

**Item PE 16/3 referred from Planning and Transportation Advisory Board minutes of 12 January 2016**

**PE 16/3 REVIEW OF CAR PARKING FEES AND CHARGES**

The joint report of the Director of Street Scene, Leisure and Technical Services and the Director of Finance and Transformation set out recommendations for car parking fees and charges for implementation from 1 April 2016. In addition, the report identified a number of fees and charges for review over the forthcoming year and outlined the Borough Council's ongoing investment in the parking service.

Careful consideration was given to the options set out and Members noted that, whilst the Council regularly reviewed its fees and charges for services provided for the local community, the last annual review of car parking charges in 2015 did not recommend any increases or other changes. Consequently, there had been no increase in any parking charges in the Borough for the last two years.

Members were advised of a petition from West Malling Parish Council asking that short term parking remain free in the town. The petition comprising over 2,500 signatures had been received immediately prior to the meeting and would be dealt with in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme.

The views of the Tonbridge Sports Association regarding Lower Castle Fields car park, Tonbridge were referenced and the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation offered to discuss how to minimise the effect on sports users with the organisation.

**RECOMMENDED:** That the following proposals be approved by Cabinet with effect from 1 April 2016:

- (1) the schedule of charges for short and long stay parking in Tonbridge shown in Table 1 to the report be introduced;
- (2) the schedule of charges for parking in Lower Castle Fields car park shown in Table 2 be introduced;
- (3) the schedules of Peak and Off-Peak Season ticket charges in Tonbridge shown in Tables 3 and 4 be adopted;
- (4) the schedules of charges for short and long stay parking in West Malling shown in Table 6 be introduced, with the exception of the 'over 3 hour' option which would be deleted and having noted the receipt of a petition;
- (5) the schedule of charges for Blue Bell Hill car park shown in Table 7 be introduced, subject to reviewing levels of charging increase within the context of extending the charging period to include a charge for Saturday;
- (6) the schedule of charges for parking in Borough Green Western Road car park shown in Table 8 be introduced, subject to the introduction of a 30 minute tariff at 10p, 20p for 1 hour and 40p for 2 hours;

- (7) Residents permits be increased to £40 applied across the whole Borough and Officers investigate further options for the introduction of tiered pricing structure for parking permits for more than one vehicle per residential household;
- (8) the schedule of charges for business permits and dispensation shown in Table 9 be introduced, subject to clarification over the dispensation period and definition of the dispensations;
- (9) visitor permits be increased to £12 for a book of 10 permits;
- (10) the schedule of charges for Haysden and Leybourne Lakes country parks shown in Table 10 be introduced;
- (11) the schedule of charges for on-street pay & display parking in Tonbridge be introduced but amended to be consistent with the proposed short stay charges in Table 1 for periods of up to 3 hours; and
- (12) separate reviews be brought forward on Evening and Sunday charging, on existing car parking concessions and those car parks not addressed within the report.

**\*Referred to Cabinet**