

Monthly Meeting – Monday 1st August 2011

Agenda Item 6)

Briefing Note

Proposed introduction of Pay and Display parking on Shore Road (restricted to cars and motorcycles only) and Station Road

The Town Council has been invited by Dorset County Council to respond to proposals to introduce pay and display car parking along Shore Road and Station Road. Along the seafront this would be limited to cars and motorcycles only, thereby preventing the parking of motorcaravans and trade vehicles. A copy of the proposal is attached.

Following initial discussion at the Town Council meeting held on 6th June 2011 the details of the scheme were publicised in the July edition of the Purbeck Gazette, the Town Council's summer newsletter and website. At the time of writing 36 responses have been received, which are summarised in the table below.

	In favour	Against	Unclear/ No comment
Pay and Display parking along Shore Road	26 (72%)	2 (6%)	8 (22%)
Pay and Display parking along Station Road	21 (58%)	5 (14%)	10 (28%)
Cars and motorcycles only along Shore Road	26 (72%)	0	10 (28%)

Although the level of support for the introduction of parking fees may appear surprising, the Town Council did receive a number of supportive comments in response to an earlier consultation exercise through Swanage Matters in April 2009.

During the current consultation exercise, a number of other comments were received and a brief overview is given below. Where the comment was made more than once the number of times is given in ().

Need for better enforcement (4)

Concern re camper van parking moving into other roads in Swanage (4)

Don't agree that blue badge holders should park for free (3)

Shore Road should have no parking (2)

Shore Road is dangerous for two-way traffic (2)

Parking charges on Shore Road should be higher than in car parks (2)

Parking machines are unsightly (2)

New regulations are unnecessary if current regulations were better enforced (2)

Hope that blue badges will still enable free parking
Works vans should not be banned from Shore Road
On-street parking should be free until 10 a.m. as in car parks
Something should be done about shoppers that park in loading bay in Institute Road
Car parks are too expensive and under used.

A detailed response has been received from the Swanage and Purbeck Hospitality Association and a copy is enclosed. The comments regarding car parking charges can be considered as part of the setting of the Town Council's scale of charges for 2012/13 in the autumn.

Dorset County Council are also consulting the District Council and police before these proposals are put to their Roads and Rights of Way Committee, most likely in September. Prior to introduction of these proposals DCC would have to carry out further formal public consultation via advertisement in the local press and on-street signage.

Action required:

To determine the Town Council's formal response to the proposals from Dorset County Council and to identify any related issues that may require further discussion (e.g. level of charges, improved enforcement, definition of summer and winter season).

Martin Ayres
Town Clerk