

# CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

## Leader on behalf of Cabinet Member for Communities

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**Date of Meeting:** 22 February 2016  
**Report of:** Paul Traynor, Strategic Commissioning Manager  
**Subject/Title:** Proposed variation of the Cheshire East Borough Council (Off-Street Parking Places) Order 2015

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### 1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 As a Residents and Business First Council we are continually improving our approach to how to provide the best services that we can. In October 2015, we brought together all of the different off-street parking orders and consolidated them into one. It gave us the strong platform to make any further amendments. This report deals with the proposed amendments that we wish to consult our residents on and notices will be put up in all of the affected car parks asking for their views. We are still working up the broader strategy for car parking and this will determine the future pricing strategy across Cheshire East based on the needs of each respective area.
- 1.2 Our fantastic new Crewe Lifestyle Centre is due to open its doors on 1 April 2016. Although, we want people to use public transport, or to walk and cycle, we recognise that this isn't always practical. Therefore, we are proposing to change the civic centre car park in Crewe from long stay to short stay for a maximum of four hours and this being one of the two main car parks for people who want to use the Lifestyle Centre to use. Oak Street car park will be the other car park. People who use our leisure facilities at the Crewe Lifestyle Centre will be entitled to a refund of their car park fees if they park at either of these two car parks up to a maximum of £1.00 of their parking fee. It will also support people going to the markets and town centre in Crewe and hopefully support a boost in their trade.
- 1.3 Our beautiful country parks at Teggs Nose and Brereton Heath are extremely well used by our own residents and visitors. Any surplus income from these car parks is reinvested back into the parks and a modest increase to the prices is proposed as set out in 2.3(a). In addition, it is proposed that charges will be applied seven days a week.
- 1.4 There is an ongoing consultation in Alderley Edge which is asking local people and businesses their views on parking and what the possible solutions are. One of the possible solutions is to change South Street which has been short stay since October 2015 to a maximum of three hours and amend the prices to 0-1 hour (50p); 1-2 hours (£1.00) & 2-3 hours (£2.00) to encourage short-stay use, but also to allow people to stay a little longer if they are visiting one of the London Road restaurants for lunch, etc. A No Return within two hours is also proposed to be applied to this car park.
- 1.5 We have increased the maximum stay hours at Spring Street car park in Wilmslow to try and alleviate issues of commuter parking. The order required a slight adjustment to reflect that. We are also responding to our residents who park at either Rex or Hoopers car park in Wilmslow. We understand that people get a pay and display

ticket at one of these car parks and then park. They may find a space in Rex car park, but have bought a ticket for Hoopers. Under the existing parking order, people would receive a parking fine for this as it's a non-transferable ticket. The proposal is to allow for the combined ticket use of Rex car park in Wilmslow and Hooper's car park in Wilmslow. This would resolve the issue and you could then buy a ticket from any machine.

- 1.6 We are also proposing, in response to a request from ESAR, to amend the permitted hours and tariff at the Wilmslow Leisure car park to a single tariff for a maximum stay of three hours. This is a different situation to Crewe and Nantwich as ESAR directly manages and operates the Wilmslow car park, and following a number of complaints is requesting action to alleviate pressure on the car park and free up spaces for our important leisure users.

## 2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 To authorise the Borough Solicitor to publish a notice of the Council's intention to vary the consolidated off-street parking order as set out below, inviting any representations to be made within 21 days of the notification. In the event that objections are received that cannot be resolved, for these to be referred back to the Cabinet Member for consideration at a future meeting.
- 2.2 In the event of their being no unresolved objections following the 21 day notification period, to authorise the Borough Solicitor to make and bring into force the proposed variations and to give notice thereof in accordance with statutory requirements.
- 2.3 The proposed variations to the Order are as follows:
- a) Teggs Nose Country Park car park, Buxton Old Road, Macclesfield, SK11 0AP – Amend the existing Order to alter the charging period from 7 days per week between Easter Bank Holiday Friday to 31<sup>st</sup> October and Saturdays and Sundays throughout the year, to 7 days per week, each week of the year and amend the charges at both Teggs Nose Country car park and Brereton Heath Local Nature Reserve car park as stated in Table 1.

**Table1:** Proposed car parking charges at Teggs Nose and Country Park and Brereton Heath Local Nature Reserve.

Country Parks: Car Parking	Current charge	Proposed charge from 1/4/16
<b>Teggs Nose Country park</b>		
0.5 – 1 hour	0.60	0.70
1 – 3 hours	1.70	2.00
3 – 10 hours	2.00	2.50
Season Ticket	25.00	30.00
<b>Brereton Heath Local Nature Reserve</b>		
0 – 1 hour	0.60	0.70
1 – 3 hours	1.70	2.00
3 – 10 hours	2.60	2.60
Season Ticket approved Clubs	20.00	23.00
Season Ticket	38.00	42.00

- b) Increase the maximum stay hours at Spring Street car park in Wilmslow to 15 hours.
- c) Allow for the use of the Rex car park, Wilmslow being an alternative for Hooper's car park in Wilmslow
- d) Amend the tariff at Wilmslow Leisure Centre car park to have a single tariff for a maximum stay of 3 hours (at the current 2 hour rate of £1.00) and remove the 2 – 5 hour tariff of £3.40
- e) Alter the parking provision at Oak Street car park in Crewe and the civic centre car park in Crewe – A) civic centre car park (also known as the Undercroft car park) amend to short stay only with the maximum stay being 4 hours and new shorter stay charges being introduced and B) reduce the charge for 1-2 hours on Oak Street car park from £1.10 to £1.00 as shown in Table 2.

**Table 2:** Proposed car parking charges for Oak Street car par and the civic centre car park.

<b>0 to 1 Hour</b>	<b>1 to 2 Hours</b>	<b>2 to 4 Hours</b>	<b>4 to 10 Hours (Oak Street car park only)</b>
£0.70	£1.00	£2.10	£2.90

- f) Support the reimbursement of users of the leisure facility within Crewe Lifestyle Centre that park in either Oak Street car park or the civic centre car park, up to a maximum of £1.00 towards their parking fee upon presentation of a parking receipt.
- g) Offer permits for parking in Crewe at Oak Street car park, Wrexham Terrace car park, Gatefield Street car park, Wood Street East car park at a cost of £460.00 for an annual permit or £175.00 for a quarterly permit.

### **3.0 Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 To ensure that appropriate enforcement is accommodated within the existing Consolidated Order
- 3.2 To take account of some updated car park control provisions in Wilmslow and proposals for Alderley Edge.
- 3.3 To amend and increase the charges at Teggs Nose Country Park car park and Brereton Heath Local Nature Reserve car park
- 3.4 To accommodate the required parking provisions at the Lifestyle Centre in Crewe
- 3.5 To allow for the relocation of purchasers of parking permits for the civic centre car park in Crewe at other designated car parks in Crewe
- 3.6 To reduce the cost at Oak Street car park in Crewe to £1.00 from £1.10 so as to enable efficient and cost effective reimbursement to the public for the use of the Leisure Centre facilities

#### **4.0 Wards Affected**

- 4.1 All, but specifically, Crewe Central, Macclesfield East, Brereton Rural, Wilmslow West and Chorley & Wilmslow East as all those using the car parks are affected, not just those living nearby.

#### **5.0 Local Ward Members**

- 5.1 All, but specifically, Cllrs Faseyi, Brookfield, Chapman, Newton, Grant, Flude, Hogben, Bailey, Rhodes, Roberts, Warren, Wray, Menlove, Barton, Brooks and Browne.

#### **6.0 Policy Implications including carbon reduction, health, crime and disorder**

- 6.1 Carbon Reduction – Parking facilities should assist with reducing carbon emissions through reduced congestion in town centres and encourage public transport use.
- 6.2 Health - As above, effective parking services can help improve air quality by reducing vehicle emissions

#### **7.0 Financial Implications**

- 7.1 The changes to the Crewe car parks to support the new Lifestyle Centre will have a potential financial impact through the reimbursements to Lifestyle centre users. These reimbursements are predicted to be in the region of £66,000 per annum across both Crewe car parks. The overall usage of the car parks is expected to increase due to the addition of the Lifestyle users, which it is hoped will take advantage of their town centre visit by stopping longer than the 2 hours to shop in the town, this would have the effect of reducing this £66,000 pressure. Overall it is predicted that the decision to reimburse Lifestyle users will create an additional Council budget pressure, it is hoped that a significant portion of this will be offset by new car park users being attracted to the town.
- 7.2 The reimbursements will be managed separately to the ESAR management fee.
- 7.3 There will be a cost implications relating to the publication of the statutory notices. The estimated publicity costs for the statutory notices, in the region of £6,700, will be met from the service that is directly responsible. ESAR will meet the costs for all changes that relate to leisure and lifestyle centres. Countryside service will meet all costs associated with the alterations to Teggs Nose and Brereton heath car parks.
- 7.4 The increase in Countryside income has been built in to their 2016-17 budgets and will cause a pressure if the prices are not amended as set out in the report in time for 1/4/16
- 7.5 The changes to the maximum stay hours at Spring Street and allowing the use of Rex car park as an alternative to Hoopers, do not result in any financial implications.

#### **8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)**

- 8.1 The proposal to give 21 days notice of the intended variations, to invite and then take into account representations in respect of the same comply with the legal process requirements.

- 8.2 If, following that process, the proposed variation is made, there are further notification requirements designed to ensure that the public are made ware of the changes and when they will take effect. There is also a period of six weeks following the making of the variation order during which a challenge by way of judicial review may be brought.

## **9.0 Risk Management**

- 9.1 Full consideration of any objections received in response to the statutory notices and proper adherence to due process will mitigate any risk of challenge.

## **10.0 Background and Options**

- 10.1 The reasons for the proposed variation to the existing Order are set out within section 3.0 above.

- 10.2 The alternative options are:

- a) Not to vary the existing Order; it is suggested that users of the new Leisure facilities in Crewe and other users of the Councils parking provisions would be adversely affected by not having the appropriate short stay parking facilities needed nearby and that adequate provision and enforcement of that provision be affected if the other changes are not authorised despite the risk that those affected negatively may complain about the proposals

## **11.0 Access to Information**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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