



Meeting: Transport Working Party

Date: 23rd January 2014

Wards Affected: All

Report Title: Newton Road Pay and Display - Six month review

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 Following the introduction of pay and display parking in Newton Road, Torquay a review of the scheme is required.

2. Proposed Decision

- 2.1 Continue with pay and display charging at Newton Road.
- 2.2 Undertake a promotion of reduced charges for three months to increase usage of the area and report back to Members at the end of this period with further recommendations. This will be:

All day = £1 (minimum charge and no 4 hour charge)

Weekly ticket = £5

3. Action Needed

- 3.1 Implement new tariffs at the parking equipment in Newton Road.

4. Summary

- 4.1 Newton Road is showing an occupancy between 40% and 50% in 2014 which is below the original forecast of 80% which was expected before the scheme was introduced based on the occupancy at Lymington Road in Torquay which offers a similar tariff. At weekends occupancy is very low at 10% due to the Hospital and nearby businesses having fewer staff on rotas.
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Supporting Information

5. Position

- 5.1 Following a previous report to the Transport Working Party in 2013 pay and display parking was introduced at Newton Road in Torquay.

- 5.2 The tariff approved by Members was £1 for 4 hours or £2 all day parking.
- 5.3 Usage of Newton Road has improved but income remains below budget with an estimate of income to be circa £8,000 for 34 weeks during the year 2013/14 from when the scheme was implemented in August 2013. Estimated 12 month income is £12,000.
- 5.4 The scheme was budgeted to provide an annual income of £20,000 per year.
- 5.5 Commuters working at Torbay Hospital and the nearby business park were expected to be the main users of the area and this appears to be the situation with the majority of tickets purchased before 9am in the morning.
- 5.6 Local residents in Newton Road are able to apply for residents parking spaces to use the area, to date only two have been issued.

6. Possibilities and Options

- 6.1 Leave the charges and policy unchanged
- 6.2 Reduce the charges permanently.
- 6.3 Undertake a temporary parking promotion for three months offering reduced charges of £1 for all day parking, also a weekly ticket charge of £5 which can be purchased at the pay and display machine to encourage increased occupancy.
- 6.4 Introduce only a weekly ticket option to be purchased from the machine at £5 per week, leaving daily charges unchanged at £1 for 4 hours and £2 for all day parking and monitor if usage increases.

7. Preferred Solution/Option

- 7.1 Undertake a temporary parking promotion as per 6.3 above.

8. Consultation

- 8.1 The Hospital has been contacted who has stated the distance from the hospital for some staff is of concern and may deter usage. Also that a weekly ticket cost at a discount may encourage further use of the area which they would promote to staff who do not hold permits to park on site.

9. Risks

- 9.1 Reduced parking charges may not encourage further use of the area and the budget will be further affected due to reduced charges.

Appendices: N/A

Additional Information: N/A

Documents available in Members' Rooms: N/A

Background Papers: N/A