

## COUNCIL – 14<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015

### TOWN CENTRE PARKING

The Mayor and Town Clerk reported back to Policy and Resources Committee in August following the meeting with South Hams District Council about possible alterations to car parking in South Hams car parks.

Item PR15/17 refers but the relevant extracts are reproduced below:

**“TOWN CENTRE ISSUES:** An update following the meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> August with SHDC to discuss car parking was received from the Town Clerk. At that meeting the Mayor and Town Clerk enquired about the possibility of free parking in Ivybridge however as the District Council receives over £135,000 in revenue from the car parks in Ivybridge, free car parking would not be an option. However, the District Council would consider a review of the charges in the Glanvilles Mill car park by removing the half hour charge of 30p and replacing it with an hour charge for 50p instead of charging 80p. Leonards Road car park will be reviewed to a charge of £2 all day – a policy which had been successfully adopted in Tavistock and Okehampton. A meeting was arranged for early September so that the Officer could report to the Town Council and advise if the figures seemed to balance. If they were acceptable then these changes will be monitored on a monthly basis. Cllr Bowden welcomed any attempt to reduce the car parking on the local roads as this is inconvenient and restrictive for the local residents.

The cheaper all day rate could benefit those people having meetings and events in the town but it was acknowledged that parking wasn't the whole solution as business rates were a significant deterrent and new businesses had to be confident of getting the footfall.

It was **RESOLVED** to express disappointment that no element of free car parking was achievable for Ivybridge in view of the real difficulties being faced by the town, but to remain open minded about the alternative pricing structure being offered by South Hams District Council”

The meeting on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September indeed confirmed the proposal outlined above, ie Glanvilles Mill would be a one hour parking area at 50p, and Leonards Road car park would be one hour for 50p or £2 for anything over one hour.

Harford Road car park would be 50p for one hour and the other charges currently applied there would be largely unchanged.

The Chairman of the Chamber, Margaret Punchard, has been consulted on the proposals and supports the trial to see if more people would stay for a longer time. It is thought that visitors who use the area for walking would be more attracted to come here with this type of charging regime, and it is likely to assist in attracting conferences.

If supported by the Town Council then this would be presented to the Executive at South Hams District Council on 15<sup>th</sup> October, which would be followed by a three week public consultation and then hopefully implementation by 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

Members are invited to support this trial parking arrangement.

Mrs Lesley Hughes  
Town Clerk