an area of land to the rear of retail properties along Central Walk which is used for parking. Parking in this area is causing issues with access for deliveries to the businesses along Central Walk and the high street and the Council has been requested to take action.

### Parking Order Procedure

The procedure is set out in the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 SI 1996/2489 as amended. The procedure includes the requirement to carry out public consultation and a notice period prior to the changes coming into place. Provided no objections are received following the consultation and notice periods, an order can be made which confirms the new charges. If objections are received, the authority is required to hold a public inquiry.

A further report will be brought to Cabinet in June 2019, to seek authorisation to proceed to the consultation and implementation stages of the Parking Order process. It is anticipated that the new Parking Order could be published and the various initiatives implemented in the autumn. Cabinet intends to continually monitor and review the success of the two hour free parking bay initiative.

## **Implications**

### **Corporate Plan**

The changes to the car parking charges contribute to the theme of Economic Regeneration and the electric vehicle charging points to health and wellbeing.

### **Legal**

The relevant legal process for the varying of a car park order are set out in the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 SI 1996/2489. If the recommendations are approved, legal services will work with relevant officers to undertake preparations for the commencement of the legal process for varying the existing Parking Order in order to comply with the legislation.

### **Finance:**

| <b>Budget Area</b>                          | <b>Implication</b>   |
|---|--|
| General Fund – Revenue Budget               | It is expected that (subject to consultation) implementing the proposed changes included in this report will be cost neutral. Income from car parks will be closely monitored through established processes with any issues being reported back to Members via Financial Monitoring Reports.<br><br>Implementing this proposal will require use of £24.2k (one-off funding) from the Economic Development and Place Reserve. |
| General Fund – Capital Programme            | N/A  |
| Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget    | N/A  |
| Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme | N/A  |

### **Risk:**

| <b>Risk</b>  | <b>Mitigation</b>   |
|--|---|
| Loss of income from car parks greater than anticipated | Ticket sales revenue will be monitored, there are a number of town centre initiatives being undertaken to promote the town centres and encourage greater usage. |

### **Human Resources:**

No HR issues identified.

### **Equalities:**

No equalities issues identified.

### **Other Implications:**

None identified.

**Reason(s) for Urgency**

Not applicable

**Reason(s) for Exemption**

Not applicable

**Background Papers**

Electric vehicle charging points ODR

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