

**TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CAR PARKING CHARGES ADVISORY BOARD**

**Tuesday, 21st July, 2009**

**Present:** Cllr P F Bolt (Chairman), Cllr Ms V Branson, Cllr D J Cure, Cllr M O Davis, Cllr Mrs M F Heslop, Cllr P J Homewood, Cllr Miss J L Sergison, Cllr C P Smith, Cllr B D Stone and Cllr L A Withey.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Evans (Vice-Chairman).

Councillors Aikman, Mrs Anderson, Balfour, Heslop and Worrall were also present pursuant to Council Procedure Rule No 15.21.

**PART 1 - PUBLIC**

**CPK  
09/001      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made.

**CPK  
09/002      MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** That the notes of the meeting of the Car Parking Charges Advisory Board held on 17 June 2008 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**MATTERS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE CABINET**

**CPK  
09/003      CAR PARKING FEES, CHARGES AND OPERATIONS - ANNUAL REVIEW**

Decision Notice D090113MEM

The joint report of the Director of Planning, Transport and Leisure and Director of Finance provided an analysis of the level of fees and charges for the Borough car parks in the context of the current financial climate, car park usage monitoring and the needs of the local economy. Particular emphasis was given to the need to strike a very careful balance in approach to reflect the sensitivities of parking charges related to local economic factors for residents and businesses in the Borough.

In the circumstances it was concluded that there was no justification for a general increase in fees and charges although attention was drawn to a number of anomalies persisting in the pricing structure that merited review. Particular consideration was given to the position regarding

season tickets and a possible review of the charging regime at Lower Castle Field car park. Reference was made to an examination of three potential new sources of revenue (charging in the northern car parks, extending the fee paying hours, and Sunday and public holiday charges) and the conclusion that the Council should continue to refrain from introducing such charges.

Members commended the report for its pragmatic approach in the current economic circumstances and considered that the proposed season ticket prices still represented good value relative to the annualised cost of paying the daily rate for long stay parking. In considering the possibility of realigning the charges in Lower Castle Field with other town centre car parks, Members requested that full consultation be undertaken with all the main sports users, with a report back on the results to the appropriate advisory board later in the year.

**RECOMMENDED:** That

- 1) consultations for the charging system for Lower Castle Field car park to be aligned with the one that currently exists in Upper Castle Field be carried out through the Tonbridge Sports Association;
- 2) the price of a season ticket for the Tonbridge long stay car parks be adjusted in accordance with the table shown at paragraph 1.6.6 of the report; and
- 3) all other charges remain unaltered as part of this year's review.

### **MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PRIVATE**

**CPK  
09/004**

#### **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

No items were considered in private.

The meeting ended at 2026 hours

# TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

## RECORD OF DECISION

**Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR  
Planning and Transportation**

**Decision No: D090113MEM**

**Date: 21st July 2009**

### **Decision(s) and Reason(s)**

#### **Car Parking Fees, Charges and Operations - Annual Review**

**(Joint report of Director of Planning, Transport and Leisure and  
Director of Finance)**

**The report provided an analysis of the level of fees and charges for the Borough car parks in the context of the current financial climate, car park usage monitoring and the needs of the local economy. Particular consideration was given to the position regarding season tickets and a possible review of the charging regime at Lower Castle Field car park. Otherwise, it was concluded that the current tariffs should remain broadly unaltered.**

Following consideration by the Car Parking Charges Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation resolved that:

- 1) consultations for the charging system for Lower Castle Field car park to be aligned with the one that currently exists in Upper Castle Field be carried out through the Tonbridge Sports Association;
- 2) the price of a season ticket for the Tonbridge long stay car parks be adjusted in accordance with the table shown at paragraph 1.6.6 of the report; and
- 3) all other charges remain unaltered as part of this year's review.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Car Parking Charges Advisory Board of 21 July 2009.

Signed Cabinet Member for M Balfour  
Planning and  
Transportation:

Signed Leader: M Worrall

Signed Chief Executive: D Hughes

**Date of publication: 24 July 2009**

This decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of 5 working days after publication unless it is called in.