

Lewes Joint Parking Board Meeting

9 August 2010

CC1, 13.00

Present:

Councillor Matthew Lock, Lead Member

Councillor Ruth O'Keeffe

Councillor Rosalyn St Pierre

John Magness

Roger Williams

David Weeks

Paul Crawford

James Graydon

Antony Small

Geraldine Knight

Agenda point		Action
1.	Welcome and Introductions	
1.1	Councillor Matthew Lock opened the meeting.	
1.2	Apologies were received from Councillor Bob Allen and Councillor Ann De Vecchi.	
2.	Review minutes of previous meeting	
2.1	Agreed.	
2.2	Action point 2.2 – The Lewes Parking Study was received very late but it will be going to the LDC cabinet soon. Lindsay Frost will share the report with Roger.	RW
2.3	Action point 3.4 – The use of the CCTV car is progressing but it has not been used as yet. A new item on the agenda called 'CCTV' will be included for future meetings.	RW
2.4	Action point 3.12 - David suggested inviting those who are interested over to give an overview of what the Notice Processing team and the bailiff contractors do. This will be arranged before the next joint board meeting.	DW/PC
2.5	Action point 3.16 – Bonfire night: PC advised that the event went well and that meetings have started to prepare for this year's event. Councillor St Pierre advised that residents and villagers had difficulty getting home due to the road closures and suggested that a type of resident ID could be introduced this year to let residents through after 5pm. PC advised that the Police take over control of the town from late afternoon and that the suggestion should be put to the Police or raised at the bonfire meetings.	
2.6	Action point 4.6 – Prolonger periods of snow: This will be discussed at the next meeting once the scrutiny report is available. DW advised that we getting prepared for next winter, and AS added that NSL are now in a much stronger position to help clear paths.	
2.7	8.3 Ferrers Road – Further consultation will be conducted during the Lewes review.	
2.8	10.1 Bell Lane – Bollards have been installed, PC suggested double yellow lines are needed as well.	PC
3.	Operational Update	
3.1	AS provided copies of the NSL report to members of the board and summarised the document.	
3.2	The highest on street parking contravention was parking on yellow lines. The highest off street parking contraventions were no valid pay-and-display ticket	

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	and expired pay-and-display ticket.	
3.3	Dropped footways – enforcement of dropped footway obstructions has recently been started. Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) are issued instantly if vehicles are obstructing a dropped kerb with tactile paving. Vehicles obstructing driveways are only enforced at the property owner's request.	
3.4	Councillor O'Keeffe asked if this meant the restrictions outside the station could now be enforced. PC responded that the land outside the station is private and enforcement could not be carried out by us. Councillor O'Keeffe will approach the transport police about parking enforcement at this location. Paul advised that this could be looked at again during the Lewes review.	PC AS
3.5	It was asked that attention is paid to the dropped kerb opposite the shop in Winterbourne.	
3.6	Revenue is down slightly compared with the previous six months, DW advised that this is occurring nationally and that other Authorities are seeing bigger decreases than we currently are.	
3.7	Councillor O'Keeffe and Councillor St Pierre both expressed concerns about parking charges and enforcement on bank holidays and mentioned in particular the local bed and breakfast trade. Both urged these charges to be reconsidered. It was asked if charging applied in the car parks on bank holidays prior to the parking scheme being introduced, and if not, could we revert back to that. Councillor Lock responded that bank holidays and Sundays are busy periods, and that he would encourage evidence to be provided to show that parking enforcement was having negative impact on these days. John Magness added that the Tourism office has records about bed and breakfast use on bank holidays, and he further pointed out that tourism is up.	
3.8	Compared with last year revenue is slightly down, there are a number of possible reasons for this including, recession, snow days and alternative forms of transport. The figures for 2009-10 will be available in the annual report, which is due to be published in October.	
3.9	Councillor Lock questioned why another blue badge action day had not taken place given the success of the last one. It was advised that we require a Police presence on the action days and that their resources were restricted. It was asked that when we do conduct the next action day that it is during a period of better weather and not in January. It was also mentioned that some carers do not understand the rules about blue badge use. Councillor Lock stated that it is not acceptable that we only carry out one action day in a six month period, or that we talked about CCTV enforcement at the last meeting but it still hasn't been used. He furthered that both of these are great initiatives but they are not happening frequently enough. He suggested that a commitment is made to these initiatives or that we stop them. DW explained that to carry out an action day resources have to be brought in from other agencies and that we have to rely on these. He also commented that the CCTV vehicle has not been purchased, since discussing this at the last meeting attempts have been made to get together a policy and permission for its use.	DW/PC
	Both of these initiatives will be reported back on at the next meeting with an	DW/PC

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	update about progress and a plan for the future use of these.	/RW
4.	Lewes Parking Surplus	
4.1	The Lewes parking scheme has had to pay back the set up and vandalism costs; this is now complete and currently the 2010-11 projections show a £160k surplus. It was suggested that the allocation of the surplus should be in line with LTP2 and that Board members should agree how the surplus is spent in the Lewes District. It was pointed out the off street surplus is Lewes Districts and would not enter these discussions. Councillor St Pierre suggested concentrating on one local project and that the first significant surplus should be spent in Lewes. Councillor Lock commented that a profit cannot be guaranteed and that the surplus cannot be spent until year end when the actual total is known. At the next meeting Roger will provide an update about the surplus, and he will contact the town and district councils to see which priorities they identify for the surplus to be spent on.	RW
5.	Lewes Parking Review	
5.1	The Lewes town and district review is likely to commence in the autumn, late October / early November. Lewes town will be first which should be completed by February. The villages will then immediately follow and are scheduled to finish during April or May. Following on from completion of the villages review, the coastal strip review will commence which should finish in September 2011. This time line is subject to change depending on the volume of participation and requests, also the notice periods for making the changes.	
5.2	Councillor O'Keeffe sought confirmation that the review would definitely happen which was confirmed by Roger.	
5.3	Roger emphasised that there must be consistency across the whole County and that where something is not possible middle ground will be found. Roger confirmed that a letter will be sent to all residents. He further added that the cost of the review and the consultants who will be conducting it are not known at this time.	
5.4	Once the project document has been approved by DMT the document will be issued to joint board members.	
5.5	The timeline discussed at this meeting should not be released until DMT have approved it.	
5.6	Councillor Lock asked Roger to ensure that the town and district Councils are informed of the plan and timeline for the review before the press release.	RW
6.	Parking Management Services Enforcement Contract Representatives from NSL left the room for this item.	
7.	AOB	
7.1	Representatives from NSL rejoined the meeting.	
7.2	Prince Edwards Road: currently permits can be used to park on crossovers, this is a local concession and is not legal. This agreement will be reviewed in the Lewes review.	
7.3	Friars Walk: the maximum stay was recently extended in Westgate Street car park and proved to be successful; it was suggested an extension of the maximum stay in Friars Walk car park should also be considered.	

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	CEO Camera: a badge with a camera is now available which works like a head cam, it was asked if permission for its use could be granted. Councillor Lock advised that this should be raised with legal and would not be a decision for this meeting. Roger to seek permission from legal and raise at Lead Member meeting.	RW
7.4	Street cleansing: on 29 July a street cleansing event took place in 15 Lewes streets, it proved to be very successful and was well received by the public.	
7.5	North Street car park: the car park should be re-opening towards the end of August / early September and would provide 50 parking spaces.	
7.6	Councillor O'Keeffe commented that the street cleansing event was organised by Tim Bartlett and expressed thanks to him.	
7.7	Malling: Councillor St Pierre advised that there are big problems with police staff parking inconsiderately in unrestricted streets and asked that this is looked at during the Lewes review. This was agreed.	
7.8	Meeting closed at 15.05	
	Next meeting to be in 6 months time, February 2010	