

CABINET

Minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2020 commencing at 5.00 pm

Present: Cllr. Fleming (Chairman)

Cllr. Dickins (Vice Chairman)

Cllrs. McArthur, Dickins, Dyball, Maskell and Thornton

Cllr. Purves was also present.

143. Urgent Items

In accordance with Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chairman agreed to accept the urgent matters which had been circulated but had missed the statutory despatch deadline.

The matters were urgent as the report was brought in response to the unexpected announcement of a second national lockdown. Members needed to consider whether immediate and urgent action was necessary. It was reasonable to believe that a delay in bringing the report to Members could dramatically increase the prospect of long-term financial impacts upon residents and businesses. The report was presented on the urgent basis in light of the special circumstances surrounding the impact on residents of Covid-19.

The urgent matter was taken as Agenda Item 2.

144. Declarations of interest

There were none.

145. Supporting The Local Economy - Post Lockdown Parking Scheme

The Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Officer for Finance & Trading presented the report which sought to provide one hour of free parking for short stay visitors within the Council's car parks for one calendar month from the end of lockdown. The additional one hour of parking, free of charge, would be available to all short stay pay and display customers.

The Chairman stated that due to new national restrictions introduced by Government from 5 November in response to the Coronavirus, which required the full or partial closure of a number of businesses, there continued to be a significant impact on the local economy. Responding to the pandemic had also had a significant impact on the Council's finances, it was essential that all options to support businesses and

Cabinet - 16 November 2020

encourage economic recovery were considered, particularly at this crucial time of year for many traders.

Subject to the timing of the end of the new national restrictions it was hoped that this would coincide with the Christmas trading period and subject to Council's approval for the supplementary estimates, free parking would be offered in all Council car parks on the weekends of 12 & 13 December, and 19 & 20 December.

The car parks included in the post lockdown parking scheme were:

- Bradbourne, Sevenoaks (1-5 hours weekdays and 1-4 hours weekends tickets only)
- Buckhurst 1, Sevenoaks
- Sevenoaks Town, Sevenoaks (Saturdays only)
- St. Johns and St. James, Sevenoaks
- Stag Theatre (South Park), Sevenoaks
- Suffolk Way, Sevenoaks
- Bevan Place, Swanley
- Park Road, Swanley
- Station Road, Swanley
- Quebec, Westerham
- Vicarage Hill, Westerham

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That

- a) the post lockdown parking scheme operate for one calendar month directly after the end of the current national restrictions be agreed;
- a) it be recommended to Council that the cost in terms of loss of income from the post lockdown parking scheme be met from a Supplementary Estimate (up to a maximum of £60,000).

IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS

This notice was published on 17 November 2020. The decision contained in Minute 145a takes effect on 25 November 2020. The decision contained in Minute 145b is a reference to Council.

Cabinet - 16 November 2020

THE MEETING WAS CONCLUDED AT 5.14 PM

CHAIRMAN