

Dent with Cowgill Parish Council Sub-Committee Recommendation

Committee Policy and Resource Committee

Date 25 May 2022

Purpose of the Report

To make a recommendation to full council regarding the review into Car Park Tariffs and Permits

Recommendation

Option 2 – To proceed with all of the recommendations below but with immediate effect.

Context

Following the resolution to remove transferable permits, it was agreed to review all of the permits available on the car park with a view to making changes for 2023.

Background

The council had resolved to remove all transferable permits for 2022. However this was not communicated to Second Home/Holiday Let Owners properly and the council therefore agreed to keep the permits for 2022 but to conduct a full review of the tariffs and permits. This committee reviewed the tariffs and permits at a meeting on 21 February 2022, it then consulted with the public between 01 April and 30 April 2022 and received only 4 responses. Having met again on 25 May 2022 to consider the responses the committee makes this recommendation.

Alignment with Objectives

This recommendation aligns with the following council objectives

To support the school and pre-school

To improve the health and well-being of the dale

Financial Implications

The reduction in weekly ticket cost may either reduce or increase the income of the car park dependant on popularity. Very few of these tickets have been purchased at £30.

It is hoped that by removing transferable permits and asking visitors to pay for parking through the ticket machine, income will be increased as the full commercial rate is being paid rather than the heavily subsidised permit rate.

Options considered

1. To do nothing and continue with transferable permits at a heavily discounted rate
2. To proceed with the recommendations below

The Recommendations

Ticket Machine

Tariffs on the ticket machine will remain the same for all tickets with the exception that the 7 day ticket will be reduced to £15 in line with YDNPA car parks and will increase in line with YDNPA car parks. The 5 day ticket will be removed.

These tariffs will be reviewed again in September 2022, ahead of budget setting for 2023-2024.

Free Residents Permits

The council considered that the criteria of being on the electoral roll and living in the dale was vague and not manageable.

It is proposed that payment of council tax is a better criteria. The onus will be upon the applicant to provide evidence that they have paid council tax before a permit is authorised. Permits will be issued with the registration number of the vehicle on. For those council tax payers not residing permanently in the dale (second home owners) wanting more than one residents permit, they will be required to provide proof of ownership of the vehicle for which they require a permit.

Holiday Cottages

The council considered a number of options for transferable permits for holiday cottages including, £780 per annum (£15 x 52 weeks), £390 per annum (£15 x 26 weeks) and £275 in line with the charges Bath House are levying. However, given that the weekly fee is to be reduced to £15, it was preferred that all visitors to the dale (day visitors and those staying in accommodation) should pay for parking through the ticket machine.

Businesses that pay Business Rates

The council recognises that there are a number of businesses in the dale that pay Business Rates and are not eligible for Small Business Rate Relief. It is considered that payment of business rates is a contribution to the local economy in a similar way to Council Tax and that these business should be offered some support.

The proposal is to offer these business (on proof of payment of Business Rates) transferable permits at a cost of £150 per permit per annum.

Motorhomes

There are currently no motorhomes being stored on the car park long term and so the proposal is to remove this facility in order to free up space for other vehicles.

Commercial Vehicles

The council recognises that the parking of vans and other commercial vehicles around the village causes problems. For this reason the proposal is to allow residents permits to be issued for these vehicles that are owned or used by residents of the dale.

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