

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

**CABINET EXECUTIVE
8 September 2015**

REPORT AUTHOR: Cllr John Brunt
Portfolio Holder for Highways

SUBJECT: Car Parks

REPORT FOR: Decision

1. Summary

Following the meeting of Powys County Council on the 11th February 2015 where the 2015-20 Medium Term Financial Strategy [MTFS] was approved, the efficiency saving from introducing car park charges to currently free car parks needs consideration.

This report outlines the proposals to introduce charges into 11 car parks that have been identified as being suitable to introduce control through implementing charging.

None of the car parks identified are covered by the current Traffic Regulation Order governing off street car parks and therefore the legal process to cover these car parks needs to be instigated.

2. Proposal

It is proposed to introduce pay and display machines into the car parks that are mainly used by visitors or a general mix of visitors and residents. Where the primary use is made by local residents it is proposed to create these as residents permit only car parks.

The charges within the proposed pay and display car parks will be consistent with the existing long stay car parks. Charges within the residents permit car parks will be consistent with the charges outlined in the residents parking policy thereby ensuring a consistent approach on or off street for residential parking areas. A summary of the car parks and estimated income is included in Appendix A.

2.1 Pay and Display Car Parks

It is proposed to introduce pay and display charges into the following car parks:

1. Ridgebourne, Llandrindod Wells
2. High Street, Llanfyllin

3. Watergate Street, Llanfair Careinion
4. Station Yard, Talgarth
5. Station Yard, Sennybridge
6. By-pass, Presteigne

Proposed Pay and Display Parking Charges

For Ridgebourne - Llandrindod Wells, High Street - Llanfyllin, Watergate Street - Llanfair Caereinion and Station Yard – Talgarth car parks.

Type of Vehicle	Up to 1 Hour	1 - 2 Hours	2 – 4 Hours	Over 4 Hours	Overnight
Motor car	£0.70	£1.30	£2.50	£3.20	£0.00

For Station Yard – Sennybridge and By-pass – Presteigne car parks

Type of Vehicle	Up to 1 Hour	1 - 2 Hours	2 – 4 Hours	Over 4 Hours	Overnight
Motor car	£0.70	£1.30	£2.50	£3.20	£0.00
Vehicle & Trailer	£1.90	£1.90	£3.80	£3.80	£6.30
Goods to 3t	£2.20	£2.90	£4.00	£4.00	£6.30
Goods >3t	£2.40	£3.40	£4.40	£5.30	£6.30

The season permits that are currently on offer are for use in any long stay car park and will therefore also be valid with any of these car parks.

2.2 Residents Car Parks (Permit Holders Only)

It is proposed to introduce permit holder only restrictions into the following car parks:

1. Market Street, Knighton
2. Tremont Road, Llandrindod
3. Church Place, Llanidloes
4. Orchard Street, Brecon
5. Duckham's Yard, Brecon

Proposed Permit Charges

All permits will be issued for a 12 month period in accordance with the council's policy for Residents Parking [2013]. The current annual charges are:

- First Residents Permit £65
- Second or subsequent Permit (if available) £70
- Visitors Permit (if available) £75

- Replacement permits (all types) £25

Permits will only be issued initially one per property to a vehicle linked to that property. Should the number of permits issued exceed the spaces available within the car parks, no further permits will be issued. Should spare capacity within the car parks be identified, consideration will be given to the issuing of secondary and/or visitors permits. The issue of a permit does not guarantee an available space within the car park and more permits than space may be in circulation at any one time.

2.3 Costs.

The estimate to introduce the necessary machinery and/or signing within the identified car parks is as follows:

• Pay and display machinery [7 car parks]	£34,000
• Electricity supply connections etc	£7,000
• Signage	£15,000
• Patching and lining	£12,500
• Traffic Order [Adverts]	£1,500
Total	£69,500

By introducing charges in to all these car parks identified in this report, it is expected to increase revenue by £48,750 per year (£40,100 from pay and display and £8,650 from residents parking permits). Based on this level of income the First Year Rate of Return will be 70%, effective payback would therefore be achieved in year 2.

It is requested to fund the capital investment required to bring the identified car parks into use as paid for parking by utilising funding from the Council's capital reserves.

3. One Powys Plan

Implementing charges should assist in supporting the Council's functions to ensure it is financially balanced.

There may be risk to the Council as raising charges may be criticised by communities who consider the proposal does not support economically viable communities as the increased charges may deter visitors to the area.

4. Options Considered/Available

Option 1 – Introduce Charges as per the proposal outlined above

Option 2 – not to introduce charges within the identified car park and not meet the income target outlined in the MTFs 2015-18.

5. Preferred Choice and Reasons

Option 1 is the preferred option as it complies with the savings target outlined in the MTFS 2015-18.

Subject to the legal procedure it is proposed to introduce the charges as soon as practical to ensure the target increase in revenue is met.

6. Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder,/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc

Not Applicable

7. Children and Young People's Impact Statement - Safeguarding and Wellbeing

Not Applicable

8. Local Member(s)

All the local members in which the identified car parks were consulted. The following provides a summary of the Councillors comments made to the proposals.

County Councillor	Car Park	Comments
Tom Turner	Ridgebourne, Llandrindod	I have no objection to charges being imposed within this car park subject to the statutory process being followed.
Gary Price	Tremont Road, Llandrindod Wells	No Comment received. However question was raised as to whether this and the Ridgebourne car parks would be taken over by the Town Council as part of the Community Asset Transfer proposals.
Garry Banks	By-pass, Presteigne	The car park was provided as a coach and lorry park and also now houses the recycling units. When this previously operated as a pay and display car park the machine was continually vandalised and as a result the machine was removed. As Local Member I suggest no charge is placed on this car park because of its other use [recycling and

		parking of school buses and lorries]. I suggest to retain charging in Hereford Street and High street car parks only.
Evan Morgan	Station Yard, Sennybridge	Due to the recycling area there is limited space for parking bays also the area required for access to the two businesses needs to be maintained. The income received from these licences goes towards the upkeep of the car park. There would be insufficient use of the car park to justify the capital expenditure required for installing a machine. The community council undertook a survey previously which demonstrated the low use.
Peter Medicott	Market street, Knighton	Considers it is more appropriate as a residential car park than a general pay and display or alternatively used for another purpose other than a car park.
Peter Lewis	High Street, Llanfyllin	<p>The Town Council strongly oppose car park charges and will not consider charges on their section of the car park. This together with the free spaces provided at the adjacent Spar will make it ridiculous if Powys County Council charge for their spaces.</p> <p>The majority of the car park under Powys' control is on a 999 year lease which is restricted to educational purposes and I believe income is restricted to £15.</p> <p>The Town Council believe that charging will affect the economy of Llanfyllin as less people will stop when driving through, currently there is only one closed shop in the town. The National press have reported on Cardigan where free parking increased business in the town.</p>
Gareth Morgan	Church Place, Llanidloes	<p>Consider the car park would be better suited as a resident's car parking area rather than a pay and display public car park.</p> <p>Land was gifted to the former Borough Council and decedents of the family believe there were restrictions placed on the transfer not to charge.</p> <p>There is a vehicular access off the</p>

		parking area which will need maintaining.
David Meredith	Duckham's Yard and Orchard Street, Brecon	I am still awaiting sight of the agreements which are currently in place regarding both the Duckham's Yard and Orchard Street Car Parks before making any comments on the Authority's proposals to them becoming residents permit holders car park.
Miss Viola Evans	Watergate Street, Llanfair Caereinion	Concerned that charging within the small car park used by residents and visitors will force more parking on to the already congested streets which need to cope with HGVs [namely quarry traffic buses and farm vehicles/deliveries] causing further hold ups.
William Powell	Station Yard, Talgarth	No comments received.

9. Other Front Line Services

Not Applicable

10. Support Services (Legal, Finance, Corporate Property, HR, ICT, Business Services)

Legal services support the recommended option proposed subject there being no restrictions and/or covenants on the land forming the car park areas and to the successful completion of the statutory traffic regulation order process.

Finance support the proposed charges outlined in the report which will contribute towards the savings targets.

11. Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc

Not applicable

12. Corporate Communications

The report is of public interest and requires a proactive news release and use of social media to publicise the decision.

13. Statutory Officers

The Strategic Director Resources (S151 Officer) notes the comments made by finance and the contribution the savings targets.

Deputy Monitoring officer "takes note of the Members comments and makes no further comments on this report".

14. Members' Interests

The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report. If Members have an interest they should declare it at the start of the meeting and complete the relevant notification form.

15. Future Status of the Report

Members are invited to consider the future status of this report and whether it can be made available to the press and public either immediately following the meeting or at some specified point in the future.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To initiate the Traffic Regulation Order consultation procedure in accordance with The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.2. To provide the Portfolio Holder with the authority to implement the proposed changes taking into account the findings of the consultation process and the determination of any restrictions and/or covenants on the land.3. To utilise corporate reserves to fund the capital investment required.	To meet income target increase identified in the Medium term financial strategy 2015-18

Relevant Policy (ies):			
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	n/a
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Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Tony Caine
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	As soon as practical

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Email:
Tony Caine	01597 826652	tony.caine@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015-18

CABINET REPORT TEMPLATE VERSION 3

Appendix A - Car Park Summary

Location	Comment	Capacity	Occupancy rate %	Ave rate	unit	income pa
Llanidloes, Church Place	Suit residents parking to cater for high number of properties without off street parking facility. There are no restriction/covenants on the deeds which would prevent charges, however vehicular right of access to property needs to be maintained.	24	70	£65.00	yr	£1,092.00
Llanfair Caereinion, Watergate	Car park is shared with recycling centre. Mixed stay parking therefore more suited to pay and display. Deeds are still to be checked to establish whether restriction would prevent charging.	39	35	£2.50	da	£8,872.50
Llanfyllin, High Street	Part of a larger car park of which an equal area is owned and operated by the town council who will not consider charging for its use. Additionally small free car park now provided with the Spar development which is accessed through the car park. Use mainly by visitors would suit pay and display. Deeds are still to be checked to establish whether restriction would prevent charging.	55	30	£2.50	da	£10,725.00
Llandrindod Wells, Ridgebourne	Mixed use car park would therefore suit pay and display. There are no restrictions on the land which would prevent charging.	18	20	£2.50	da	£2,340.00
Llandrindod Wells, Tremont	This car park was created to provide parking for residents of Tremont Road when on-street restrictions were introduced a number of years ago. It operates mainly as a resident's car park. There are no restrictions on the land which would prevent charging.	38	70	£65.00	yr	£1,729.00
Knighton, Market Street	Predominantly a residents car park there are no restrictions that would prevent charging for its use as a residential car park.	36	70	£65.00	da	£1,638.00

Location	Comment	Capacity	Occupancy rate %	Ave rate	unit	income pa
Brecon, Duckham's Yard	This car park provides residential and mixed stay parking for visitors to the town as it offers free parking. Although mixed use it would be better suited to residents only. There are no restriction which would prevent charging for its use.	45	70	£65.00	da	£2,047.50
Brecon, Orchard Street	This car park provides residential and mixed stay parking for visitors to the town as it offers free parking. Although mixed use it would be better suited to residents only. There are no restrictions which would prevent charging for its use.	47	70	£65.00	da	£2,138.50
Sennybridge car park	This car park has a number of businesses operating from its boundary. It provides parking for all types of vehicles and includes a recycling area. A Community Centre was built on the edge of the car park. Deeds require checking however it is not anticipated there will be a restriction on charging for its use. Income received from right of access to through the car park. Deeds are still to be checked to establish whether restriction would prevent charging.	50	10	£2.50	da	£3,250.00
Talgarth, Station Road	Mixed use car park would therefore suit pay and display. Deeds are still to be checked to establish whether restriction would prevent charging.	60	30	£2.50	da	£11,700.00
Presteigne, bypass	Visitor car park with coach/lorry parking would suit pay and display. There are no restriction on charging for its use.	33	15	£2.50	da	£3,217.50

Pay and display total	£40,105.00
Residents parking total	£8,645.00
Potential income	£48,750.00