

Cabinet



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Title of Report:	Recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: 11 January 2017 St Andrews Car Park	
Report No:	CAB/SE/17/002	
Report to and date:	Cabinet	7 February 2017
Portfolio holder:	Peter Stevens Portfolio Holder for Operations Tel: 07775 877000 Email: peter.stevens@stedsbc.gov.uk	
Chairman of the Committee:	Diane Hind Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Tel: 01284 706542 Email: diane.hind@stedsbc.gov.uk	
Lead Officers:	Mark Walsh Head of Operations Tel: 01284 757300 Email: mark.walsh@westsuffolk.gov.uk Darren Dixon Car Parks Manager Tel: 01284 757413 Email: Darren.dixon@westsuffolk.gov.uk	
Purpose of report:	On 11 January 2017, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered Report No: OAS/SE/17/001 , which was referred to the Committee, in response to a Motion on Notice submitted by Councillor Nettleton to Council on 20 December 2016.	

Recommendations:	It is <u>RECOMMENDED</u> that:		
	<p>(1) the all-day tariff for long stay parking in St Andrews Car Park, Bury St Edmunds not be changed, and that the Annual Update Report on Car Parking, usually presented to the Committee in November be moved to January 2018, following the completion of the Bury St Edmunds Town Centre Master Plan; and</p> <p>(2) the previous alignment of the footpath in St Andrews Car Park, be reinstated, with the requisite loss of car parking spaces, as detailed in paragraph 1.1.6 of Report No: CAB/SE/17/002.</p>		
Key Decision: <i>(Check the appropriate box and delete all those that do not apply.)</i>	<i>Is this a Key Decision and, if so, under which definition?</i> Yes, it is a Key Decision - <input type="checkbox"/> No, it is not a Key Decision - <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Consultation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Report No: OAS/SE/17/001 		
Alternative option(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Report No: OAS/SE/17/001 		
Implications:			
Are there any financial implications? <i>If yes, please give details</i>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Report No: OAS/SE/17/001 	
Are there any staffing implications? <i>If yes, please give details</i>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Report No: OAS/SE/17/001 	
Are there any ICT implications? <i>If yes, please give details</i>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Report No: OAS/SE/17/001 	
Are there any legal and/or policy implications? <i>If yes, please give details</i>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Report No: OAS/SE/17/001 	
Are there any equality implications? <i>If yes, please give details</i>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Report No: OAS/SE/17/001 	
Risk/opportunity assessment: <i>(potential hazards or opportunities affecting corporate, service or project objectives)</i>			
Risk area	Inherent level of risk (before controls)	Controls	Residual risk (after controls)
See Report No: OAS/SE/17/001			
Ward(s) affected:		All Wards	
Background papers: <i>(all background papers are to be published on the website and a link included)</i>		Report No: OAS/SE/17/001	
Documents attached:		None	

1. Key issues and reasons for recommendation

1.1 Key Issues

- 1.1.1 Councillor David Nettleton was invited to the meeting to present to the Committee his Motion on Notice, which had been submitted to Council on 20 December 2016, and had subsequently been referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration. The motion stated:

The St Andrews short-stay car park is half-empty Monday to Friday, whereas the long-stay section is often close to capacity. The reason is that the current pricing policy encourages shoppers to occupy spaces in the long-stay section intended for town centre workers. By making minor adjustments to the tariffs in both sections of this car park, a more even spread of parking can be achieved for the benefit of our customers and without compromising income streams designed to meet revenue budget targets previously agreed by the Council. The anticipated date of implementation is Monday 3 April 2017.

I therefore propose that the tariffs are revised to the following: (changes highlighted in bold):-

*Short-stay section: 30 minutes 60p: 1 hour £1.10 (no change to either): **3 hours £2**. At present, there is a 2 hour option at £2 and a 3 hour option at £2.70. Our customers clearly don't like paying more than £2 for a short-stay of up to 3 hours in this car park, as the number of events per tariff band indicates.*

*Long-stay section: **Daily £4** (up from £3). The current difference between 3 hours in the short-stay section and the daily tariff is 30p. The proposed difference would be £2. A few shoppers will pay but the majority will migrate to the short-stay section. **Weekly Tickets £10** (down from £11.50) **Low Emissions £8** (down from £10). Many shop and office workers are not highly paid but they are key to the continued success of the town centre economy. Weekly tickets are 24/7. There are no changes planned for tariffs in either section at weekends.*

In addition, I propose restoring the pedestrian path between the residential streets of Bishops Road/Blomfield Street and the Springfield/Tayfen area beyond, which was arbitrarily truncated last summer without consultation with either local ward members or the community which it served as a link to Wilko and the arc shopping centre. Most importantly, open discussions with West Suffolk College and Suffolk County Council to accommodate students Monday to Friday during term time in the long-stay section. Here also, the implementation date would be Monday 3 April 2017.

- 1.1.2 Councillor Nettleton provided the Committee with additional supporting evidence regarding car parking statistics and the reasoning for the motion.
- 1.1.3 The Committee received Report No: OAS/SE17/001, which responded to the motion. Councillor Peter Stevens, Portfolio Holder for Operations and the Car Parks Manager responded to the various issues raised in the motion; set out the car parking profile for the St Andrews car park; and the work carried out by the Car Park Task and Finish Group in 2016, and their recommendations

which had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

- 1.1.4 In response to the motion, the Cabinet Member explained that the Council would need to look at the whole of the parking in the Borough, and not one car park in isolation. An add hoc review on one particular car park would not be healthy. The issue of college students parking on the roads was a matter for Suffolk County Council (SCC). He also acknowledged the current work taking place on the Bury Masterplan, which would be identifying future car parking needs.
- 1.1.5 The Committee considered the evidence provided by Councillor Nettleton along with the report. In particular, the Committee considered in detail the existing tariff structure, specifically the all-day tariff for long stay parking, and whether the previous alignment of the footpath in the car park should be reinstated (with a requisite loss of car parking spaces).
- 1.1.6 The majority of Members were concerned that people might get hit in the St Andrews Car Park and suggested that the original footpath should be reinstated. Some Members felt that there was no need to reinstate the original alignment of the foot path. Other Members were also concerned that no consultation had been carried out with the Ward Member(s) and sought reassurance that in the future, Ward Member(s) would be consulted before changes were made in their ward.

The Committee was informed that the footpath did meet the required health and safety requirements, as set out in the report. This was the only car park in Bury St Edmunds which had a footpath. However, it was not a designated right of way and both drivers and people using the car park had a duty of care.
- 1.1.7 The Committee had some sympathy with college students, and was pleased that parties were coming together regarding student parking.
- 1.1.8 The Cabinet Member acknowledged the need for further car park capacity to be reviewed and informed the Committee that he had been reassured through the master plan process that capacity could be delivered by 2020. He was also aware of Members' concerns and the Council was working hard to deliver solutions.
- 1.1.9 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the report and has put forward recommendations as set out on page two of this report.