

## CONTROLLED PARKING AREAS – WORKING PARTY

ABERDEEN, 3 February, 2012. - Minute of Meeting of the CONTROLLED PARKING AREAS WORKING PARTY. Present:- Councillor Corall, Convener; and Councillors Collie, Donnelly, Laing and Jennifer Stewart.

Apologies for absence had been intimated from Councillors John Stewart and Wisely.

Also in attendance:- Councillors Adam, Allan, Cormack, Greig, Robertson and Yuill.

### **FACT SHEET AND CURRENT CONTROLLED PARKING ZONE AREAS**

1. The Working Party had before it a fact sheet which detailed the controlled parking zone areas, as well as all parking entitlement and charges for each of the available parking options both on and off street.

**The Working Party resolved**:-  
to note the fact sheet.

### **PROPOSED REVISIONS TO ON STREET PARKING CHARGES FOR FORRESTERHILL AND GARTHDEE**

2. Reference was made to article 43 of the minute of the meeting of the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee of 31 January 2012, at which time it was agreed to refer, for discussion, the proposed revised charges for the Forresterhill and Garthdee on street parking zones. Members had before them on this day, the report as presented to the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee.

**The Working Party resolved**:-  
to request officers to:- (a) investigate the level of parking on streets in the vicinity of Forresterhill during the day; (b) provide further details on the availability of the existing voucher system utilised in the Forresterhill and Garthdee zones and to investigate ways to increase awareness and availability of the vouchers, as well information on other alternative systems which could be implemented in particular pay by phone; and (c) continue discussions with both NHS Grampian and RGU regarding the proposed new increased pricing structure for on-street parking, and to consult with local community councils and local business on this proposal also; and (d) to report back to the next meeting of the Working Party on these matters.

### **ALLOCATION OF BUSINESS PERMITS TO OFFICES WITH MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY**

3. The Working Party had before it a report by the Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure which provided a summary of the current status of the allocation of business permits to offices and for offices with multiple occupancy; and sought members' views on this.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Working Party -

- (a) note the content of the summary report;
- (b) advise officers of their views on how to proceed in relation to the allocation of business permits to offices and for offices with multiple occupancy; and
- (c) instruct officers to investigate the procedures that other Local Authorities used to issue such permits and report back to the next meeting of the Controlled Parking Areas Working Party with a more detailed report.

**The Working Party resolved:-**

to approve the recommendations contained in the report.

**CURRENT ANOMALY WITH THE PROCEDURE FOR ISSUING BUSINESS PERMITS**

4. The Working Party had before it a report by the Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure which advised of an anomaly within the current parking permit procedures where the issuing of business permits did not comply with existing Traffic Regulation Orders.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Working Party -

- (a) note the content of the report and the options that officers have considered;
- (b) recommend the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee to approve that the current policy for issuing business permits be changed to allow a business a maximum of two permits per property (in the zones where two residential permits are allowed) and one of these permits may be of the flexible type; and
- (c) recommend the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee to instruct officers to amend the required Traffic Regulation Orders accordingly.

**The Working Party resolved:-**

to approve the recommendations contained in the report.

**ALBERT TERRACE – AREA BOUNDARY CONSIDERATIONS**

5. The Working Party had before it a report by the Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure which considered the request by the residents of Albert Terrace for Albert Terrace to be removed from zone B and to be included within zone P to allow the introduction of residents only parking.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Working Party note the contents of the report and recommend to the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee that no further action on this matter is taken.

**The Working Party resolved:-**

to request officers to further explore the option of Albert Terrace to be removed from zone B and instead included within zone P to allow the introduction of residents only parking, and report to the next meeting of the Working Party.

## **CROSS BOUNDARY PARKING WITHIN THE AREAS OF CONTROLLED PARKING IN ABERDEEN CITY**

6. The Working Party had before it a report by the Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure which presented the history behind the current relaxation of parking enforcement to allow cross-boundary parking, and highlighted problems that were now being encountered as a result of this.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Working party -

- (a) instruct officers to further investigate the option/s to alleviate the current problems and report back to the next meeting; and
- (b) to otherwise note the contents of the report.

**The Working Party resolved:-**

to approve the recommendations contained in the report.

## **ENTITLEMENT TO ON STREET CITY CENTRE PERMITS**

7. The Working Party had before it a report by the Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure which sought consideration of the on street residential parking permits entitlement within the city centre and in particular the variation in the number of permits between adjacent zones within the Crown Street / Ferryhill area - a matter which had been raised by a local resident, through the local members and an MSP.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Working Party note the contents of the report and recommend to the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee that no further action on this matter is taken.

**The Working Party resolved:-**

to request officers to further investigate the variation in entitlement of on street residential parking permits, in particular the variation in the number of permits between adjacent zones within the Crown Street / Ferryhill area, and to report back with possible options in this regard to the next meeting of the Working Party.

## **ON STREET PARKING PERMITS FOR PRIVATE CARE HOME PROVIDERS**

8. The Working Party had before it a report by the Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure which considered the issues raised by private home care providers with regard to the difficulties and costs associated with parking within controlled parking areas.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Working Party consider the extension of “contractor’s permits” to private home care companies, and otherwise note the contents of the report.

**The Working Party resolved:-**

to request officers to evaluate the possible introduction of parking permits, or extension of “contractor’s permits” to private home care companies, discussing the matter with officers in Social Care and Wellbeing, and to discuss with NHS Grampian the scope for increasing the current charge for their permits, and to report back on this matter and possible options to the next meeting of the Working Party.

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CURRENT PARKING PERMIT PROCEDURES (OPERATIONAL AND POLICY RELATED)**

9. The Working Party had before it a report by the Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure which advised of the proposed changes to existing parking permit procedures that did not comply with the Traffic Regulation Orders and which would reduce the Council’s revenue costs.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Working Party -

- (a) note the content of the report and the options that officers had considered;
- (b) recommend that the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee approve a limited number of GP Medical permits to be issued to any practice within a controlled parking zone where no off-street parking exists (for the sole use of GP’s.);
- (c) recommend that the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee approve that two additional flexible permits might be purchased to any repair and maintenance garage / business within all controlled parking zones within the city. (However these additional permits must be for trade working practices only and not for staff. A business with adequate off-street parking would not be eligible for these additional permits);
- (d) recommend that the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee approve that a final reminder letter be issued at their next renewal to all permit holders advising them that this is their last and that no future reminders will be issued; and
- (e) recommend that the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee instruct officers to amend the required Traffic Regulation Orders accordingly.

**The Working Party resolved:-**

to approve the recommendations in the report.

**ABUSE OF RESIDENTIAL PERMITS**

10. The Working Party received an oral report from Mr. Andrew Smith on existing issues regarding abuse of the permit system, including blue badges, and sought members’ views on this matter.

Mr Smith advised that although not widespread, the matter of non residents using permits for zones within which they were not resident still remained an issue. Thereafter, he provided an overview of the lengthy enforcement process which would be required to resolve this issue.

**The Working Party resolved:-**

to request officers to investigate measures taken by other local authorities to address abuse of parking permits and to report back with this information, as well as a recommended way forward for the Council to the next meeting of the Working Party for consideration.

**EMISSIONS BASED PARKING CHARGES**

11. The Working Party had before it a report by the Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure which explored the possibility of establishing a city wide emissions-based permit system.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Working Party note that the proposal would be developed in conjunction with the review of 2012/2014 parking charges to be undertaken in Autumn 2012 and reported to Committee in Spring 2013.

**The Working Party resolved:-**

to approve the recommendation.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

12. The Working Party agreed that its next meeting be held at the end of March/early April, 2012.

- **COUNCILLOR JOHN CORALL, Convener.**