

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
TWEEDDALE AREA FORUM
PARKING SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTE of the MEETING of the
TWEEDDALE AREA FORUM, PARKING
SUB-COMMITTEE held in the Old Burgh
Chamber, Chambers Institution, Peebles on
24 July 2013 at 5.00 p.m.

Present:- Councillors S. Bell (Chairman) W. Archibald, G. Logan, Community Councillor A. Stewart, Mr M Macdonald.
Apology:- Councillor N. Buckingham.
In Attendance:- Team Leader – Road Safety/Traffic Management, Democratic Services Officer (K. Mason).

MINUTE

1. There had been circulated copies of the Minute of Meeting of the Parking Sub-Committee of 12 June 2013. In referring to paragraph 7(b)(i) of the Minute, it was noted no analysis had been provided by Councillor Buckingham.

DECISION

APPROVED the minute.

SUBMISSIONS BY SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2. With reference to paragraph 7(b)(iii) of the Minute of 12 June 2013, there had been circulated copies of responses relating to the parking surveys received from Murdoch Macdonald, Peebles Community Council and Councillor Bell. The Team Leader was uncertain at how Peebles Community Council had arrived at their figures. In discussing the remit of the Sub-Committee, Members noted that any recommendation to the Tweeddale Area Forum would not be for the purpose of increased revenue but to ensure there was sufficient turnover in car parks to allow for visitor parking.

DECISION

NOTED the responses received.

VARIOUS SCENARIOS

3. There had been circulated copies of a report by the Team Leader reporting on various scenarios as follows:

Scenario 1 – All week charging with existing tariffs in all existing Pay and Display Car Parks.

Scenario 2 – All week charging with amended tariffs and/or times in all existing Pay and Display Car Parks.

Scenario 3 – Targeted charging with existing tariffs to address particular supply versus demand issues.

4. The report recommended that targeted charging and increased signage should be considered as follows:- The introduction of weekday parking charges in Greenside Car Park would help manage demand and free up space. Although this measure had potential to move parking into residential areas and side streets it could be introduced on a trial basis. The parking equipment was in place and needed very little done to bring it into effect. This measure should then be assessed to decide if it should be introduced on a permanent basis and/or whether weekday charges should be considered to some degree in other Pay and

Display Car Parks in the town. The introduction of off-street parking charges for Kingsmeadows Car Park on Saturdays would help distribute parking more evenly throughout the town. This measure would need the introduction of a Pay and Display machine and a change to the current traffic regulation order (TRO). There would be no need to purchase a Pay and Display machine as a spare machine was available but the procedures to introduce a TRO would take a number of months. If this recommendation was adopted, it was suggested that it be introduced at the same time as any trial of weekday charges in Greenside Car Park. Increased signage including reference to Kingsmeadows Car Park might help distribute the parking more evenly throughout the town during weekdays. Members discussed the various options. The Team Leader advised that there would be a cost of £75 for each parking ticket machine which required adjustment. It was noted that a trial "pay by phone" system would soon be operational within Scottish Borders Council's Car Parks.

DECISION

AGREED that it be remitted to the Team Leader to bring a report to the next meeting with a recommendation to Tweeddale Area Forum on the following proposals:-

- (a) **Greenside Car Park and Swimming Pool Car Park - 4 hours free parking then charge – Monday to Saturday;**
- (b) **Edinburgh Road Car Park – 2 hours free parking then charge – Saturday;**
- (c) **the report should include details of operation costs, increased signage, timescales etc. for a one year operational trial period;**
- (d) **one year operational trial period to be combined with a consultation survey undertaken by the Tweeddale Area Forum; and**
- (e) **penalty charges would remain the same with a review in 12 months.**

BUSES

5. There had been circulated copies of a paper detailing bus usage in the Edinburgh Road Car Park from 2 May 2013 until 18 July 2013. The paper presented information showing the infrequency of all four bus parking spaces all being used at any one time. The Sub-Committee expressed concern that First Bus was using the parking spaces as a bus depot. In discussions relating to tourism buses, it was noted that passengers were often decanted on Peebles High Street; the buses would then park elsewhere and return to the Edinburgh Road Car Park to collect passengers. The Team Leader advised the Sub-Committee that currently there was a £2.00 per day charge for bus parking.

DECISION

AGREED that further discussions would take place at the next meeting of the Sub-Committee on whether to recommend increasing the charge for buses from £2.00 per day to £5.00 on a Saturday only or for 6 days.

THURSDAY MARKET

6. There had been circulated copies of correspondence from the Estates Section seeking approval for a new lease of the market site in Peebles. A plan was attached showing a new layout for accommodating 10 to 12 stalls which was of a similar size to the area presently used. Members discussed the possible relocation of the market to several areas including, High Street, Northgate, Kingsmeadows Car Park and Venlaw Road.

DECISION

AGREED that the Team Leader would liaise with Estates Section about the possible relocation of the market with all Members of the Tweeddale Area Forum being kept informed of progress.

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

7. The Sub-Committee noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, 8 August 2013 at 5.00 p.m. within the Old Burgh Chamber, Chambers Institution, High Street, Peebles.

DECISION

NOTED that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, 8 August 2013 at 5.00 p.m. within the Old Burgh Chamber, Chambers Institution, High Street, Peebles.

The meeting concluded at 6.30 p.m.