



CAMELFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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Churchfield Car Park Summary Report May 2019

Contents

1. Background
2. Costs associated with the car park
3. Consultations
4. Enforcement
5. Predicted income/expenditure if recommendation implemented

1. Background

The 2011 car parking order is very simple: free parking - short stay 2 hours no return 1 hour, and long stay 23 hours no return 1 hour. Camelford Town Council (CTC) do not have the legal power to enforce the current car parking order due to changes in Government legislation. It was noted at the beginning of 2017 that (CTC) staff were putting warning tickets on the cars – and those were being ignored.

The Car Park was bought from NDCD for £140,000 – **It was not gifted**. CTC are paying back a public works loan at £9725 until 2029.

CTC has had requests from residents to be able to park on a permanent basis, and for supplementary vehicles such as camper vans to be left in the car park for various amounts of time.

Throughout spring/summer 2017, CTC received complaints (to the office and to individual Councillors) that residents /patients/customers could not find places to park in Churchfield car park. CTC is aware that contractors working at College Road development over this period added considerable pressure on spaces. Other developments could be taking place in the vicinity in the future – i.e New surgery; which will in its turn mean contractors but also increased numbers of patients visiting.

The parking signage is mostly dilapidated, broken and in some places, contradictory. Most signs need replacing.

The painted lines in the carpark needed refreshing in places and the tarmac surface is collapsing in certain sections.

A full review of; management, enforcement, current and future needs/capacity, legalities, funding and maintenance was undertaken in order to make a cost effective 'fresh start'. CTC recognises that consultation and communication are the foundation of a fair and effective parking policy. It also recognises that

parking in Camelford is an emotive subject and there will not necessarily be consensus on a way forward from residents. It will endeavour to act in the best interests of the Parish in the management of this important asset.

2. Costs

a. Current Annual Costs of the Car Park to the Parish 17-18. **£18,000**

which included:

- Public Works Loan £9725 (bought from NCDC - last payment due 24.3.2029)
- Maintenance £4463 (average of last 4 years)
- Staffing hours approx. £2000 – weeding, strimming, mowing, litter picking.

b. Future costs - predicted

- Immediate repair to car park surface £7500 – 2019
- Ticket Machine for enforcement of any car parking order £4000 - 2018
- New signage £1700 – 2019
- New car parking order £1000 - 2019
- Repainting all surface/lines £3,850 - 2019
- Resurfacing £40-50,000 in the medium term – additional £8,000 per year on precept would be required in order to save up for it.

3. Consultations

a. Parish Information and Opinion gathering survey

Residents of Camelford Parish were asked to participate in an anonymous survey to help the Council evaluate the provision of car parking in Churchfield car park and review policy. It was launched at the Camelford show 2017 and ran for a period of 6 weeks. The survey included questions about the current by-law, enforcement and charging. The survey also gave residents an opportunity to comment. A total of 523 responses were received.

b. Business and Residential permits – local requirements survey Autumn 2017. Surveys were hand delivered to a total of 150 houses in College Road, Victoria Road, Market Place, Fore Street, Mill Road and Chapel Street, and delivered to all 39 businesses within Camelford Town Centre.

c. Annual Parish Meeting 2018. All residents were invited to attend to discuss Churchfield car park with members of the Council.

d. Usage. The Maintenance Manager was asked to check the availability of spaces December 2017, May 2018, August 2018 in order to assess capacity.

e. October 2018 – 6-week Consultation on the final draft of the Off-Street Car Parking Order; which included direct mail out to all households. 301 responses received. CTC discussed all correspondence and feedback received.

f. Official Notice of the final version of the Car Parking Order was published in local newspapers, noticeboards, website etc. for Consultation in February 2019, the opportunity to comment also provided at the Annual Parish Meeting March 2019.

4. Enforcement.

Cornwall Association of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks have both confirmed that Cornwall Council are the only enforcement authority. The CC package would be as follows:

- £35 per hour including travelling time
- CC keep any fines from FPNs and administer any appeals and paperwork.

- CC require an up to date car parking order, clear signage and parking bays. It recommends a ticket machine to reduce the amount of time required to stay in the town to check over-stay times.

Enforcement requires an updated Car Parking Order and engaging Cornwall Council to enforce the car parking order – 2 hours per week

5. Predicted income/expenditure if recommendation implemented

Expenditure £31,000

- Current Annual Costs of the Car Park to the Parish. **£18,000**
- Additional expenditure **£13,000** including:
 - Maintenance additional £500 to include ticket machine supplies
 - Staffing hours additional approx. £1000 – collecting and banking cash.
 - Enforcement – 2 hours per week @ £35 per hour £3640
 - Resurfacing - saving £8,000 per year towards renewal.

Income £13,000

- Ticket Machine - guesstimate £9,000
- Permits - £4,000

Precept support required £18,000 – No change from current level.

The revised Car Parking policy will enable the car park to be effectively enforced, managed and well maintained without further increase to the precept. The main users of the car park will make a small contribution to the upkeep of Churchfield car park without adverse impact to Council Taxpayers in the Town.

A more in-depth report is available from the Town Hall on request