

Committee(s): Policy, Resources & Economic Development Committee	Date: 9 September 2020
Subject: Amendments to Off-Street parking Places Consolidation Order 2012	Wards Affected: Brentwood South & Hutton East
Report of: Greg Campbell - Director of Environment	Public
Report Author/s: Name: Mike Dun Parking Manager Telephone: 01277 312500 E-mail: mike.dun@brentwood.gov.uk	For Decision

Summary

This report sets out two suggested amendments to the Parking Order, which will enable better management and availability for users of council car parks.

In doing so it is recommended that the amendments will include making the Town Hall Car Park 'A' a public car park at the weekends, in the same way that other car parks are provided in the town. This will also make available two chargeable electric vehicle charging points.

Further, there have been issues with Hutton Country Park Car Park. There are presently no enforceable restrictions in place and therefore the car park is overly used by others and has minimal available space for legitimate users of the park.

It is proposed to amend the Parking Order at Hutton Country Park to allow parking for a maximum of two hours, with no return within four hours

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- R1. To delegate authority to the Director of Environment, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Policy, Resources & Economic Development Committee, to implement the amendments outlined in this report to The Borough of Brentwood (Off-Street Parking Places) Consolidation Order 2012.**

Main Report

Introduction and Background

Town Hall Car Park 'A'

1. The Town Hall Car Park 'A' was added to The Borough of Brentwood (Off-Street Parking Places) Consolidation Order 2012 (Amendment 10) on the 22 November 2019. It was designated for the use of Permit Holders only: i.e. staff and Members.
2. The Town Hall Car Park 'A', due to the current use, has capacity to offer parking for other users outside the core working week of the Town Hall (Monday to Friday).

Hutton Country Park Car Park

3. The car park at Hutton Country Park is relatively small, offering spaces for an estimated eight vehicles.
4. It has been identified that users of Hutton Country Park have difficulties in parking their vehicles in the car park, due to limited available car parking space, and that many of the spaces are taken up by those who are not users of the park.

Issue, Options and Analysis of Options

Town Hall Car Park 'A'

1. The Council has an opportunity to enhance its parking offer in the Town Centre, by providing additional parking spaces at the weekend, in Town Hall Car Park 'A', for residents and visitors to Brentwood.
2. The preferred option for payment is cashless; as such the 'Phone and Pay' solution will be offered. This will forgo the need for a 'pay and display' cash machine and the associated costs for its procurement, installation and maintenance. It should be noted that the Visitor Car Park 'B', has a 'pay and display' cash machine for the convenience of users of this car park.
3. The two electric vehicle charging points are chargeable, therefore to encourage their use car parking will, for these spaces only, be free. It is recommended that the time in those spaces is limited, in order to prevent abuse.

4. A consultation will be required, prior to the amendment, in accordance with The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Hutton Country Park Car Park

5. Hutton Country Park users are on occasion prohibited from parking there as a result of other vehicles parking in the car park for an excessive time and whose owners are not using the park. To enable the enjoyment of the Hutton Country Park open space for users, it would be advantageous to limit free parking at this location.
6. It is therefore recommended that the following restriction is implemented: that visitors be given a two hour period of free parking, with no return within four hours.

Reasons for Recommendation

Town Hall Car Park 'A'

7. The proposal for the Town Hall Car Park 'A' will contribute to the long-term viability of the Parking Services and provide additional choice to park for residents and visitors to Brentwood.

Hutton Country Park Car Park

8. Introducing limited free parking, with no return within four hours, will have the beneficial impact of enabling greater access for more users of Hutton Country Park.

Consultation

9. None

References to Corporate Plan

10. The favourable impact of these amendments will contribute to the Council's key priorities: growing our economy, protecting our environment and developing our communities, as well as delivering an efficient and effective Council.

Implications

Financial Implications

Name/Title: Jacqueline Van Mellaerts, Director of Corporate Resources
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The Town Hall car parking amendment will see a slight increase in the Council's fee and charges income, although it is not currently known what the uptake will be at this stage; especially as all car parking income has declined due to COVID-19. Income from the car parking will be used to contribute towards the maintenance required. Infrastructure for 'phone and pay' is already in place and providing a cashless service will mean the Council will not be subject to additional expensive costs for machinery. The Amendment at Hutton Country Car Park will not have a financial impact.

Legal Implications

Name & Title: Amanda Julian, Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer

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The Council must when introducing a new, or amending an existing Traffic Order carry out a consultation and advertise in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure)(England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

Economic Implications

Name/Title: Phil Drane, Director of Planning and Economy

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The provision of public car parking can contribute to the health of the local economy, although there are other considerations with equal contributions such as managing transport through sustainable measures and the added environmental benefits. It is important to strike the right balance between parking provision and attracting visitors to central areas to benefit local businesses. Additional parking provision to help support Brentwood Town Centre is likely to have a positive impact on the local economy. Formalising parking provision at Hutton Country Park will support those visiting the park and contribute towards a better visitor experience to benefit the local economy, among other things.

Equality and Diversity Implications

Name/Title: Kim Anderson, Partnerships, Leisure & Funding Manager

Tel/Email: 01277 312634/kim.anderson@brentwood.gov.uk

TO BE ADDED

Health & Wellbeing Implications

Name/Title: Kimberley White, Corporate Health & Wellbeing Officer

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TO BE ADDED

Other Implications (where significant) – i.e. Health and Safety, Asset Management, Equality and Diversity, Risk Management, Section 17 – Crime & Disorder, Sustainability, ICT.

The Council as well as assessing if there are any implications under the Human Rights Act 1998 have due regard to s149 of the Equalities Act 2020, the public sector equality duty, the Council is required to have due regard to the need to:-

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share it.

The statutory provisions will enable persons with protected characteristics an opportunity to voice their views, which will be taken into consideration before any decision is made to implement the proposals.

Background Papers

Appendices to this report

Appendix A – Town Hall Car Park

Appendix B: