

Notes of Meeting between Mr Phil Long, Head of Streetscene, Ryedale District Council, and Councillors to discuss Town Farm Car Park 4 February 2010 at Manor Close Community Centre

Present: Councillor S Brown (Chairman), Councillor G de Barr, Councillor A Gunton and Mr P Long.

Also: Town Clerk Ms V Ellis.

Apologies: Councillor J Coughlan and Councillor Cossins

A discussion was held on the background to the meeting, the work of the Strategy Group, the comments by Town Traders about the lack of parking facilities in town, and the possibility of free parking for businesses in Town Farm Car Park to free up the town centre.

The possible capital value of the car park was discussed, the £12,500 pa revenue it provides for RDC, maintenance costs, the availability of Long Stay Permits at £180 per annum and other ways of paying for parking. Members were advised by Mr Long to increase turnover and frequency of cars parking in the town centre either by some sort of permit parking for up to 2 hours (policed on an agency basis) or by the use of lines. Malton has returned to free parking and the car park is almost full by 8am.

RDC running costs for car parks are not broken down. Mr Richard Marr of NYCC has said a 2hr permit scheme could be trialled, NYCC would put up signs. Time limits would be a NYCC decision.

NYCC are considering decriminalised parking so that RDC/KTC can look after it and there would be better enforcement procedures.

Running costs of Town Farm Car Park to RDC - minimal

- Labour/excess charges not broken down because it's not heavily used it's not routinely patrolled.
- Refurbishment approximately every 10 years (Eastgate at Pickering £15,000)
- Insurance – general for RDC
- Upkeep c£2000 pa
- Income April to December 2009 - £9000, 9500 ticket sales, most on market day. About £12,500 pa
- RDC could also consider obtaining planning permission if a decision was taken to sell the land.
- Current value to RDC at least £100,000 without planning permission
- No possibility for Town Council of buying it over a few years
- Cost of a lease would be at least enough to cover the income less £2000

Possibility of some free permits for Kirkbymoorside was discussed by Corporate Management Team at RDC and was decided against as RDC has policy of charging for car parks.

It was suggested the Town Council approach NYCC for short-term use of Manor Vale.

Ticket Sales: Malton and Helmsley – biggest sales are 1 or 2 hours. Helmsley up to 3 hours. Pickering Long Stay because of railway.

Suggestions by Mr Long

- 2 hour on-street parking for Kirkbymoorside
- Green travel plans for businesses – parking, health, fitness, and CO2 emissions
- Promotion of cycling and walking

Members commented that somewhere would have to be provided for residents and visitors.

Area around Old Road Playing Field on Howe End was discussed

Town Farm Car Park signage will be looked at as RDC could improve it. Recommended that Town Council consider where it wants signs.

Machines will be replaced next year but option to pay with cash will remain

Toilets: RDC had reopened toilets at Staxton Brow and Wentworth Street a year after closing them. Very costly to maintain.

Ticket Options – Smartcards, Discs, Long Stay Permits. Publicity and promotion of the various options was needed.

Disabled charges: RDC had consulted with the relevant associations and the response had been why shouldn't they pay because same as everyone else. Do get an extra hour. RDC one of few authorities to charge.