

## Review of Parking Charges (2018/19) – Details of Proposals

### **1: Increase the Long-Stay car parks by 10p per hour in the city, rising to 20p over 2 hours and bring the Avenue de Chartres tariff in line with other Long Stay car parks**

Current and proposed charges in the city are as follows:

	Avenue de Chartres		Long Stay		Westgate	
	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed
Up to 30 mins	50p	50p	50p	50p	50p	50p
Up to 1 hour	70p	80p	70p	80p	70p	80p
Up to 2 hours	£1.50	£1.60	£1.50	£1.60	£1.50	£1.60
Up to 3 hours	£2.20	£2.40	£2.20	£2.40	£2.20	£2.40
Up to 4 hours	£3.10	£3.20	£3.40	£3.20	£3.40	£3.40
Up to 5 hours	£3.90	£4.00	£4.30	£4.00	£4.30	£4.40
Up to 6 hours	£4.30	£4.60	£4.80	£4.60	£4.80	£5.20
Over 6 hours	-	£5.60	-	£5.60	-	£6.40
Up to 8 hours	£4.50	-	£4.90	-	£4.90	-
More than 8 hours	£4.90	-	£5.40	-	£6.20	-

The proposal is to keep the hourly rate at 80 pence per hour for all Long Stay car parks – and to combine the Up to 8 hours and Over 8 hours rate within a More than 6 hours rate. This tariff may be more attractive to customers given that the individual amounts are rounded and more easily understood. The tariff is a reduction on that which is currently in place in some areas. Tariffs within the Westgate are to have a slight increase on these levels to assist with turnover of spaces within the car park for customers using the Westgate Leisure Centre.

### **2: Increase the Short Stay car parks by 10p per hour up to one hour and increase hourly rates over 2 hours by c10%.**

This will require consideration of the on-street charge which WSCC sets. The current charges on-street are 35p per 15 mins up to a maximum of 1 hour for £1.40.

Current and proposed charges in the city short stay car parks are as follows:

	<b>Central Short Stay (Baffins Lane and Little London)</b>		<b>Short Stay</b>	
	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
Up to 30 mins	70p	80	50p	60p
Up to 1 hour	£1.40	£1.50	£1.20	£1.30
Up to 2 hours	£3.00	£3.00	£2.60	£2.60
Up to 3 hours	£4.50	£4.90	£3.90	£4.30
Up to 4 hours	£7.00	£7.70	£6.10	£6.70
Up to 5 hours	£8.40	£9.20	£7.30	£8.00
Up to 6 hours	£9.90	£10.90	£8.60	£9.40
Up to 8 hours	£11.70	£12.80	£10.20	£11.20
More than 8 hours	£14.00	£15.40	£12.20	£13.40

### **3: Sunday Charging**

The tariff in the Long Stay car parks is currently £1.00 for up to 3 hours, £2 for up to 4 hours and £3.00 for more than 4 hours.

A proposal discussed at the Parking Forum was to amend this tariff to reflect the charges which are in place during the weekdays in the car parks. The proposal reflects the fact that Chichester is a seven day a week city. This option may prove attractive for some short term parkers who currently do not benefit from the cheaper tariffs on the shorter period of time on Sundays. The current policy for on-street charging on Sundays is that there is no charge, however West Sussex County Council is currently considering their charging and hours.

The alternative option is to retain the parking charge as at present for Long Stay car parks on Sundays.

### **4: Rural and coastal**

It is proposed that some minor increases are applied to the rural and coastal car parks. The similar increases will assist with ensuring that the charges are consistent across the towns. It is proposed that the hours of charge across all rural and coastal car parks should be brought into line Monday to Saturday from the current 9am to 5pm, to Monday to Saturday 8am to 6pm. (This is already in place in Bosham car park). All other days of charging would remain the same.

There are currently no on-street charges in the rural areas.

### **Midhurst**

<b>The Grange</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
Up to 2 hours	Free	Free

Up to 3 hours	60p	70p
Up to 4 hours	80p	90p
Up to 5 hours	£1.00	£1.20
Up to 6 hours	£1.20	£1.40
Up to 7 hours	£1.60	£1.80
Up to 8 hours	£2.00	£2.20

<b>North Street and Post Office</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
Up to 1 hour	Free	Free
Up to 2 hours	40p	50p
Up to 3 hours	60p	70p
Up to 4 hours	80p	90p
Up to 5 hours	£1.00	£1.20
Up to 6 hours	£1.20	£1.40
Up to 7 hours	£1.60	£1.80
Up to 8 hours	£2.00	£2.20

### **Petworth**

<b>Pound Street</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
Up to 1 hour	Free	Free
Up to 2 hours	40p	50p
Up to 3 hours	60p	70p
Up to 4 hours	80p	90p
Up to 5 hours	£1.00	£1.20
Up to 6 hours	£1.20	£1.40
Up to 7 hours	£1.60	£1.80
Up to 8 hours	£2.00	£2.20

In addition to these changes, it is proposed to introduce charges in the Sylvia Beaufoy car park. It is proposed that this charge matches the tariff which is currently in place at The Grange car park, as below:

<b>Sylvia Beaufoy</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
Up to 2 hours	Free	Free
Up to 3 hours	Free	70p
Up to 4 hours	Free	90p
Up to 5 hours	Free	£1.20
Up to 6 hours	Free	£1.40
Up to 7 hours	Free	£1.80
Up to 8 hours	Free	£2.20

The authority is currently considering capacity and design to determine whether a skatepark can be introduced into Pound Street Car Park, alongside a seated area as part of the Petworth Vision Project. This requirement means that the capacity and turnover of Sylvia Beaufoy requires a mechanism to turnover spaces in the car park to allow for the reduction in the number of spaces. Currently the spaces are not turning over adequately in Sylvia Beaufoy car park and there are examples of long-term parking taking place.

It is suggested that introducing a tariff to the car park to mirror the proposals in The Grange (where the first two hours are free of charge), would help to achieve the required turnover.

**Bosham** – the tariff which is in place at present will remain in place:

	<b>Current</b>
Up to 1 hr	60p
Up to 2 hrs	£1.70
Up to 3 hrs	£2.30
Up to 4 hrs	£3.40
Up to 6 hrs	£3.80
Up to 24 hrs	£4.00
Up to 48 hrs	£6.00
Additional 24 hrs	£3.00
Up to 7 day max	£18.00

### **Bracklesham**

<b>Bracklesham Lane</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
1 April – 31 Oct		
Up to 2 hours	£2.00	£2.10
Up to 4 hours	£4.00	£4.10
More than 4 hours	£5.00	£5.20
1 Nov – 31 Mar	50p	60p
Up to 2 hours	£1.50	£1.70

### **Selsey**

<b>East Street</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
Up to 1 hour	Free	Free
Up to 2 hours	40p	50p
Up to 3 hours	60p	70p
Up to 4 hours	80p	90p
Up to 5 hours	£1.00	£1.20
Up to 6 hours	£1.20	£1.40

Up to 7 hours	£1.60	£1.80
Up to 8 hours	£2.00	£2.20

<b>East Beach and Marine</b> (Seasonal 1 April-31 Oct only)	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
Up to 1 hour	20p	30p
More than 1 hour	£1.50	£1.60

### **The Witterings**

<b>Marine Drive</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
1 April – 31 Oct		
Up to 2 hours	£2.00	£2.10
Up to 4 hours	£4.00	£4.10
More than 4 hours	£5.00	£5.20
1 Nov – 31 Mar		
Up to 2 hours	50p	60p
More than 2 hours	£1.50	£1.70

<b>Northern Crescent</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
Up to 1 hour	Free	Free
Up to 2 hours	40p	50p
Up to 3 hours	60p	70p
Up to 4 hours	80p	90p
Up to 5 hours	£1.00	£1.20
Up to 6 hours	£1.20	£1.40
Up to 7 hours	£1.60	£1.80
Up to 8 hours	£2.00	£2.20

Another option for consideration is the removal of seasonal tariffs in the rural car parks. This currently offers a discounted (or free) period of parking for customers and could be amended. Any change to this would need to be considered in line with the on-street parking restrictions which are in place across the district.

### **5: Season Tickets**

Season tickets were increased from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017, rising from £50 to £75 for a Specific Season Ticket and from £47 per month to £51 for an X Roving season ticket, with the withdrawal of the Avenue de Chartres from the X roving season ticket and the creation of a new season ticket purely for the Avenue de Chartres, at a reduced price of £44 per month (or £43 when paid for online). This season ticket

has proven extremely popular and there is now a waiting list in place for the Avenue de Chartres.

The proposal is to increase the cost of Specific Season Tickets from £75 per month to £90 per month. X Roving Season Tickets would increase from £51 per month to £55 per month and Avenue de Chartres season tickets would increase from £44 per month to £47 per month. The current discount of £1.00 when customers purchase online should cease as it is considered that the desired effect of encouraging customers to purchase online has been achieved.

Specific Season Tickets are available within three car parks within the city centre. Whilst these guarantee a parking space they do not guarantee an allocated space in one of the three car parks which are a short walk from the city centre (Market Road (A), Market Avenue / South Pallant (C) and Orchard Street (area north of the entrance nearest the roundabout only) (D)). The demand for these tickets has exceeded supply in two of the car parks (A and D), and the allocation is managed through a waiting list. The season ticket can be used between Monday and Friday and it is valid in the car park specified only.

There is a risk of deflection onto the surrounding areas should the season ticket prices be deemed to be too high by customers. Whilst it is recognised that season tickets do provide a subsidised parking option for individuals, there is feedback from customers and local residents that the cost of these means that drivers are opting to park in neighbouring streets. These factors should be balanced in consideration of the option and for those that do not wish to pay the increased price for the benefit received there is the alternative of a roving season ticket

Season tickets in the rural areas are currently set at £14 per month (£16.50 per month in Bosham). It is proposed that these should be increased from £14 per month to £15 per month, and that the charges in Bosham car park should increase from £16.50 per month to £17.50 per month.

With virtual permits due to be introduced over the coming months our charging policy should encourage customers to purchase season tickets for a longer duration, to reduce the cost of administration. This may be through a financial incentive. The authority currently provides one month free when purchasing twelve months and it is proposed that long-term incentives are introduced for other fixed periods (three, six, nine and twelve months).

## **6: Review of Evening Charges in Northgate and New Park Road Car Parks**

Cabinet, at its meeting in January, 2017, resolved to extend the charging period in Northgate and New Park Road car parks. It was considered that the extension of charges in these two car parks reflected the different nature and usage of the car parks and that the introduction of these charges should not have a negative impact on the night-time economy or cause deflection onto adjoining residential roads. This

change to the charging hours was agreed for a trial period of one year, with the outcome to be reported to the Parking Forum and then to Cabinet.

Evening Charges were introduced in Northgate and New Park Road car parks on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017. Signage and staff presence helped to remind customers that evening charges were in place, along with flyers being handed out by staff in the car parks. There was a period of time where no Penalty Charge Notices were issued within the car parks to ensure that customers were aware of the changes to the requirements. Warning Notices (rather than Penalty Charge Notices), were also issued initially to remind customers of the new change.

All parking payment machines in both Northgate and New Park Road car parks were replaced during March 2017 to update the infrastructure and to enable payment by card, contactless and coins. In addition to this, the MiPermit payment by phone facility was introduced into both car parks at the end of January 2017. The Parking Services team were therefore confident that the payment methods within both car parks were sufficient.

An analysis of the usage and income from the two car parks has been undertaken, to consider payments received for the extended tariff period. Anticipated income generation as a result of evening charges across the two car parks was estimated at £98,500 at the outset of the project. Income to date (end of September, therefore covering six months), has been approximately £75,000, although it is worth noting that there is likely to be seasonal variations. This income is broken down to £61,000 in Northgate car park and £14,000 in New Park Road car park.

An analysis of the usage of the car parks has been undertaken along with monitoring of use of neighbouring roads and car parks. This monitoring has not revealed any issues of particular concern and the Civil Enforcement Officers have not reported any concerns of deflection.

Compliance within the car parks is high and there have been very few Penalty Charge Notices issued during the extended tariff period. This suggests that customers are aware of the charges in place.

Since going live with the system there have been twelve complaints from customers relating to the extension of the charging hours. A discussion was held at the Parking Forum in September, where Chichester Festival Theatre were present and the New Park Centre provided written comments on the impact of the extension of hours on customers. The Festival Theatre reported that there appeared to be more customers choosing to arrive for 19.00 in order to pay for only one hour until the end of the extended charging period. The Theatre considered this to have led to a fall in custom in the Theatre's café's and bars. The Theatre also stated that there was additional pressure on staff to ensure that people were seated for 19.30. It was noted that customers would either prefer a flat parking rate or to get what they pay for in parking time – i.e. if an overpayment is made in the machine then extra time should be added to the parking duration, for example if a customer pays £1.00 where the tariff is 70p for one hour or £1.50 for up to two hours then rather than losing the 30p the parking duration should be amended to cover the extra time paid. This arrangement is already in place in machines on-street in Chichester city.

Feedback from the New Park Centre suggests that there has been a reduction in the number of groups at the Centre and a reduction in the café and bar, which was considered to be a result of the extension of hours of charging. It was also clear that some members of the public considered that the extension of charging hours was purely an income-generating measure to benefit CDC, rather than a measure to assist with capacity and turnover in car parks. The benefits of dispersal of parking in different car parks should be promoted further to the public.

It is apparent from feedback from both organisations that many users of the New Park Centre and Chichester Festival Theatre are unaware of the free car parking nearby. Additional maps will be provided within car parks and to organisations.

Further monitoring of the extended tariffs will continue, however, it is recommended that evening charges are implemented permanently at the end of the trial period (from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018), with work undertaken to amend the tariff so that customers are given the parking duration paid rather than restricted to the tariff.

#### **7: Other Principles for consideration**

Give customers what they pay for – i.e. if someone pays £1.60 in Little London for an hour where it is £1.40 then the customers get the extra time. This would assist with the concerns expressed by the Theatre and The New Park Centre in relation to evening charges.

Parking charges to be considered and implemented over a longer time frame. Historically charges have tended to be considered every year and changes are generally made each time. This results in cost and resource implications to introduce the increases. The proposals as set out within this report will be in place for two years and there will therefore not be a requirement to consider parking charges until the Autumn of 2019, for introduction in April 2020.