

## CONTROLLED PARKING AREAS – WORKING PARTY

ABERDEEN, 5 April, 2012. - Minute of Meeting of the CONTROLLED PARKING AREAS WORKING PARTY. Present:- Councillor Corall, Convener; and Councillors Donnelly and Laing.

Apologies for absence had been intimated from Councillor Allan.

Also in attendance:- Councillors Kiddie (from article 1 to 4) and Robertson.

### MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF 3 FEBRUARY 2012

1. The Working Party had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 3 February 2012

**The Working Party resolved:-**

to approve the minute as an accurate record.

### FACT SHEET AND CURRENT CONTROLLED PARKING ZONE AREAS

2. 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.

### INTRODUCTION OF PARKING CONTROLS/CHARGES AT DUTHIE PARK

3. The Working Party had before it a report by the Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure which sought members' views on the proposed changes to the current parking procedures within the Duthie Park car parking areas, and the opportunity to introduce a maximum three hour stay for visitors.

**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 the introduction of a maximum stay of three hours (no return within one hour) within each of the car parks within Duthie Park between the hours of 8am and 4pm Monday to Friday; and
- (c) recommend that the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee instruct officers to commence the required Traffic Regulation Order procedures.

The Working Party discussed the parking issues currently experienced at Duthie Park, as well as the proposals to alleviate such issues. Members supported the proposal, however sought reassurance that:- (a) the enforcement suggested was appropriate and practical from the city wardens' perspective; and (b) that the measures could be suspended for a special event.

**The Working Party resolved:-**

to approve the recommendations contained in the report.

**CROSS BOUNDARY PARKING AND RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMIT ELIGIBILITY**

4. With reference to article 6 of the minute of the meeting of the Working Party of 3 February 2012, the Working Party had before it a report by the Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure which considered:- (a) a revision to the existing boundary parking restrictions to allow cross-boundary parking to address the current problems of enforcement and consistency of application; and (b) the eligibility of residents for parking permits and the issues relating to existing allocations.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Working Party –

recommend that the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee -

- (a) approve the proposed changes to the Zone N boundaries and the integration of Zone P within Zone N;
- (b) approve the amalgamation of the parking Zones as noted in paragraph 5.31 for the purpose of cross boundary movements and that this be restricted to between the hours of 4pm and 10am each day; and
- (c) instruct officers to monitor the impact of the proposed changes and to review the eligibility of residents to on street parking should cross boundary parking be seen to be unresolved.

**The Working Party resolved:-**

to approve the recommendations contained in the report.

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

5. With reference to article 3 of the minute of the meeting of the Working Party of 3 February 2012, the Working Party had before it a report by the Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure which provided a summary of the findings regarding the misuse of business permits, that being both the allocation and abuse of permits and the potential remedies.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Working Party –

- (a) note the content of the report and the options that officers had considered; and
- (b) consider the options detailed in the report and recommend that the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee approve option 2 outlined in the options appraisal contained at section 5.5.2 in the report, to restrict the

issue of business permits those businesses classified as retailers under the Town and County Planning (Use Clauses) (Scotland) 1997, only and which did not have any off-street parking.

The Working Party noted the ongoing issue regarding the misuse of business permits and welcomed the options contained in the report. Members supported option 2 contained therein, that being to restrict the issue of business permits those businesses classified as retailers under the Town and County Planning (Use Clauses) (Scotland) 1997, only and which did not have any off-street parking. However, members highlighted that this strict definition would create significant difficulties for professional services such as estate agents, architects etc who relied on the use of vehicles for their business, and wished for these businesses to be allowed business permits.

**The Working Party resolved:-**

- (i) to request officers to consider the possibility of restricting use of business permits to residential parking bays only and report their findings to the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure committee on 31 May 2012 for consideration;
- (ii) to request officers to provide a clear definition of businesses referred to as “professional services” and consult with members on this; and
- (iii) to recommend the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee to restrict the issue of business permits to those businesses classified as retailers under the Town and County Planning (Use Clauses) (Scotland) 1997, and to “professional services”, (the definition of which to be drawn up by officers by the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee meeting on 31 May), only and which did not have any off-street parking.

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

6. With reference to article 2 of the minute of the meeting of the Working Party of 3 February 2012, the Working Party had before it a report by the Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure which provided an update on the implications of the implementation of the proposed pricing structure for the Forresterhill and Garthdee on street parking zones.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Working Party -

- (a) note the contents of the report and the options that had been considered by the officers;
- (b) recommend that the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee instruct officers to increase charges of on-street parking within both the Forresterhill and Garthdee zones in a phased manner, with option one to be implemented as soon as possible and a further review undertaken to raise charges in line with public transport costs; and
- (c) recommend that the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee instruct officers to amend existing traffic regulation orders where required.

The Working Party considered the proposals extensively during which officers advised that they had not yet had the opportunity to consult with local businesses on the proposal, however they would now undertake this and report the outcome to the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee on 31 May 2012.

On consideration of the proposal, Councillor Laing proposed that the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee agree to postpone a decision on the introduction of increased charges within the Forresterhill and Garthdee zones until a review of the NHS Grampian's new parking scheme being introduced on 1 June, 2012, had been undertaken and the implications of this for on-street parking confirmed.

With regards the implementation of any increase in charges, officers advised that should an increase in charges be approved this would not require to go the traffic regulation order procedure, instead this could be implemented by street notice.

**The Working Party resolved:-**

to approve the recommendations contained in the report.

## **ABUSE OF RESIDENTIAL PERMITS**

7. With reference to article 10 of the minute of the meeting of the Working Party of 3 February 2012, the Working Party had before it a report by the Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure which advised of the extent of the problems with the residents parking permit scheme.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Working Party instruct officers to undertake further investigation to determine the extent of residential parking abuse and to formulate options for consideration at a future meeting of the Working Party.

**The Working Party resolved:-**

to approve the recommendation contained in the report.

## **AOCB**

8. The Chair opened the meeting to any other business, at which point some members raised operational matters in their own wards which officers undertook to look into.

- **COUNCILLOR JOHN CORALL, Convener.**