

## APPENDIX 1 - UPDATE TO COUNTRY PARKS' FEES & CHARGES FOR 2021/22

### 1.0 Introduction

1.1 The County Council's constitution requires approval of fees and charges by the relevant portfolio holder prior to their application. Income derived from rents, tenancies, catering concessions, shop sales, caravan site profits share, special events and grants etc, account for approximately 35% of the country parks' total income in a normal year; these elements are adjusted through rent reviews and lease arrangements and are not included in this review.

### 2.0 Rationale of pricing approach for 2021/22

2.1 It is the County Council's normal practice that fees and charges are increased each year by at least the rate of inflation. However, the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic over the past year has reduced this metric and increased its volatility.

2.2 Furthermore, it is recognised that at present and for some foreseeable time the amenities provided to communities by the Country Parks service are of the highest value and it is important to ensure these remain accessible while the local economy recovers from the effect of the pandemic. This is expected to support the local visitor economy in turn.

2.3 As a result of these two factors, it is considered inappropriate and unnecessary to increase the fees and charges for parking and other activities in Country Parks from 2020/21 levels.

2.4 The only changes being made to the schedule of fees and charges then is to bundle together the fee for day fishing at Kingsbury Water Park with the parking fee as one charge. This puts fishing as an activity on an equal setting with other paid-for activities where parking is included for free as part of the price. This change has been in practical operation since the summer of 2020, when the parking system was changed away from a cash-based barrier to a card-based pay and display approach. This has allowed the introduction of the combined ticket, removing the previous confusion for fishing customers who were required to purchase two tickets from separate machines.

### 3.0 Changes for 2021/22

#### 3.1 Day fishing tickets at Kingsbury Water Park

The new statement of the fishing fees, including free parking, is as follows:

Pine, Heron, Kingfisher, Gibsons & Cliff Pool South		
	(1 <sup>st</sup> Mar – 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct)	£9.50
	(1 <sup>st</sup> Nov – 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb)	£8.00
Swann, Causeway, Mill, Willows & Bodymoor Heath		
	(1 <sup>st</sup> Mar – 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct)	£7.50
	(1 <sup>st</sup> Nov – 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb)	£6.00
Concessions		
	(1 <sup>st</sup> Mar – 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct)	£6.50
	(1 <sup>st</sup> Nov – 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb)	£5.00