



Devizes Town Council

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PLANNING COMMITTEE

You are summonsed to attend a meeting of the Planning Committee at the following, place and date.

Date: 13 FEBRUARY 2018

Time: 7.00pm.

Venue: Council Chamber, Town Hall, St John's Street, Devizes

Enquiries: Town Hall - Tel: 01380 722160

Mayor: Councillor Carter

Chairman: Councillor Geddes

Councillors:	Bridewell	Burton	Corbett
	P Evans	S Evans	Gay
	Giraud-Saunders	Godwin	Greenwood
	Hopkins	Johnson	Nash
	Parsons	Rose	Rowland
	Shaw	Stevens	Von Berg
	Wooldridge		

AGENDA

1. MINUTES

To approve as a correct record and authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2018 and which have been circulated alongside the agenda.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DISCLOSURE(S) OF INTEREST

To receive any disclosure(s) of interest by a Councillor or an officer in matters to be considered at this meeting, in accordance with provisions of Sections 94 or 117 of the Local Government Act 1972 or the National Code of Local Government Conduct.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At the Chairman's discretion, members of the public attending the meeting will be allowed to ask questions, make a statement or address the Council upon a matter of concern to that person which is relevant to the Council. A time limit of 5 minutes per person will be permitted, but this may be extended at the Chairman's discretion and a maximum period of 20 minutes has been allocated by the Council for this item of business.

5. Details of Planning Applications for Consideration are attached (doc 5/1).

Members wishing to make enquiries about any of the applications listed or inspect plans before the meeting are advised to do so on line at Wiltshire Council.

6. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – WILTSHIRE COUNCIL'S NOTICE OF PLANS GRANTED OR REFUSED

Attached (doc 6/1) a list of plans granted, refused or withdrawn.

7. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – ST MARY'S CHURCH OPEN MEETING

Attached is the minutes from the Open meeting attending by Councillor Rose.

8. REPORT FOR DECISION – FORTHCOMING CHANGES IN PARKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEVIZES

Recommendation

That the Committee notes the proposed changes to parking arrangements for Devizes and decides if it wishes to make any formal comments ahead of further consultation on the matter to Wiltshire Council.

Purpose of the Report

To provide an opportunity for the Town Council to form a view on the forthcoming changes to parking in Devizes.

Background

At a meeting of Wiltshire Council's Cabinet on Tuesday 30 January, there was an agenda item that considered amendments to the Wiltshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 in relation to its car parking strategy, which has a focus on three factors.

The purpose of the report was to

- **Regeneration:** *using parking measures to support town centre regeneration.*
- **Restraint:** *using parking controls as a means of restraining / managing traffic and improving environmental quality, or to encourage the use of sustainable transport modes.*
- **Revenue:** *securing sufficient revenue to cover the costs of providing car parking, and using any surplus revenue to fund other important local services.*

The report of the 30 January notes that since implementing the strategy, the Council has continued to face financial challenges as a result of reduced funding from Central Government and the increasing demand for key front line services.

To meet this demand, there has been a need to look at all services and consider where further efficiencies can be made, and/or where there is an opportunity to generate additional income.

A copy of the Cabinet agenda item has been circulated alongside the Planning Committee agenda to provide committee members with the relevant background.

The report sets out seven options for which a decision had to be made;

- *Option 1: Apply an inflation increase to all parking charges*
- *Option 2: Introduce Sunday and Bank / Public Holiday charging at all car parks*
- *Option 3: Charge in all Wiltshire Council car parks*
- *Option 4: Discontinue free event parking in November and December*
- *Option 5: Base season ticket charges on the standard rate charges*
- *Option 6: Harmonise residents' parking permit charges*
- *Option 7: Reduce the parking grace period to ten minutes*

The draft minutes of the meeting show the following resolution was made:

- (i) *To agree to the implementation of Options 2 to 6 through an amendment to the relevant Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs), subject to the necessary formal consultation process.*
- (ii) *To agree that any responses to the formal TRO consultation process be considered by the Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Waste prior to the making of the Order(s).*

- (iii) To approve the proposed Sunday and Bank / Public Holiday parking charges as set out in Appendix 5.*
- (iv) To note that if the above proposal is agreed, then a recommendation to remove the following text from Policy PS3 of the LTP Car Parking Strategy would be made to full Council:

Sunday parking charges will be considered where there is an identified traffic congestion or air quality issue, or where there is a strong and established parking demand from shoppers or visitors.*
- (v) To agree the proposed action related to each of the currently free car parks (or part of) identified in Appendix 6.*
- (vi) To agree to the withdrawal of free event parking from town / city councils in the months of November and December.*
- (vii) To approve the proposed season ticket charges as set out in Appendix*
- (viii) To agree that a two tiered charging regime is introduced where residents' permits would be:
 - o £50 for the first permit and £70 for the second permit (at the same address) in limited waiting zones; and*
 - o £80 for the first permit and £100 for the second permit (at the same address) in residents' only zones.**
- (ix) To agree that the hours of operation of residents' permit schemes are extended from 8am – 6pm to 8am – 8pm.*
- (x) To agree that the parking grace period is retained at 15 minutes.*
- (xi) To agree that none of the alternative funding proposals suggested through the consultation could realistically replace the income uplift forecast under Options 2 to 7.*
- (xii) To approve the technology and operational improvements set out in paragraphs 58 to 62 and paragraph 63 respectively for implementation by parking services in 2018/19.*

The reason for decisions set out in the minutes are:

To seek approval for the implementation of Options 2 to 6 through an amendment to the relevant Traffic Regulation Orders (subject to the necessary formal consultation process).

To seek approval for the implementation of a number of technology and operational improvements.

Whilst there will be further consultation, this is around the legal statutory notification for any changes in traffic orders.

For Devizes, there has been an increase in parking charges, which was option 3. The new charges are set out in Doc 8/1-8/3, and whilst they are up lifted in line with other towns, there is still a massive disparity between Devizes and similar towns such as Warminster where charges are double to park in the centre of Devizes for the first hour.

The most significant changes will be parking on the Market Place where the charge have been introduced as set out below.

Market Place, Devizes (77)	1 hour: 70p 2 hours: £1.30 Sun: £1.00 BH: As week	N/A	Two hour maximum stay. No return with two hours.	Introduce the proposed pay and display charges. (Operation – ticket machines and MiPermit).
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It should also be noted that Sundays and Bank Holidays will be chargeable in all car parks, although at this stage it is not possible to determine what that is for a Sunday, as it is not shown on any schedule.

A further issue is the loss of free event parking in November and December, as this may well results in the loss of the Christmas Lights “Switch On” event do to a charge of £1,520 to hire the space.

The changes will not only have an impact on the Christmas event, in that now parking is chargeable on Bank Holidays and Sunday, it is unlikely that the town’s allocation of free event parking spaces will be sufficient to meet the needs for all the events we have historically supported. Once the position on this matter is clearer the Town Council may need to review how it allocates these spaces.

Whilst it is unlikely that Wiltshire Council will now make any changes to its decision, the Town Council may wish to make its views known to Wiltshire Council on the forthcoming changes.

Options Considered

The Committee needs to decide if it wishes to make comment on the forthcoming changes to the parking arrangements for Devizes.

Implications and Risks

Financial and Resource Implications

Officers are unaware of any financial or resource implication for the Council associated with commenting on the forthcoming parking changes for Devizes.

Legal Implications and Legislative Powers

The Council will be considering this matter under its General Power of Competence.

Environmental Implications

Officers are unaware of any environmental implication for the Council associated with this decision.

Risk Assessment

Officers are unaware of any risk implication for the Council associated with this decision.

Crime and Disorder

Officers are not aware of any issues the Council should consider under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder act 1998.

9. QUESTION TIME

A short time is allowed at the discretion of the Chairman for councillors to ask questions on matters which are not on the current agenda but which are related to matters which have been previously discussed on an agenda relevant to the committee.

At least 24 hours' notice must be given to officers of the intended question. All other matters should be raised on an agenda and the request should be submitted through the Town Clerk

DEPUTY TOWN CLERK