

Notes on meeting re proposals to upgrade HDC car parks in Steyning

Tuesday 17th October 11.30am

Present:

Ben Golds- Head of Parking Services HDC

Stuart Slater – Parking Co-ordination Officer HDC

Stewart Hamilton-West – Project Officer HDC

Nigel Weston – Engineering HDC

Tim Lloyd- HDC District Councillor and Parish Councillor

John Fullbrook – Parish Clerk and Hazel Roxby – Deputy Clerk

Gill Muncey and Phil Bowell – Parish Councillors (Phil present after 12 noon)

1. Ben introduced the HDC proposals- following the introduction of the rural car charging scheme money was now available for much-needed investment in car parks. They had looked at layout, bay numbers and surfaces. A separate review of the charging scheme would be held later. The meeting was to seek feedback on their proposals. Gill said they could only receive the proposals today and they would be discussed at the Amenities Committee meeting on 24th October, for approval at November full Council.
2. Ben has already put in a capital bid for 2018 for three rural car parks to be upgraded, one each in Storrington, Henfield and Steyning. Only one Steyning car park could be upgraded in the next financial year, with others to follow later.
3. All the bays proposed would be the standard 2.4 x 4.8m, at present there is no proposal for extra wide spaces for larger cars.
4. Regulations provide that larger car parks of up to 200 spaces have to have 4 disabled spaces.
5. Work on cutting overhanging trees back and making the footpath safe from Elm Grove Lane in Newmans Gardens car park is separate from these proposals and is already in hand.
6. Car parks would not be closed entirely when work is in progress- work would be done in phases to allow some parking throughout.
7. In Tanyard Lane there are now 131 standard spaces and 4 disabled, HDC are proposing a move to 130 standard and 5 disabled. Gill to check survey figures to see whether disabled spaces fully utilised at present. In the High Street numbers would remain unchanged at 42 Standard and 2 disabled spaces. However changes would allow safe access to the rear disabled toilet as well as the rear ramp being widened and straightened to improve access, which should also reduce litter which collects there. In Fletcher's Croft layout improvements would give 92 standard spaces and 5 disabled, plus approx. 20 along the approach road, compared with 76 standard spaces and 4 disabled (plus those on entrance road), some spaces currently having time restrictions to allow for coach turning.
8. As Fletchers Croft would give the largest increase in spaces it may be preferable to start with that, and also improve signage to aim to improve visitor understanding of the route into town. All upgrading could include improved tourism signs in all car parks. Tim asked if a space could be provided for visiting coaches, which could be possible if 7 spaces lost at the far end of the car park. Gill pointed out that the 20 spaces along the entrance road urgently need repair, which all felt should be kept as grass crete not tarmac. There was a discussion about car charging points in Fletchers Croft and HDC may well put in the necessary wiring under the tarmac but felt that rapid charging points may not be installed for a couple of years.
9. Gill asked if Ben could provide costs for the three proposed schemes as well as figures on the income HDC is receiving from parking charges in Steyning in time for the Amenities meeting.

GM