

PARKING CLOCK CHARGES 2007/8**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The current parking clocks expire on the 31 December 2006, in order to give the public reasonable time to purchase Clocks for 2007 the fees for the period need to be set by Mid October 2006. This requires a resolution by the Council setting the charges to be agreed at the Council meeting on the 18 September 2006.
- 1.2 The County Council, as Highway Authority, has given consent for the Clock Scheme to run until 31 December 2007. The County Council's consent would need to be sorted should the Council wish to make any changes to the scheme including changes to fees.

2. CLOCKS

- 2.1 Changes to the clock scheme were introduced for the period 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2006. These consisted of the introduction of Long and Short Stay clocks together with special provision being made for Hythe Ferry users, Lyndhurst Community Centre and Beaulieu Village Hall. Clock prices were increased to reflect these changes and try and achieve a balance between the value of the facilities provided and encouraging motorists to consider using alternatives to individual vehicles for each journey. The results of these arrangements will be reviewed next year before expiry of the County Council's consent.

Given the significant changes made to the scheme last year it is suggested that the fees of clocks remains unaltered for 2007 and, therefore, set as below.

Long stay clock 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2007 £80

Half yearly clocks 1 January to 30 June and 1 July to 31 Dec £44

Short Stay Town/Village clocks £8

Hythe Ferry Clocks £8

Lyndhurst Community Centre Clocks £8

Beaulieu Community Village Hall-Existing clock holders attending events can receive a voucher extending the time of their stay – No charge

- 2.2 Clock holders are likely to appreciate a period of continuity, with no changes to the Scheme, apart from closing a perceived loophole with regard to parking in Lyndhurst which will be dealt with by way of a Portfolio Holder decision.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The financial strategy approved by cabinet in July 2006 assumes an inflationary increase in all fees and charges. A decision to hold the clock fee at the 2006 levels will result in a reduction of £17800 in income against the assumed level in the strategy. Financial provision for this will need to be made in the 2007/8 expenditure plan.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None.

5. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None.

6. PORTFOLIO HOLDER COMMENTS

The Economy & Planning Portfolio Holder supports the recommendation contained in this report.

7. RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 That the Council be recommended to agreed that the fees for clocks to cover the period 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2007 remain at the 2006 levels as set out in section 2.1 of this report and that provision for this be made in the 2007/8 expenditure plan; and
- 7.2 That the Council be recommended to agreed that no changes be made to the administration of the clock scheme for the period 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2007.

For further information please contact:

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Background Papers:

None.