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Agenda

Dorset County Council



Meeting: Petition Panel

Time: 12.30 pm

Date: Friday, 11 January 2019

Venue: S3.3 County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ,

Daryl Turner Jon Orrell Nick Ireland

Mike Harries
Chief Executive

Contact: Liz Eaton, Democratic Services Officer

County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

01305 225113 - e.a.eaton@dorsetcc.gov.uk

Date of Publication: 03 January 2019

1. Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. Petition - (Policy Review of the Park District Permit Area)

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To consider a report in relation to the petition and to ask the Panel to make a decision based on the options available, and in accordance with the Petitions Scheme.

Outcome of the Panel Discussion

In addition to taking part in the meeting, the outcome of the discussion and decision made by the Panel will be sent to the lead petitioner within 5 working days of the date of the meeting.



Dorset County Council



Petitions Panel

11 January 2019

1. Background to the Petition Scheme

- 1.1 The County Council's Petitions Scheme was adopted on 29 April 2010 and came into effect on 15 June 2010. The Scheme was subsequently updated by the County Council on 21 July 2016 and 15 February 2018.
- 1.2 If a petition is supported by 50 or more signatories then it will be dealt with by a small customer focussed panel. If a petition is supported by 4,250 or more signatories it will be scheduled for a debate at the next meeting of the full County Council.

2. Petition – Review of Permit Allocations Policy (for Weymouth Park District)

2.1 The County Council received a petition organised by The Park Community Centre on 29th October 2018 This reads as follows:

The residents of the Park Area who hold parking permits believe that the existing residents' permit policy is out of date and not fit for purpose in 2018.

There is an imbalance between the availability of spaces and the number of eligible permit applicants.

The Park Centre organises a questionnaire on this issue and called at every house in the areas, collecting signed returns from 163 residents and 5 returns online.

Between the months of June, July, August and September, many residents do not go out after 5pm and weekends as there is additional pressure on available spaces from holiday-makers and family visitors. Parking after this time is only available in non-permitted areas away from homes and necessitates a long walk back home, often with bags, buggies etc. Older residents, disabled residents, young families and people employed during non-sociable hours including many hospital workers are particularly affected by this problem. They are unable to park in the permitted areas they pay for.

This obviously impacts upon social life and many reported that they feel trapped throughout the summer and many weekends. People who have lived here for many years talk of wanting to move after years of loving the area.

Issues frequently discussed on the doorstep

- * More cars parking in the area originating from sea front hotels and guest houses
- * Insufficient numbers of Parking Enforcement Officers.
- * Multi occupancy flats taking the place of B and B's and increasing the number of cars requiring parking spaces.
- * MiPermit. Unavailable by phone on weekends. Difficulty obtaining refunds for pre-booked visitor permits and no parking places on arrival.
- * Use of car parks for permit holders free of charge if no roadside spaces available.
- * One hour wait. Discussed but a majority of residents felt it was a necessity.
- * Permits restricted to two per household.

We therefore request a Policy Review to look at:

- * Seafront hotels to incorporate use of the Park and Ride scheme. Permits only allocated to visitors unable to access this scheme.
- * B and B's to incorporate use of the Park and Ride scheme. Permits only allocated to visitors unable to access this scheme.
- * Parking Enforcement Officers. To enable better coverage, could residential parking officers and car park officers in the same area, work together and deploy numbers more effectively.
- * MiPermit is working to the outdated 2012 policy. A review needed to include better telephone services.
- * Permits restricted to two per household.
- * Visitor parking to be restricted
- * The one hour waiting rule to be abolished
- * Better use made of overnight parking in main car parks.

We appreciate the new Unitary authority is most likely to take over this matter but a policy review on car parking in our area is an issue of real concern to the residents.

- 2.2 As this petition contains more than 50 signatures, the Panel are invited to note and discuss this.
- 2.3 This discussion should conclude with a decision as to how to respond to the petition. This may include one or more of the following:
 - taking the action requested in the petition
 - considering the petition at a council meeting
 - holding an inquiry into the matter
 - undertaking research into the matter
 - holding a public meeting
 - holding a consultation
 - referring the petition for consideration by the council's Audit and Governance Committee
 - calling a referendum
 - writing to the petition organiser setting out the Panel's views about the request in the petition.
- 2.4 Alternatively, the Panel may determine a combination of the options above, or decide on another course of action as appropriate.

3. Context

- 3.1 The County Council's Parking Service Team have the responsibility for managing the parking enforcement in the Park Area of Weymouth, the back-office legal procedure for Penalty Charge Notice appeals, and liaising closely with the external agency (MiPermit) who administer the applications for resident permits.
- 3.2 A Resident Permit costs £70 per annum with pro-rota reductions for a six-month permit.
- 3.3 The residents' permit policy to which the Parking Service Team currently work was written in 2012 by the Weymouth and Portland Borough Council and covers the whole of the Weymouth Town Centre area which have resident parking areas. **Appendix A**
- 3.4 Under the 2012 policy, there are no restrictions on the number of permits per household unless the property as a private parking space or garage, but a restriction of a maximum of 100 visitor permits per annum.

- 3.5 The Park Area is predominantly two or three story terraced houses with no frontal private parking areas.
- 3.6 Within the policy there are some restrictions on bed and breakfast, hotel accommodations which fall within the area depending on the number of bedrooms in each property.
- 3.7 The existing Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) is the legal mandate which governs the parking restrictions in the area, and currently has a permitted one-hour wait (no return within one hour) restriction for any visitors to the area and sits alongside the Residents Permits.
- 3.8 The one-hour wait in the area undoubtedly adds to the strain on the already oversubscribed parking space availability.
- 3.9 The existing TRO is in place 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- 3.10 At the request of the Park Community Centre Forum, the Parking Services team undertook some audit work during May 2018 to try and gauge the volume of potential permits currently in circulation, against the number of possible parking spaces available in the Park Area.

The key findings from the audit undertaken during the last fortnight of May 2018 were:

- In the Park District Area (Zones A, B and C), there were 593 resident permits, 156 hotel/guest house permits, 34 business permits and an average of 30 visitor permits per day in circulation. Total 832 permits.
- The audit counted approximately 625 available on-street parking spaces for these zones.
- There are 916 buildings in the area

Zone	Resident Permits	Hotel/Guest House Permits	Business Permits	All Permits	Spaces Available	Number of Buildings
A&C	525	147	26	698	526	704
В	87	9	8	104	99	212
A& C Visitor's						
permit/day	30	0	N/A	30	N/A	N/A
Total	642	156	34	832	625	916

- There are a ratio of 1.33 permits per space, or 33% more permits than spaces
- Upon several visits to the area at different times of the day, around 17% of the vehicles observed were making us of the unlimited waiting times (45 vehicles using the 1 hour free parking, and 17 vehicles displaying a blue badge)
- 3.11 Although the above figures are only a snap-shot from a fixed period of time, the figures are indicative of both the perception of the residents, and the evidence from Civil Enforcement Officers when enforcing in the area.
- 3.12 The strain on parking is particular felt during the summer months and Easter period when the Town enjoys an increase of tourists and visitors to the area.

- 3.13 The tensions caused by the imbalance of parking demand and availability prompt regular and repeated complaints to the Council by residents living in the district.
- 3.14 Whilst there is no realistic scope of increasing the availability of parking spaces for residents there is scope to try and manage the demand with a review of the existing policy although it is recognised that this could lead to a displacement of vehicles which would need to be accommodated elsewhere.
- 3.15 I believe that the 2012 Policy is out of date and has not kept pace with the changing demographic of the area (increased number of flats and houses of multiple occupation), and the undeniable fact that there are more vehicles per household than ever before.

4. Next Steps

4.1 The Panel is invited to note the receipt of this petition and decide how to respond to it.

Officer Contact
Name: Paul Hutton
Tel: 01305 221812

Email: p.hutton@dorsetcc.gov.uk

Director's name Matthew Piles Service Director for Environment, Infrastructure and Economy January 2019

Appendices

A Permit Allocations Policy



Park District Residents Parking Scheme



Park District Residents Parking Scheme - Zones A, B and A+C

Zone A

Zone A - Properties eligible for permits

- Avenue Road (Nos. 1 36)
- Brownlow Street
- Cassiobury Road South side (including Nos. 38, 41 and 42 on North Side)
- Charles Street
- Chelmsford Street
- Derby Street
- Grange Road West side only between Avenue Road and William Street
- Hardwick Street
- King Street North Side
- Lennox Street Charles Street to Victoria Street
- Melcombe Place
- · Penny Street
- Queen Street
- Ranelagh Road
- Stanley Street between Ranelagh Road and Queen Street
- Walpole Street
- William Street (Nos. 2 5 inclusive and all properties between Grange Road and Walpole Street)

Zone A - Application form

Parking Zone A - Properties Eligible for a permit (pdf, 177kb) 🗇

Zone B

Zone B - Properties eligible for permits

- Albert Street
- Bath Street
- Clifton Place (from Park Street as far as the bollards)
- Commercial Road (from Nos. 2 10 and Nos. 17 24)
- Edward Street
- Gloucester Street (Nos. 18 -21 only)
- King Street (Nos. 7 9 and 12 20 only)
- Park Street properties situated between Gloucester Street and King Street
- Turton Street
- Upway Street
- Wesley Street

Zone B - Application form

Parking Zone B - Properties eligible for a permit (pdf, 176kb) ☐

Zone A + C

Zone A + C - Properties eligible for permits

- Astrid Way
- Crescent Street
- The Esplanade (Nos. 101 146)
- Lennox Street (Nos. 48 49)
- Musgrave Place
- Stanley Street (No. 11 only)
- Victoria Street (Nos 2, 11 (1 41 Nightingale Court) and 19 37)

Waterloo Place

Zone A + C - Application form

Zone AC Application (pdf, 176kb)

Criteria for parking permit applications

You may apply for a Resident's Parking Permit if:

- Your main home address is within the boundary of the parking zone
- You have continuous residence at that address
- You own, keep and use a vehicle of the prescribed type and class
- · You hold a current full driver's licence

The permit entitles your vehicle to be parked in any operational resident permit holders' parking place in the relevant Park District Zone (Zone A or Zone B or Zone A/C) but not in a suspended parking place where parking is not allowed.

Each resident may apply for one Resident parking permit per vehicle owned by residents at that address. Resident parking permits shall be decreased in number at the rate of one per off street parking place or garage, within the curtilage of the address.

The permit should be displayed in the holder provided on the inside of the windscreen or nearside window of your vehicle while parked in a resident permit holders' parking place during the hours of operation. Resident permit holders' parking places are indicated on the street by the sign shown on the front of this leaflet. When parking, you should make sure that your vehicle is fully within the markings.

The procedures, which are in place to confirm residence and vehicle custody, are designed to eliminate fraud and to ensure permits are issued only to those who qualify. The Traffic Management Orders require us to issue a permit to any qualifying resident, so we cannot limit the number of permits issued. A permit cannot guarantee you a specific space but it gives you the opportunity to use any resident permit holders' parking place that is available within your zone at any given time.

If you are unable to park after 6pm in the evening you may park in the Melcombe Regis and Park Street Car parks until 9.30am the next day as long as you are parked in a pay and display bay.

In Zones A, B and A/C resident permit holders' parking places may also be used by visitors displaying valid scratch card visitors permits. A visitor cannot park in a resident permit holders' parking place for more than one hour unless the vehicle displays a validated scratch card Visitor's Permit which is available on the allocation of one per residential property. A scratch card may be purchased at a cost of £7.20 per three months. You will be allowed **27 days** on each scratch card.

Parking permits for different types of property or users

Second homes

Second home owners are to apply for a residents permit and/or scratch card. Applicants need to provide a current council tax bill for the property, registration document of the vehicle and driving licence.

Business Permits

Those persons carrying out a business in any of the roads in Zones A, B and A/C may apply for one permit per business. One employee permit per business may also be issued. This will be valid between 9am - 5pm.

Guest houses and hotels

Those persons operating and residing at guest houses or hotels in any of the roads specified in Zones A, B and A/C shall be entitled to a residents parking permit, subject to the qualifying conditions in (1) and (3). In addition permits shall be issued at a rate of one per 2 bedrooms available for letting. Guests cannot be charged for this permit (other than returnable deposit). Unauthorised charging to guests is an offence and will also render the permit invalid.

- Zone A = Guest House and Hotel Permit one per two bedrooms
- Zone B = Guest House and Hotel Permit one per two bedrooms
- Zone A/C = Guest House and Hotel Permit one per three bedrooms

Self catering holiday flats/apartments

Those persons operating self catering holiday flats/apartments in any of the roads specified in Zones A, B and A/C shall be entitled to a resident's parking permit subject to the qualifying conditions in (1) and (3). In addition permits shall be issued at a rate of one per two bedrooms available for letting. Guests cannot be charged for this permit (other than returnable deposit). Unauthorised charging to guests is an offence and will also render the permit invalid.

- Zone A = self catering holiday flats/apartments one per two bedrooms
- Zone B = self catering holiday flats/apartments one per two bedrooms
- Zone A/C = self catering holiday flats/apartments one per three bedrooms

Trades people

Daily dispensations will be available to trades people working within Zones A, B and A/C.

Vehicles eligible

Only mechanically propelled vehicles constructed or adapted solely for the carriage of not more than eight passengers (exclusive of the driver) or light goods vehicles will be eligible for a Residents' Parking Permit. Please note that vehicles with a trailer or a trailer on its own, must not be parked in a resident permit holders' parking place. In all cases only vehicles that can be fully contained within the bay markings will be eligible.

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*Motorcycles may also be issued with permits. If you wish to park your mt__crcycle in a resident permit holders' parking place as well as your car, may apply for a separate additional permit for your motorcycle. The vehicle custody requirements are the same as that of a car, indicated in ...cion 4. Costs are indicated in Section 3.

Proof of residence

In order to protect the interests of all genuine residents, and to deter attempts by non-residents to obtain Residents' Parking Permits, it is essential for us to ask for proof of residence. You will need to be registered on the Electoral Roll and if your name is not included on the current Council Tax Register, you will still be required to provide confirmation of residence. Any one of the following will be suitable for this purpose:-

- Current Housing Association rent book showing your own name and Weymouth address
- A fully comprehensive tenancy agreement including your name and address and confirming that the property cannot be sublet
- · A sworn affidavit, typed and properly worded and presented, signed by an identifiable signature
- Benefit documentation e.g. a current income support book in your own name and showing your Weymouth address
- · An Aliens' Registration Card

Bank statements, credit card bills or utility bills are not acceptable as proof of residence.

Proof of Business Occupancy

Business rates

Hotel and guest houses

- Business rates
- · Confirmation of number of bedrooms let

Employee

• Letter from employer confirming employment, name and home address

Self catering holiday flats/apartments

- · Business Rates
- · Brochure/Tourist Guide Advert/Audited Account

Driver's licence and vehicle custody

You need to provide us with a copy of your current full driving licence showing your name and Weymouth address and evidence of vehicle ownership/custody.

If your vehicle is privately owned, we need to see your vehicle registration document (VSC - Log book) showing your name and Weymouth address. If you are in the process of changing the document, we will accept the insurance certificate instead, as long as it shows your name and your Weymouth address. We cannot issue you with a permit for a privately owned vehicle in someone else's name.

If the vehicle is registered in your spouse's name and your spouse has a different surname to yours, then a copy of your marriage certificate must be provided.

If you have been provided with a company vehicle for your personal use, we will need to have a letter addressed to Parking Administration from your company on its letterhead, (signed by your manager). This letter must confirm that the vehicle with the registration number quoted is owned by the company and has been allocated to you for your full time and exclusive use. A copy of the V5C will also be required in the company name.

We cannot issue permits for pool cars or those with shared use.

Permit charges

Resident, business or employee:

- 4 months £23.50
- 12 months £70.00
- ullet Lost or stolen permits may be replaced upon payment of a £15 administration fee.

Trades people:

- £10 per day
- £5 subsequent days

Visitors' scratch card permits

The current price of a visitor's scratch card is £7.20 Lost scratch cards cannot be replaced.

Renewal

Although it is our practice to send out renewal forms for yearly permits about 4 weeks before a yearly permit expires, the responsibility for renewal does rest with each resident. To ensure you receive your permit in good time, your application should be posted in the prepaid envelope supplied 3-4 weeks prior to the renewal date. No renewal reminder will be sent to holders of a 4 month permit.

When renewing you will need to enclose your signed renewal form, payment and photocopies of the following: proof of residence, your driver's licence and proof of vehicle custody (see Sections 3 and 4 above).

This is required on every renewal whether it is for 4 months or twelve me shs.

Change of circumstances

Change of vehicle

If you change your vehicle for any reason, even temporarily your existing permit MUST be returned to Parking Administration either in person (for collection after 24hrs) or by post. Your new permit will be issued to expire on the same date as the surrendered one. You will need to apply personally for the change of vehicle and provide the official sales invoice or insurance document showing your name and Weymouth address. We must see the amended vehicle registration document as soon as possible to update our records. You must never after the permit yourself in the event of a car change or for any other reason this is an offence under the Road traffic Act 2004 and may incur a penalty charge notice. You will need to make arrangements to park legally while your permit is being changed.

If you dispose of your vehicle and do not replace it with another vehicle the permit must be returned to Parking Administration and you will receive a refund for each full month unused.

Change of address

If you change your address within the parking zone, you should notify Parking Administration to enable our records to be amended. You will need to provide confirmation of your residence at your new address, (See Section 3). Your driving licence and vehicle registration document will also need to be changed. If you move from one zone to another zone within Weymouth, we will change your existing permit to show the new zone, but you will need to provide the documents as soon as you have obtained them. You must surrender your existing permit and provide your proof of residence for the new address.

If you move out of the controlled parking zone the permit is no longer valid and must be returned to Parking Administration. You will receive a refund for each full month unused.

Resident Disabled Blue Badge holders

Before applying for a resident permit please telephone number below.

Offences

1. False statements

A person who knowingly makes a false statement to obtain the issue of a permit to himself/herself or any other person shall be guilty of an offence and, if found guilty, shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding £2,500.

2. Forgery or mishandling of parking documents

A person shall be guilty of an offence who:

- (a) uses, or lends to, or allows to be used by any other person any permit or other such authorisation which may be granted under the Order or
- (b) makes or has in his/her possession anything so closely resembling a permit or other authorisation to be calculated to deceive
- (c) makes a charge (other than a returnable deposit) to a guest for a guest permit or scratch card

A person found guilty of this offence shall be liable:

- \bullet (a) on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years
- (b) on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £5,000

Warning: Weymouth and Portland Borough Council has a strong enforcement policy and will not hesitate to prosecute offenders in appropriate circumstances.

Additional information

If your application has been denied, but you still feel that you are eligible, you may write to the Appeals Board at the address below.

If you are unable to supply any of the documents specified above, or if you are unsure of your entitlement to a Residents' Parking Permit, please telephone the Parking Administration helpline for further advice before you make your application. Your application form will be returned to you if it is not fully or correctly completed or if the relevant documents are not enclosed.

Name: Parking Administration

Email: parkingadmin@weymouth.gov.uk

Tel: 01305 838000 Fax: 01305 838000

Full details for Parking Administration

© Weymouth and Portland District (B)

To Councillor Jon Orrell

PETITION FOR A RESIDENTS' PERMIT POLICY REVIEW

The residents of the Park Area who hold parking permits believe that the existing residents' permit policy is out of date and not fit for purpose in 2018.

There is an imbalance between the availability of spaces and the numbers of eligible permit applicants.

The Park Centre organised a questionnaire on this issue and called at every house in the area, collecting signed returns from 162 residents and 5 returns online.

Between the months of June, July, August and September many residents do not go out after 5pm and on weekends as there is additional pressure on available spaces from holidaymakers and family visitors. Parking after this time is often only available in non-permitted areas away from homes and necessitates a long walk back home, often with bags, buggies etc. Older residents, disabled residents, young families and people employed during non-sociable hours including many hospital workers are particularly affected by this problem. They are unable to park in the permitted area they pay for.

This obviously impacts on social life and many reported that they feel trapped throughout the summer and many weekends. People who have lived here for many years talk of wanting to move after years of loving the area.

Issues frequently discussed on the doorstep.

- * More cars parking in the area originating from sea front hotels and guest houses
- * Insufficient numbers of Parking Enforcement Officers.
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- * MiPermit. Unavailable by phone on weekends. Difficulty obtaining refunds for pre-booked visitor permits and no parking places on arrival.
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We therefore request a Policy Review to look at:

- * Seafront hotels to incorporate use of the Park and Ride scheme. Permits only allocated to visitors unable to access this scheme.
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- * The one hour waiting rule to be abolished
- * Better use made of overnight parking in main car parks.

We appreciate the new Unitary authority is most likely to take over this matter but a policy review on car parking in our area is an issue of real concern to the residents.

The Park Community Centre and the Residents of:

Lennox Street Melcombe Place

Charles Street Victoria Street

Penny Street Walpole Street

Avenue Road Cassiobury Road

Brownlow Street Ranelagh Road

Chelmsford Street Hardwick Street

Oueen Street Derby Street

William Street Stanley Street

PARA DISTACT

RAMOND EDWARDS

24 CASSIOBURI ROAD

WEYMOUTH

1 DT47JN,

The feedback from the County Parking Officer

- The parking policy as it is for our district and others is out of date and needs reviewing. This can only happen if we let the County know what we feel.
- Parking Officers have to cover over 2,500 streets and usually about 8-10
 are on duty at any time. Evening patrols have a health and safety issue
 as the Officers would need to patrol in pairs.
- The County will review the number of permits issued to the number of households, guest houses, hotels
- The MiPermit is often unavailable by telephone on weekends and getting a refund for unused time when no spaces are available is difficult
- Can use be made of empty car parks for permit holders?
- Should there be visitor parking permits?
- Should the one hour parking be reviewed?

A more detailed report is available at the Park Centre on Chelmsford Rd if you want more information and will shortly be available online-www.theparkarea.co,uk

We need your help and contribution

Please fill in the slip below and return it to the Centre or to the collectors coming round.

I WOULD LIKE A POLICY REVIEW OF THE PARK DISTRICT PERMIT AREA

Name: LYNN TOMAN

Address: 15 CASSIOBURY ROAD. DT4 75N

There should also be a limit on the size of carthal have residents permits eg there are two camper vans one evidencing a hotel visitors permit, each taking up more than one overage car space in a road with more than one overage car space been there for weeks, not moving. They not moving.

Dear Walpole Street resident if you are unhappy with the present parking system PLEASE

complete this slip and return it to PARK CENTRE in CHELMSFORD STREET or MACES STORE at the corner of WALPOLE AND LENNOX STREETS by FRIDAY the 6th JULY.

Thankyou.

I WOULD LIKE A POLICY REVIEW OF THE PARK DISTRICT

PERMIT AREA.

NAME: STEJE MORRIS ADDRESS: La WALPOLEST, DIGTHH

parking system PLEASE

complete this slip and return it to PARK CENTRE in CHELMSFORD STREET or MACES STORE at the corner of WALPOLE AND LENNOX STREETS or DERBY STORES at the corner of Derby Street by FRIDAY the 13th JULY. Thankyou.

I WOULD LIKE A POLICY REVIEW OF THE PARK DISTRICT PERMIT AREA.

NAME: FELTON

ADDRESS:

12 HARDWICK ST. WEYMOUT

