

Extract from the Draft Minutes of the Cabinet's 6th October meeting.

10. Review of Decriminalisation of Parking Enforcement in Stratford-on-Avon District

The joint report of the Chair of the Stratford on Avon Area Committee, the Acting Chief Executive and the Director of Planning, Transport and Economic Strategy was considered.

The Stratford on Avon Area Committee had considered a report by the Director of Planning, Transport and Economic Strategy relating to a review of the decriminalisation of parking enforcement in the District.

The Committee recommended that in pay and display streets, the free waiting period should be 30 minutes (as opposed to a recommendation that a charge of twenty pence should be made for the 30 minutes period) and that on-street charges on Sunday should be abolished before 12 noon.

The Cabinet was requested to consider the issues.

A letter from the District Council was circulated before the meeting indicating that the District Council's portfolio holder preferred the option involving a 20 pence charge for the 30 minute period and that with regard to the abolition of charges on Sunday before 12 noon, the District Council would not be implementing the same in its car parks.

The views of the Stratford Town Management Partnership had also been circulated before the meeting. The Partnership did not want their name used to support or oppose and of the recommendations from the Stratford on Avon Area Committee.

Copies of these are attached to the signed minutes.

During his introduction of the report Councillor Martin Heatley indicated his support for recommendation 1 in the report and, seconded by Councillor Colin Hayfield, he moved: -

That in those streets in Stratford-upon-Avon with pay and display the 50 pence charge for 40 minutes and the free 20 minute period be abolished and replaced with a 30 minute period free of charge and that on-street charges on a Sunday in Stratford-upon-Avon be abolished before 12 noon".

During the discussion members were advised that the Stratford on Avon Area Committee had requested that the matter should be determined without any further delay in order that any changes to the scheme could be introduced quickly having regard to the time which had elapsed since that Committee's consideration of the review of the scheme and also having regard to the forthcoming Christmas shopping period.

Councillor Ken Browne, Chair of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee, expressed concern over the free parking period proposed in

recommendation 1 and suggested that the O and S Committee should be asked for its views before the matter was determined, having regard to several matters including:-

- The financial impact on decriminalisation schemes proposed in other parts of the County.
- The District Council's did not support recommendation 1 and, consequently it was possible that recommendation 1 would lead to increasing congestion in the Town created by people looking for free on-street places.
- The Town Management Partnership had indicated several reasons why they did not support free parking.

During the discussion members were reminded that the Area Committee had requested urgent consideration of the issues and that it would be possible for the proposals relating to parking on Sunday mornings to be separated from the free parking issue.

Councillor Martin Heatley's motion was then put to the vote and was carried.

11. Stratford Park and Ride

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Planning, Transport and Economic Strategy which sought approval to the letting of a single contract for the operation of the Park and Ride site and the bus services.

During the discussion the following points were noted:-

- It was anticipated locally that the Park and Ride Scheme would be opened in time for the Christmas shopping period.
- In economic development terms, there had been an investment in the scheme to provide attractive long stay parking for commuters and tourists.

Councillor Ken Browne, Chair of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee indicated that he considered the Park and Ride item was closely allied to the previous item about decriminalisation in Stratford upon Avon and consequently the matter should be deferred until after the decriminalisation issues had been determined.

It was then Resolved:-

That the management of the Park and Ride car park and the provision of the Park and Ride bus services should be let as a combined contract to Johnsons (Henley) Ltd.