

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – COST OF TOWN/VILLAGE PARKING CLOCKS FOR PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2005 TO 31 DECEMBER 2005








Summary of Purpose and Recommendations:

To agree the cost of parking clocks to cover period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005. The report recommends that the cost of the clock for the period concerned be £6.

Cost to Council: Additional Income of £56,000

Within existing budget? No

Contribution to Corporate Plan (Minor/Moderate/Major/Neutral):

	+		-		+		-
		Neutral		Priorities			
		Neutral		Clean Streets and Public Space		Neutral	
	Minor			Crime and Disorder		Neutral	
	Moderate			Housing		Neutral	
	Moderate			Managing our Finances	Moderate		

Comments on Impacts on Corporate Objectives and Priorities:

The Parking Clock Scheme is a cornerstone of the Council's parking/traffic management policies. The recommendation supports this and provides a moderate financial contribution towards the Council's finances and particularly the cost of introducing decriminalised parking.



Organisation of excellence



Working with public and partners



Economic well being



Social well being



Environmental well being

COST OF TOWN/VILLAGE PARKING CLOCKS FOR PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2005 TO 31 DECEMBER 2005

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 As at 12 July 2004 61,000 clocks have been sold, these clocks are valid until 31 December 2004. This report makes recommendations for the cost of the clock to cover the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

2. TIMETABLE

- 2.1 The target is to start making clocks valid for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005 available by mid October 2004.

3. SETTING COST OF CLOCK TO COVER PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2005 TO 31 DECEMBER 2005

- 3.1 All charges and conditions of use for the Council's car parks are set out in the District of New Forest (Off-street Parking Places) Order 1983 (as amended). As Highway Authority Hampshire County Council must give their consent to the Order and any amendments. In this instance, because temporary consent for the clocks was originally given, the County Council need to give their consent to this Council's proposals for the cost of Clocks for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- 3.2 Hampshire County Council have expressed concerns that the present cost of the clock is not high enough to encourage modal shift and is low in comparison to neighbouring authorities. Discussions have taken place between the two Councils and the special circumstances of the District relating to its geography and lack of public transport have been clearly stated. As a result of these discussions a charge of £6.00 for a parking clock to cover the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005 is felt to be appropriate. It is believed that this level of charge will help sustain the economic viability of our towns/villages, is not prohibitive to those who have to use a car for essential journeys and maintains the clock's use in managing waiting times in off street car parks.

4. INTRODUCTION OF DECRIMINALISED PARKING

- 4.1 A target date of 1 January 2006 has been set for the Council to be responsible for the enforcement of on-street waiting restrictions. This is part of the overall strategy of an integrated approach to parking/traffic management. Unfortunately the amount of grant received from the County Council (£120K) does not cover the full set up costs (£252K) as has already been reported to Cabinet. The increase in the cost of the parking clock will help offset these costs.

5. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The clock scheme assists in making better use of existing parking facilities and the proposed cost is set at a level which will help sustain the viability of town and village centres.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Based on existing levels of sales an increase in the cost of the parking clock to £6 is expected to provide an additional income of £59,500 over a 12-month period.

8. CONCLUSION

8.1 A charge of £6.00 for a parking clock to cover the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005 retains the objective of providing a convenient and economic method of parking for regular users of this Council's town and village car parks. At the same time the clock system assists in the management of off-street car parking and will make a financial contribution towards the Council's overall traffic management objectives.

9. RECOMMENDATION

9.1 That the District of New Forest (Off-Street Parking Places) Order 1983 be altered by notice of amendment under section 35C of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to the effect that the cost of parking clocks for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005 be £6.

Further Information:

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Background Papers:

None