

TORRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL
COMMUNITY & RESOURCES MEETING

Remote meeting via Zoom

Monday, 5 October 2020 - 4.00 pm

PRESENT Councillor R Hicks (Chair)
 Councillor D McGeough (Vice-Chair)

Councillors D Brenton, C Bright, D Bushby, P Christie, A Dart,
J Hutchings, K James, N Laws, R Lock and R Wiseman

ALSO PRESENT S Hearse - Chief Executive
 S Dorey - Senior Solicitor & Monitoring Officer
 S Kearney - Planning & Economy Manager
 D Heyes - Finance Manager & Interim S151 Officer
 S Cawsey - Democratic Services Officer

Councillors: M Brown, C Hodson, D Hurley, T Inch, C Leather,
S Newton, P Pennington and P Watson

42. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

43. PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS

There were no public contributions.

44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were made when the specific agenda items to which they related were under discussion.

45. AGREEMENT OF AGENDA BETWEEN PARTS I AND II

There were no Part II items.

46. URGENT MATTERS OF INFORMATION TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR AND THE COMMITTEE

There were no urgent matters brought forward.

47. RECOMMENDATION FROM INTERNAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - NOTICE OF MOTION - FREE CAR PARKING

The Planning & Economy Manager gave a summary of the background to this item, highlighting the salient points within the report.

Councillor McGeough addressed the Committee and explained the reasoning behind his Notice of Motion for free parking and stated that he would not be supporting the recommendations of Internal Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

When debating this item consideration was given to the needs of residents and local businesses, and to the detrimental impact on the financial position of the Council.

The Financial Manager and Interim S151 Officer outlined the financial implications for the Authority should free parking be approved, and the revenue loss for the last financial year on car parking which is a legacy from lockdown.

Following an enquiry from Members, the Senior Solicitor advised that should this Committee not agree the recommendation it would be referred to Full Council, but if approved the recommendation would be implemented immediately.

Councillor Newton explained the justification behind his proposing the recommendation at internal Overview & Scrutiny. He mentioned the Covid restrictions which had resulted in queuing etc. and said that his proposal for the second hour free increased "dwell time".

The Planning & Economy Manager confirmed that should Members resolve to provide free parking; it would be well advertised. Details would be placed on the website and on notice boards next to the pay and display machines.

It was proposed by Councillor James, seconded by Councillor Christie that the recommendation be approved.

A recorded vote was taken.

COUNCILLOR	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Brenton, D		X	
Bright, C	X		
Bushby, D		X	
Christie, P	X		
Dart, A	X		
Hicks, R	X		
Hutchings, J		X	
James, K	X		
Laws, N	X		
Lock, R	X		
McGeough, D		X	
Wiseman, R	X		

(Vote: For 8, Against 4)

RESOLVED:

That the recommendation of Internal Overview & Scrutiny Committee, namely that the first hour be paid for and the second hour be free in all of the following car parks:

Great Torrington	Sydney House Barley Gove
Bideford	Bridge Street The Quay The Pill Riverbank Longstay Riverbank Shortstay Clarence Wharf
Holsworthy	Holsworthy Manor

for the months of October and November be approved, and to be funded from the balance off Member Grants and from the New Homes Bonus brought forward from 2019/20.

The meeting commenced at 4.00pm and closed at 4.46pm

Chair:

Date: