

**NOTE OF THE PARKING PROVISION AND MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION FORUM
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2012 AT 7.00 PM
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE**

Attendees

1. Those attending were:

Cllr Ian Reay, Chair
Kerry Bangle (Resident representative)
Clive Birch (Resident representative)
David Carter (Resident representative)
Julian Dent (Sports Club)
Rosie Eisenstadt (Business representative)
Matt Gourdin, for Steve Carter-Hounslow (Business representative)
Cllr Laurence Handy
Cllr Julie Laws
Wendy Tapperel, for Jerry Wright (Business representative)

Minutes

Gary Cox, Town Clerk

Apologies

2. Apologies were received from Steve Carter-Hounslow David Collins, Ivor Eisenstadt, Fiona Macdonald, Peter Nicholls, Tom Ritchie, David Steadman, Jerry Wright.

Minutes of last meeting

3. The minutes of the last meeting held on 24 October 2012 were agreed.

Sustainable transport

4. Paul Crosland and Danny Bonnet from Transition Town Berkhamsted provided a presentation on sustainable transport. The presentation (PDF attached to the minutes) set out:

- issues related to the potential growth in car use,
- set parking issues in the town into a wider context,
- the need for detailed research on which to develop transport improvements,
- some themes and benefits for reducing car use, including non-car options,
- details and potential of liftshare.com which could be collectively used by Berkhamsted business employees who drive to the town for work.

5. In discussion on specific proposals and ideas in the presentation, it was suggested that:

- Ashridge Business School be contacted to explore whether the bus service for students to and from the station might be extended to offer a town bus service.
- Schools are asked to provide their travel plans as a start to reviewing their currency and effectiveness.
- Proposals for improved cycle routes and facilities, including more cycle racks at the railway station, to be raised as part of the Urban Transport Plan consultation.
- Business to exchange their travel plans/journeys made by employees into the town and to explore if collectively they can make use of liftshare.com.

- The Town Council and Chamber of Commerce should promote the use of liftshare.com.
- To explore potential funding sources from DfT and elsewhere for transport and sustainable transport initiatives. **Action: Town Clerk**
- To explore with the Local Government Association and others whether they have examples or best practice guidance on addressing transport issues. **Action Town Clerk**
- The Campaign for Better Transport be contacted for details of towns deploying effective transport solutions, examples of sustainable transport. **Action Transition Town Berkhamsted**
- The Discussion Forum produce an open letter to businesses to provide travel information regarding employees, customers, visitors to help establish a clearer picture of reasons and journeys into the town.
- Contact be made with London Midland to determine if they have a travel plan for commuters and whether they have scope to review parking fees, including parking season tickets for part-time workers who do not commute every day.

Controlled Parking Zones

6. The meeting noted that in considering the Controlled Parking Zones consultation and feedback, the Transport and Environment Committee had resolved to abandon Zone M and P Controlled Parking Zone proposals.
7. The Committee also agreed to abandon the present Commuter Ban proposals, but for the Town Council to re-examine the extent of any possible Commuter Ban to address concerns about the impact of displaced cars. These decisions were endorsed by Full Council.
8. Following discussion, the Discussion Forum recognised that the consultation feedback analysis provided the Transport and Environment Committee with sufficient information to support the recommendations and resolution on parking zone proposals.
9. The Forum noted a request that it would be helpful to have details of the response rates from each zone but noted the Town Council view that more detailed results should not be made available.
10. The Forum recognised that in due course, a summary of issues, actions and suggestions raised in the consultation should be summarised and considered by the Forum. Any summary of feedback would be mindful of data protection requirements. Action: Town Clerk
11. The Forum agreed that a review of responses on the commuter ban proposals would help indicate problems and potential for adjustments for a revised scheme, including to determine the number of cars that will be displaced and how that displacement might be mitigated.

Parking Provision and Management Updates

Multi-Storey car park

12. The Forum discussed progress on the Dacorum Borough Council proposals for a multi-storey car park at Lower Kings Road, next to Waitrose.
13. Further investigation is ongoing into the suitability of this site and to establish demand for parking. This will be completed in the first half of 2013.

14. The Forum asked that the Borough Council be invited to a meeting of the Forum to discuss proposals, timetable and issues to ensure the car park makes the maximum possible contribution to reducing parking problems in the town.

Sports Ground Association

15. The Forum noted that work to develop sports ground facilities into a car park were being considered.

Other possibilities

16. The Forum welcomed proposals from Berkhamsted School to meet with the Town, Borough Council and Hertfordshire Highway representatives to discuss ways to improve traffic congestion in the town, especially around Castle Street. Some resident and business members of the Discussion Forum should be invited to the meeting. The Clerk was arranging this meeting. **Action: Town Clerk**
17. The Forum agreed that solutions to reduce parking problems in the town would need businesses and others such as the railway station, school and shops to recognise their wider social responsibility to the town.
18. In discussion, the Forum
 - asked whether there might be more scope more fully to use the underground Tesco car park.
 - noted early proposals for a school drop-off zone at the prep school site at Doctors Commons Road
 - noted TTB would provide some suggestions for improvements to school travel plans
 - asked whether there was scope to use Kitcheners Field either for school parking or perhaps making spaces available to commuters
 - that more influence need to be brought to bear on planning developments in the town to provide sufficient parking spaces as part of those plans
 - that Dacorum Borough Council should consider using Section 106/community levy funding towards parking and transport improvements for the town
 - that Dacorum Borooug Council be invited to consider more vigorous enforcement of illegal and dangerous parking and to consider how improvements in/barriers to enforcement might be made/addressed.

Date of Next Meeting

19. The next Forum meeting to be arranged for the end of February 2013.



TTB presentation to
Parking Forum.pdf