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EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL/HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

Meeting Date

Motorhome Parking Beachlands Report by Michelle Green

FOR DECISION

Cabinet Lead: Tony Briggs

Key Decision: No

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1** To approve the implementation of the amendments to the Car parking Order as advertised with the amended times of operation as 9am – 6pm.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1** To implement the proposal to move all overnight motor home parking to the designated area behind the skate park, in marked out zones.
- 2.2** To implement the proposal to change the overnight motorhome parking to 3 nights with no return in 4 nights
- 2.3** To implement the proposed new description of a motorhome in the order
- 2.4** In addition to the proposed changes the charging period for the car parks along beachlands from 8am – 6pm to 9am – 6pm. The overnight timing to be changed from 10pm – 8am to 7pm – 9am to allow for better enforcement of the overnight parking.

3.0 Summary

- 3.1** The car parking area known as West Beach has accommodated overnight parking for motorhomes since 2009. The current Car Parking Order states they can stay for up to 72 hours and there is a charge of £15 for the peak season and out of season the charge is £10. This is the only area along beachlands they can park overnight and in any area they choose.
- 3.2** During the day motorhomes may park in any of the beachlands car parks and pay the normal daily rate.

4.0 Subject of Report

- 4.1** Over the recent seasons there has been a noticeable increase in motorhomes and motorhome type vehicles using the car park at West beach. This raised safety concerns regarding the manner in which they are parked for an overnight

NON EXEMPT

stay and that they were parked too close together without a suitable distance between them. A solution was required to enable the motorhomes to continue to stay over night but in a controlled and safe manner. Moving the overnight parking into one specified area with marked out zones for them to park in will achieve safer and controlled parking.

- 4.2 Enforcement of the current overnight restrictions is difficult due to the wording of the current Car Park Order, operational times of the car park, staffing rotas and the manner in which these vehicles can be utilised to travel to the shops and restaurants and back. Changing the hours of operation, definition of motorhomes and the wording from hours to number of days permitted to stay within the car park will allow for robust enforcement to be undertaken. The staff will be available daily to undertake enforcement and the changed description will include any modified vehicles used for sleeping in as would a motorhome. By changing the wording from hours to days this removes the issues of a vehicle moving and returning on the same day from an enforcement point of view.
- 4.3 There is a demand for overnight parking to be permitted in this area and by making these amendments to the current Car Park Order there will be a balance between meeting the demand whilst addressing the safety concerns and responsibilities the Council have.
- 4.4 There were 51 objections to the new proposals received and one in support of the proposals. Appendix 1 provides a summary of these and the response to them.

5.0 Implications

- 5.1 **Resources:** Funding for the works to be carried out will be met from existing Council budgets for car park works.
- 5.2 **Legal:** The Order will be made under the provisions of its powers under Sections 32 and 35 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984
- 5.3 **Strategy:** These proposed changes support the following themes set out in the Corporate Strategy; financial sustainability and public service excellence
- 5.4 **Risks:** There is a risk that there will not be sufficient room on some weekend nights to accommodate the number of visiting motorhomes wanting to stay overnight.
- 5.5 **Communications:** Interested parties were notified of the proposals by means of notices, information on the Council's website and in the local press as per the Council's statutory duties.
- 5.6 **For the Community:** By controlling the overnight parking it will have a positive impact on the local area and reduce inconsiderate use and improve safety
- 5.7 **The Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) has been completed and concluded the following:** There are no concerns about the proposals having a differential impact.
- 6.0 **Consultation** Interested parties were notified of the proposals by means of notices, information on the Council's website and in the local press as per the Council's statutory duties

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Appendices: Appendix 1- Summary of Objections and comments

Background Papers: N/A

Agreed and signed off by:

Legal Services: 04 August 2016

Executive Head of Governance & Logistics: 04 August 2016

Relevant Executive Head: 04 August 2016

Portfolio Holder: 8 August 2016

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Appendix 1 –Summary of Objections and Comments

Nature of Objections/Comments and Support	Number of Objectors	Officer Comments / Recommendations
West Beach Motorhome Proposals		
Good thing happening on Hayling Island and by restricting motor home parking the economy will be impacted as we spend in excess of £100 each visit by using local businesses	29	The proposed restrictions are minimal in comparison with the current offer so it is anticipated the impact will be minimal. The situation will be monitored to assess any impact.
Participate in water sports and the area proposed is not near the allowed water sports area and carrying equipment would be dangerous	6	Proposed charges relate to the overnight parking only. Therefore parking will still be permitted throughout the day near to the watersports activity area.
Need to expand this area not reduce it as it brings many more to the area and is unique in the UK – Like the freedom of no marked areas as the Aires are abroad	9	This will be looked at as part of the longer term vision and solution for the beachlands area and Hayling island
Object to the change – no reason given	5	No response as no reason given for objection to proposals
Proposed area too small and will be noisy	10	It is unlikely there will be skaters in using the skate park during hours of darkness or very early morning. The area is a reduced area but will allow for controlled and safer parking of the motorhomes in the short term. There will be a full overview undertaken for the longer term position.
Victimising one section of users	7	This is a short term solution and there will be a full overview undertaken for the longer term position. This particular group of users are unique in that most carry on board flammables and cooking equipment.
Will we extend the dog allowed zone as most owners have dogs and proposed area is restricted for dogs	1	The current area used by motorhomes is restricted for dogs on the beach side in season

NON EXEMPT

		already so there would be no change with the proposed area as the grassed area opposite can be used
Not good for disabled users as further from toilets and no disabled access to the beach	1	During the day motorhomes will still be able to park in the main body of the car park and access the toilets and the small area onto the beach top
Not broken so do not fix it	3	There is a need to control the overnight parking and ensure safer distances when parked for the purpose of cooking and flammables on board in line with guidance
Should ban motorhome parking overnight altogether	1	There is no need to ban parking all together for the motorhomes only to control the parking better
Will allow for travellers to arrive in the area	1	Any encampment of travellers is dealt with under different legislation and there would be no impact on how an incursion would be dealt with
Impact on tourism for Hayling Island is positive and you will lose visitors by changing the current offering	15	The proposed restrictions are minimal in comparison with the current offer so it is anticipated the impact will be minimal. The situation will be monitored to assess any impact.
Fully support new proposals	1	N/A