

 <b>Executive meeting – 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016</b>		<b>Agenda Item No.</b>  <b>6</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Car Park Fees and Charges 2016/17</b>	
<b>For further information about this report please contact</b>	Gary Charlton Contract Services Manager <a href="mailto:gary.charlton@warwickdc.gov.uk">gary.charlton@warwickdc.gov.uk</a> 01926456315	
<b>Wards of the District directly affected</b>	All	
<b>Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?</b>	No	
<b>Date and meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number</b>	N/A	
<b>Background Papers</b>	None	

<b>Contrary to the policy framework:</b>	No
<b>Contrary to the budgetary framework:</b>	No
<b>Key Decision?</b>	Yes
<b>Included within the Forward Plan? (If yes include reference number)</b>	Yes
<b>Equality Impact Assessment Undertaken</b>	

Officer/Councillor Approval		
Officer Approval	Date	Name
Chief Executive/Deputy Chief Executive	21/12/15	Bill Hunt
Head of Service	14/12/15	Rob Hoof
CMT	21/12/15	Bill Hunt
Section 151 Officer	22/12/15	Mike Snow
Monitoring Officer	21/12/15	Andy Jones
Finance	22/12/15	Mike Snow
Portfolio Holder(s)	14/12/15	Councillor David Shilton
Consultation & Community Engagement		
Local Business Groups and Town Councils to be updated on the revised charges.		
Final Decision?		Full Council 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2016
Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below		

## **1. Summary**

- 1.1) The Executive Committee in September 2015 agreed to increase car park pay and display tariffs for financial year 2016/17. It was estimated that these changes would generate additional income of £200k and contribute to fit for the future and essential repairs to multi-storey car parks. However, at full Council in November the approval of car park fees and charges was delayed until January to allow consultation with local stakeholders to be concluded.
- 1.2) As car park charges have been not increased in the last two years and with a clear need to invest in the multi-storey car parks, it is still necessary raise additional revenue from the car parks whilst appreciating the parking needs associated with each town.

## **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1. The Executive Committee agree to the revised increase to car park fees and charges as detailed in appendix 1 for implementation from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016.
- 2.2. The Executive Committee agree to delegate authority to The Head of Neighbourhood Services to implement the car park fees and charges (as detailed in Appendix 1), in accordance with the Off-Street Parking Order Process.

## **3. Reasons for the Recommendation**

- 3.1 Consultation has now been completed and officers have been unable to gain support for the lower band removal. Serious concern has been raised by all groups during this consultation with the message that "the loss of choice to customers will detrimentally affect businesses within the three towns".
- 3.2 Officers have again looked at the options for raising fees and charges in car parks. The full details of the revised option is included in section 8.4, the main amendment to the proposal is introduce a minimum stay of 30 minutes in most car parks. This is to mitigate the concerns from local groups but has a lower estimated income return and results in an £170k increase of estimated income for 16/17 rather than £200k.
- 3.3 The Council is required to update its Fees and Charges in order that the impact of any changes can be fed into the setting of the budget for 2016/17. Discretionary Fees and Charges for the forthcoming calendar year have to be approved by Members.
- 3.4 Local Groups have generally supported the increase to all day parking charges and the revision to lower band tariff charges is a direct result of the consultation process.
- 3.5 The provision of off-street car parking is an important service that Warwick District Council provides as it supports residents, town centre businesses and tourism.

- 3.6 Due to the need to invest substantial funds in maintaining and improving the car park stock and continued financial restraint by Central Government upon Local Authorities, there is a requirement for Warwick District to increase the income derived from its assets. Car park charges have been not increased over the last two years and these proposed charges take into account the need to raise additional revenue whilst taking into account the parking needs associated with each town.
- 3.7 This financial year Warwick District Council is proposing to increase pay and display tariffs. The proposal is to generate additional income of £170k from the car parks to contribute to essential repairs to the multi-storeys.
- 3.8 There are three proposed elements to generate the £170k, two of which require increases.
- 3.9 An increase to the pay and display budget of £35k will be derived from natural growth in car park usage.
- 3.10 Remove the lower band charges of up to 30 minutes in most car parks. This would mean removing the 20p - 12 minutes charge so the minimum stay would be 30 minutes in Warwick and Leamington Spa. Introducing the Linear charge of 10p for 12 minutes into Kenilworth, with a 30p - 36 minutes minimum stay. The estimated increase to the pay and display budget from the proposal is circa £50k.
- 3.11 Increase the all-day parking charge in all of the Long Stay car parks across the District by £0.50. The estimated increase to the pay and display budget from the proposal is circa £85k.
- 3.12 Linear Charge - The Linear charge means progressing from one charge to another in a series of incremental time steps. Where there is a minimum stay of 30 minutes no pay and display tickets can be purchased for amounts below this tariff vend. Where the linear charge is 10p for 6 minutes the minimum vend for 30 minutes will be 50p subsequent additional coins will add to the expiry time of 6 minutes for every 10p inserted.
- 3.13 The summary of new charges in section 8.8 gives an indication of the tariff structure but it is not the full list of tariffs available.

#### **4. Policy Framework**

- 4.1 Fit for the future, supporting the vitality and viability of town centres.
- 4.2 Fit for the Future, ensuring that the Council achieves the required savings to enable it to set a balanced budget whilst maintaining service provision.

## 5. Budgetary Framework

- 5.1. There are three proposed elements to generate the £170k for this forthcoming financial year.
- 5.2. Budget Estimate

	<b>2015/16 £ Budget</b>	<b>2016/17 £ Estimate</b>	<b>% Variation</b>
<b>Off-Street Charges</b>	£2,286,000	£2,456,000	+7.5
<b>Season Ticket Income</b>	£215,000	£215,000	+0
<b>Penalty Charge Notices</b>	£95,000	£95,000	+0
<b>Total Income</b>	2,596,000	2,766,000	+6.5

- 5.3. Within the fees and charges report to Executive in September, the proposed charges were to generate an additional £200,000.
- 5.4. The latest proposed charges will generate an additional £170,000 that is, £30,000 below the earlier proposals. This will allow for £40,000 income towards funding the works needed to car parks, which is currently being considered and will be subject to a future report.

## 6. Risks

- 6.1. Increasing prices could deter usage where the take up is discretionary. Customers may choose to use the Service less frequently or use an alternative supplier where one is available.
- 6.2. If further objections are received, contract services will seek to negotiate the withdrawal of the objection, dependent on the amount and type of objection received a report to the Executive Committee may be required.

## 7. Alternative Option(s) considered

- 7.1 As per the original proposals submitted to Septembers Executive - Remove the lower band charges from the Long Stay car parks. This would mean that minimum stay in these car parks would be 1 hour in Kenilworth and 2 hours in Warwick and Leamington Spa. The estimated increase to the pay and display budget from the proposal is circa £80k. This option has been discounted due to the serious concern raised by all groups during this consultation with the message that "the loss of choice to customers will detrimentally affect businesses within the three towns".

## **8. Background**

### **8.1 Off-Street Parking Orders Process**

- 8.1.1 As part of the Off-street Parking Order process it has been necessary to submit an alternative option, therefore an amended report detailing the proposed charges will need Executive approval. If approved at Executive the charges will need full Council approval. Once this is obtained approval is sought from WCC as the Highways Authority. The Parking Orders can then be advertised locally for public consultation. The revised charges will be submitted to local stakeholders for them to comment upon during the committee processes and their responses will form part of the public consultation process. This would be achieved for a 1st April implementation date.
- 8.1.2 The Off-street Order process requires objections to be countered by officers. If objections are received, contract services will seek to negotiate the withdrawal of the objection, dependent on the amount and type of objection received a report to the Executive Committee may be required. The Executive Committee may wish to disregard objections made at any stage by any party and accept the risk of High Court action but must only do so if they believe a reasonable argument exists.

### 8.1. Summary of new charges

CAR PARK	New Tariff Structure for Leamington Car Parks							
	Linear charge of £0.10 for 6 minutes still active from minimum vend							
	12 mins	24 mins	30 mins	1 hour	2 hours	3 hours	4 hours	24 hours
ROSEFIELD STREET	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	£4.50
ADELAIDE BRIDGE	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	£4.50
ST PETERS (MSCP)	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	£4.50
COVENT GARDEN (MSCP)	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	N/A	£3.00
COVENT GARDEN (SURFACE)	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	n/a
CHANDOS STREET	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	n/a
BEDFORD STREET	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	n/a
BATH PLACE	n/a	n/a	£0.30	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.00	£3.50
PACKINGTON PLACE	n/a	n/a	£0.30	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.00	£3.50
COURT STREET	n/a	n/a	£0.30	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.00	£3.50

CAR PARK	New Tariff Structure for Warwick Car Parks							
	Linear charge of £0.10 for 6 minutes still active from minimum vend							
	12 mins	24 mins	30 mins	1 hour	2 hours	3 hours	4 hours	24 hours
LINEN STREET	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	£4.50
CASTLE LANE	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	£4.50
THE BUTTS	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	£4.50
PRIORY ROAD	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	£4.50
WEST ROCK	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	£4.50
ST NICHOLAS PARK	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	£4.50
WESTGATE	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	n/a
NEW STREET	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	n/a
MYTON FIELDS	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	£3.00	£4.50
ST MARYS LANDS AREA 2	n/a	n/a	£0.50	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	£1.00
ST MARYS LANDS AREA 3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Free	£2.00	£3.00	n/a
ST MARYS LANDS AREA 4	n/a	n/a	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00	£4.50

CAR PARK	New Tariff Structure for Kenilworth Car Parks					
	Linear charge of £0.10 for 12 minutes to be introduced from the minimum vend					
	36 mins	1 hour	2 hours	3 hours	4 hours	24 hours
ABBEY END	£0.30	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.00	£4.00
SQUARE WEST	£0.30	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.00	£4.00
ABBEY FIELDS	n/a	n/a	Free	£1.50	£2.00	£4.00