

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL**Minutes of the Special meeting of COUNCIL held in The Council Office, 44 Old Street, Clevedon at 7.00pm on Wednesday 19th November 2014**

PRESENT: Chairman – Cllr N Pennycott
 Councillors C Bussey, B. Garner, J Geldart, A. Giles-Townsend, C. Hall, B. Hatch, G Hill, L Knott, L. Little, P McNeill, T Morgan, A. Shopland, D. Shopland , G. Watkins, J. West, C Wring
 Town Clerk - Ms P Heath; Deputy Town Clerk – Mrs I Johnson
 Members of the Public 23; Press 1

7.00pm INFORMAL BUSINESS**Public Session**

7 Members of the public addressed the Council with differing perspectives on the installation of pay & display meters in Hill Road and Bellevue road.

J. Brink - Hill Road Trader

Had spoken to independent traders in Weston who felt that the pay & display scheme had made a difference to their trade.

D Hoddell – Clevedon Resident

Had worked on a one way system to assist in reducing the parking problem in Hill Road; this was being discussed by the Transport & Highways Committee

B. Hughes – Chairman Hill Road Traders

The Traders wish to see the return of traffic wardens to enforce the 2 hour parking limit that currently exists. Many traders, employees and residents now park all day as there is no enforcement. Failing the return of traffic wardens the Hill Road Traders would accept the 2 hour pay & display meters.

G. Moore – Clevedon Resident

There are no dedicated car parks in upper Clevedon so on-street parking is the only option currently. Although he lives close enough to walk to Hill Road, he appreciates that this is not possible for all therefore asks that Traders, Clevedon Town Council and North Somerset Council work together to find a solution.

S. Prater – Hill Road Trader

In respect of Alexander Road, the traders speaking to North Somerset had requested that Alexander Road be included in the discussions. The increasing number of flats and apartments being built in and around Hill Road is exasperating the parking problem and queried where all the additional residents are going to park?

A point was raised as to why 2 Town Councillors who had been present at a meeting with the traders and had been supportive of the scheme had subsequently voted against it at the Transport & Highways committee meeting where the motion being discussed was made?

L. Richards – Clevedon Resident

Previously had a business in Copse Road and is a resident in an adjacent road. She expressed concern that the knock-on effect of the pay & display in Hill Road would be to push cars in to the adjacent streets. This would create a problem for residents in those streets causing them to park in other adjacent streets so escalating the problem.

M. Simmonds – The Beach Trader

Reminded the Council that a 10,000 signature petition had been submitted, when parking charges were last being discussed, objecting to their implementation; many coming through Hill Road businesses. He wanted to know why the additional spaces proposed plus the review of parking restriction had not been done already and evaluated before installation of pay & display meters

Special Council 19th November 2014 - Part 1 item from T & H 5th Nov 14

10/12/2014

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION

In response to the point raised earlier by a member of the public the 2 Councillors were given permission by the Chairman to respond.

Cllr Garner explained that he had not been at the Transport & Highways Committee meeting.

Cllr Geldart explained that she had facilitated the meetings between the Traders and North Somerset Council officers and had been shocked to read the decision by Cllr Elfan Ap-Rees which had not answered all the questions raised. She believed that the installation of pay & display meters may be premature and not provide the answers needed but appreciate that action needs to be taken to assist the businesses on and around Hill Road.

7.20 - FORMAL BUSINESS

14/492 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors C. Blades (other commitment), J Middleton, (family commitments) and J Norton-Sealey (other commitment)

RESOLVED: That Council **ACCEPTS** the apologies and reasons given for absence.

14/493 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest for items on the agenda

14/494 TO RECEIVE PART 1 ITEM FROM THE TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MINUTES DATED 5TH NOVEMBER 2014. Concerning the proposed installation of on-street pay and display meters on Hill Road and Bellevue Road and the Committee's recommendation made to this Special Meeting of Council. This should be read in conjunction with the NSC Decision No 14/15 DE 158.

TH/14/470 HILL ROAD PARKING ISSUES

RESOLVED:

1. *To ask the Chairman of Council to call a Special Meeting of Clevedon Town Council in the next two weeks specifically to discuss the proposed Hill Road pay and display scheme.*
2. **TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL VOTE 6 FOR; 2 AGAINST** that the following reasons as to why a pay and display scheme should not be progressed at the present time be forwarded to the Executive Member for Strategic Planning, Highways, Economic Development and Housing;
 - *To request that a further 6-8 month period be given to monitor the recently improved level of enforcement of parking restrictions by the Police. Due to development work to The Regent and other properties on Hill Road it has been difficult to assess whether this has affected parking behaviour.*
 - *To request the creation of 8 new parking bays on Hill Road replacing some of the existing double yellow lines as stated on the NSC decision. Decision no 14/15 DE 158 under the heading, Decision ii.*
 - *To request Officers to review the other existing parking restrictions in the immediate vicinity ie blue badge bays, loading bays, loading restrictions and single yellow lines as stated on the NSC decision no 14/15 DE 158 under the heading Decision iii.*
 - *To request a full survey of all residents and businesses in Hill Road, Bellevue Road and adjacent affected roads.*
3. *Members request to a copy of the official survey carried out prior to the decision of the Executive Member. There are concerns that residents living on Hill Road and Bellevue Road have not been consulted.*

Members discussed at great length the comments made by the public, along with the Transport & Highways recommendation, and the North Somerset Council decision notice 14/15DE158 which had been circulated with the agenda

The following points and comments were made during the discussions

- That as a revenue raiser the need for more and more areas to cover the costs would contribute to an escalation of the pay & display scheme across all of Clevedon
- Pay & display would not answer the problem but enforcement would, NSC needs to take over parking enforcement from the police
- There had been some improvement since the police had taken a more active stance; although some councillors disagreed with this, feeling there had been no improvement
- Why had Clevedon Town Council not been consulted and included in the discussions in respect of the pay & display meters
- Many of the traders, their employees and residents continue to park all day in Hill Road; number plates had been recorded by the traders on a regular basis and reported to the police
- The displacing of vehicles from the designated area in Hill Road would have a major impact on the surrounding roads.
- The option of a free park and ride was raised, although was pointed out this had been discussed at great length by the Transport & Highways Committee and ruled out on financial and practical grounds
- Pay & display would have a financial impact on the traders as those who can drive will use the free car parks at Cribs Causeway, Portishead, and Nailsea.
- The one-way system that had been suggested to the Transport & Highways Committee was being investigated.
- Alexandra Gardens is subject to a covenant so is not available for use as car parking
- Other options such as turning Herbert Gardens into a car park, purchasing the private sections of the Hill Road pavement to enable the wide pavement to be reduced to create parking bays, using part of Pier Copse for parking would not be popular as they impinge on the visual amenity of the town.
- As over 20% of residents are over 60 greater use of bus passes could be made by Clevedon residents visiting Hill Road.
- Would North Somerset Executive listen to the wishes of Clevedon Town Council the elected representatives of the Town of Clevedon?
- Members were informed that the NSC decision 14/15DE158 had not been signed and that a new scheme was being discussed which included the 8 new bays, the review of the parking restrictions and increased parking officer enforcement (although this was later withdrawn). Concern was expressed that there were meetings behind closed doors that directly affected Clevedon without the knowledge and participation of the Town Council and Clevedon District Councillors.

The Motion was put to the vote and **RATIFIED** by 16 votes to 1

Meeting closed at 8.05pm

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN.....DATE.....