

## Agenda Item

**REPORT OF** Planning and Economy Manager  
**To:** Overview and Scrutiny (Internal)  
**Subject:** Annual Review of Parking – Call in from Community and Resources Committee  
**Date:** 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018 **Reference:**

### PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To scrutinise the resolutions of Community and Resources Committee in relation to recommendations 2 and 3 contained within the Annual Review of Parking report debated on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

On the 26<sup>th</sup> November Community and Resources Committee considered the annual Review of Parking report of the Planning and Economy Manager (report attached).

Within the report there were three recommendations for Committee to resolve upon and following some robust debate the following was decided.

### Annual Parking Review

Resolved:

Recommendation 1: Permits

- That the reserved bay charges be increased from £447 to £500 (Bideford and Appledore)
- That the double reserved bay charges (Willet St only) from £693 to £775

Recommendation 2:

That additional Free Parking from 12 noon Saturday until 6pm Sunday on Barley Grove car park (Torrington), Well Park car park (Holsworthy) and Riverbank Short Stay (Bideford) car park be refused.

Recommendation 3:

That the installation of new doors to the existing pay and display machines on the 5 short stay car parks identified in the report and an additional two being Manor car park, Holsworthy and Sydney House car park in Gt Torrington, to allow for card and contactless payment be approved. The minimum electronic transaction to be £3.00 to encourage longer stays in the town and to help to cover additional transaction costs.

## 2. REPORT

A call in request was lodged with the Head of Paid Service by Cllrs Cottle-Hunkin, Pennington, Brown and Simmons and was agreed by Cllr Watson for inclusion on this agenda.



Specific reason for the call in was provided by Cllr Pennington:  
Grounds: Not enough consideration has been given to the changing nature of consumer purchasing in the present economic climate. With free parking at large supermarkets and consumer outlets (e.g Atlantic Village Bideford) and the ever growing use of online purchasing it is very important to make every effort to attract visitors to our local town centres. I believe greater focus should be given particularly with regard to recommendation 2 & 3 as this may have a detrimental impact on local centres.

### **3. IMPLICATIONS**

#### Legal Implications

N/A

#### Financial Implications

The costs of additional free parking are set out in the report to C&R.

#### Human Resources Implications

N/A

#### Sustainability Implications

N/A

#### Equality/Diversity

N/A

#### Risk Management

N/A

#### Compliance with Policies and Strategies

Parking services are delivered in accordance with the Off Street Parking Places Order 2013 (as amended).

#### Ward Member and Leader Member Views

N/A

### **3. CONCLUSIONS**

These matters were debated at Community and resources Committee but the detail of those discussions does not appear word for word in the minutes of the meeting.

In particular the changing role of the High St and retail trends were referenced along with how reasonable parking charges are actually more beneficial to town centres than free parking (as spaces fill with residents and the workforce rather than shoppers).

It was also noted that this had been discussed in depth at a meeting of Community and Resources Committee in 2016 and the resolution had been the same at that time.

It was mentioned that discussions in Bideford with the Chamber and town council had led / should lead to the Council looking to find ways to increase length of stay ( tariffs, events, things to do) rather than providing free parking to increase town centre footfall and spend.

Each Town is already granted two days of free parking per year to be used at a time of their choosing.



## 5. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members consider the decisions made at Community and Resources Committee on the 26<sup>th</sup> Nov and recommend their acceptance or recommend change by a future Community and Resources Committee.

### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Consultations:  
Contact            Sean Kearney  
Officer:  
Background  
Papers:

