

## SETTING OF FEES FOR PARKING CLOCKS AND CAR PARK METER CHARGES AS FROM 1 JANUARY 2012

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The cost of purchasing a New Forest District Council Parking Clock was last increased in January 2010 and meter charges have not been increased since April 2009.
- 1.2 A revaluation of the rateable value of the car parks in 2010 has resulted in additional NNDR costs of £150,000 in 2011/12. This will increase by a further £150,000 in subsequent years (£90,000 of which will fall into 2012/13) as transitional rate relief is withdrawn.
- 1.3 In January 2011 VAT increased to 20%, reducing the income the Council received from parking by approximately £50,000 per year. To date the increase in VAT has not been reflected in the cost of using car parks. This has contributed to the current prediction that there will be a £100,000 shortfall in income compared with the original 2011/12 budget.
- 1.4 At the present time the parking clock scheme provides residents and regular users of Council car parks with inexpensive parking. Assuming a normal five day working week a short stay clock provides parking at a cost of 4.6 pence a day equivalent to 23p a week and a long stay clock all day parking at 33 pence a day equivalent to £1.65 a week.
- 1.5 NFDC's Government grant has been cut by £2.7 million over two years. To absorb this, the Council is reviewing all services and has little choice but to cut spending and increase the income it raises itself.

### 2. REDUCING COSTS

- 2.1 A review of the parking enforcement service has taken place. This has resulted in efficiency savings of £82,000 per annum from financial year 2012/13 which includes a reduction in the establishment of 3 full time posts.

### 3. SETTING CLOCK AND PAY AND DISPLAY CHARGES

Set out below are proposed charges to take effect from 1 January 2012.

#### 3.1 Clocks

|                               |  |                              |   |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------|---|
| Short Stay 1<br>Jan to 31 Dec | Lynd<br>Community<br>Centre 1 Jan to<br>31 Dec | Long stay<br>1 Jan to 31 Dec | 3 Monthly<br>Jan-March<br>April-May<br>June-Sept<br>Oct-Dec |
| £20 per annum                 | £20 per annum                                  | £100 per annum               | £25 per annum   |

### 3.2 Pay and Display

#### Town/Village Car Parks

| <b>Car Park Locations As Listed In 3.3 Below</b> | <b>Proposed tariff from 1 Jan 2011</b> |
|--|--|
| Up to 1 hour                                     | £0.80                                  |
| Up to 2 hour                                     | £1.50                                  |
| Up to 3 hours                                    | £2.20                                  |
| Up to 4 hours                                    | £3.00                                  |
| Up to 5 hours                                    | £4.00                                  |
| Up to 20 hours                                   | £5.00                                  |

| <b>Brockenhurst Car Park</b> | <b>Proposed tariff from 1 Jan 2011</b> |
|------------------------------|--|
| Up to 1 hour                 | £0.80                                  |
| Up to 2 hours                | £1.50                                  |
| Up to 3 hours                | £2.20                                  |
| Up to 4 hours                | £3.00                                  |
| Up to 5 hours                | £4.00                                  |
| Up to 8 hours                | £5.00                                  |

| <b>Sea Road Milford Car Park</b> | <b>Proposed tariff from 1 Jan 2011</b> |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Up to 1 hour                     | £0.80                                  |
| Up to 2 hours                    | £1.50                                  |
| Up to 3 hours                    | £2.20                                  |
| Up to 4 hours                    | £3.00                                  |
| Up to 5 hours                    | £4.00                                  |
| Up to 6 hours                    | £4.70                                  |
| Up to 7 hours                    | £5.40                                  |
| Up to 8 hours                    | £5.50                                  |
| Up to 9 hours                    | £6.00                                  |
| Up to 20 hours                   | £7.40                                  |

| <b>Osborne Road Car Park New Milton</b> | <b>Proposed tariff from 1 Jan 2011</b> |
|---|--|
| Up to 1 hour                            | £0.80                                  |
| Up to 2 hour                            | £1.50                                  |
| Up to 3 hours                           | £2.20                                  |
| Up to 4 hours                           | £3.00                                  |
| Up to 5 hours                           | £4.00                                  |
| Up to 6 hours                           | £5.00                                  |

#### Amenity Car Parks

| <b>Marine Drive 3, East &amp; West Calshot, Hordle Cliff, Hurst Road, East and West, Sturt Pond, Taddiford Gap</b> | <b>Proposed tariff from 1 March 2012</b> |
|--|--|
| Up to 2 hour   | £1.50                                    |
| Up to 4 hour   | £3.00                                    |
| Up to 6 hours  | £4.50                                    |
| Up to 20 hours   | £6.00                                    |

| <b>Quay, Bath Road, Keyhaven</b> | <b>Proposed tariff from 1 January 2011</b> |                             |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Up to 1 hour                     | £0.80                                      | Applicable 1 Nov to 1 March |
| Up to 2 hour                     | £1.80                                      |                             |
| Up to 4 hour                     | £4.00                                      |                             |
| Up to 6 hours                    | £6.00                                      |                             |
| Up to 20 hours                   | £8.00                                      |                             |
| Up to 48 hours                   | £14.00                                     | Bath Rd Only                |
| Up to 72 hours                   | £20.00                                     | Bath Rd Only                |

### 3.3 Locations included in 3.2 Town/Village Car Parks

Beaulieu  
Burley  
Fordingbridge Town Centre  
Fordingbridge A338 sliproad  
Hythe - Jones Lane, New Road, St Johns Street  
Lymington - Barfields, Cannon Street East and West, Emsworth Road, Gosport Street, Southampton Road, St Thomas Street, Town Hall  
Lyndhurst Main Car Park  
New Milton - Crossmead Avenue, Elm Avenue, Spencer Road North and South  
Ringwood - Furlong and Blynkbonnie  
Totton - Elingfield and Winsor Road

### 3.4 The proposed tariff for clocks

The proposed tariff for Clocks from 1 January 2012 continues to provide excellent value for money. A short stay clock provides for parking at 8 pence a day (based on a 5 day week) equivalent to 38p a week and a long stay clock provide for all day parking for 38 pence a day equivalent to a week £1.92. These costs are far below those of neighbouring Councils permit/clock schemes, which average £2.53 for a day's long stay parking. The current tariff for clocks introduced on 1 January 2010 is short stay £12 and long stay £86.

### 3.5 The proposed fees for Pay and Display charges in Town/Village and Amenity car parks

Pay and Display charges for Town and Amenity type car parks vary considerably between neighbouring Councils but the proposed charges are broadly in line with others and slightly less than the average.

### 3.6 In order to provide some certainty for the public, the Council proposes to fix the clock charges for a period of two years from January 2012

### 3.7 Given there limited use, only some 1400 issued per year and the range of parking clocks available it is recommended that amenity permits be withdrawn. To assist existing permit holders current permits will be allowed to run until 31 March 2012. This will give existing permit holders the opportunity to purchase a 3 monthly clock valid from the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter (1 April).

## 4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Even taking into account the increased cost the clock still provides very low cost parking and will encourage clock holders to return to the district to undertake their business/shopping. Given this and the reasonable cost of pay and display parking there is not expected to be a significant transfer from off to on street parking as a result of the proposed increase in tariffs.

## 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

### 5.1 Pay & Display

The proposed increase in pay and display charges should generate approximately £150,000 of additional income. No allowance has been made for change in demand levels.

5.2 Short Stay Clocks  
The proposed increase in short stay clock prices should generate approximately £180,000 of additional income.

5.3 Long Stay Clocks  
The proposed increase in long stay clock prices should generate approximately £18,000 of additional income

5.4 Projected Income.

The projected additional income has been based on past income and sales figures. Changes to the general economic outlook and particularly fuel costs, are thought to have as much, if not a greater, influence on car park usage than changes in the cost of parking.

5.5 Full Year effect (2012/13) of Changes Outlined

Budget Shortfall

|  |          |          |
|--|----------|----------|
| Current Income Deficit compared to original budget | £100,000 |          |
| Increase in NNDR liability                         | £240,000 |          |
| Total Income Loss / Additional Costs               |          | £340,000 |

Additional Income

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| Pay & Display      | £150,000 |
| Short Stay Clocks  | £180,000 |
| Long Stay Clocks   | £ 18,000 |
| Efficiency Savings | £ 82,000 |

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Total Cost Reductions / Additional Income | £430,000 |
|---|----------|

Overall it is anticipated that the above leaves a net additional income of £90,000 compared to the current budgetary position. However, as outlined in section 1.2 above further increases in NNDR of £60,000 are expected beyond 2012/13. If action to increase income is not taken there will be an overall budget shortfall of £400,000 on the parking account.

## 6. EQUALITY & DIVERSITY AND CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

## 7. PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO HOLDER COMMENTS

7.1 Overall I believe this is a very fair deal for the residents and businesses in the New Forest district by providing low cost parking in a way that no other authority seeks to do.

## 8. RECOMMENDATION

8.1 (a) That the revised charges set out in section 3.1 and 3.2 of this report be introduced as from 1 January 2012 and that clock prices be fixed for two years; and

- (b) That an amendment to the District Of New Forest (off Street Parking Places) Order 2005 be advertised to propose the withdrawal of amenity permits.

**For further information please contact:**

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**Background Papers**