

Economy PDG – 16 March 2023

Answers to Public Questions

Question 1- Bruce Evans

What plans are there for High Street/St Saviour Street and Market Place Car Parks in Crediton?

The decision relating to both these car parks will be decided at Cabinet on April 4 2023. However, recommendations from the Economy PDG held on the 16 March 2023 were as follows:

High Street	2 Hours	2.70
	5 Hours	4.00
	10 Hours	6.00
	24 Hours	12.00
	Overnight 18:00 - 08:00 30 mins	Free
	Overnight 18:00 - 08:00	2.00
	BH & Sunday Parking	2.00
Market Street	1 Hour	1.50
	2 Hours	2.70
	Overnight 18:00 - 08:00 30 mins	Free
	Overnight 18:00 - 08:00	2.00
	BH & Sunday Parking	2.00

Question 2- Kate Clayton-White

So why do both options result in inflation busting increases yet again and how can you justify increases which include 7 years of questionable backdated charges?

Answer- The last increase to permit prices was the financial year 2016/17. As inflation has regularly been around 1.5-2% during the early years, an inflationary increase would not have been a realistic introduction. The service has identified a flat 6.81% per annum cumulative inflation increase in cost over that period of time.

Why is this increase being applied to allocated space fees when pay and display car park costs, dear to maintain, are included in the 6.8% calculation?

Answer- The inflation cost relates to all areas of parking not solely permit or pay and display. This is the real term cost of inflation to the service since 2016 and is to help the Council offset the additional cost and pay for the maintenance and patrolling of car parking spaces.

Question 3- Jo Webber

Everyone will be affected. How would you feel if you had to pay the increased charges? Are the proposed increases in line with inflation, if not, why not?

Answer- The proposed inflationary increase is in line with the real term cost increases to the parking service since 2016. This has been calculated to a cumulative 6.81% per annum increase. We recognise that raises to car parking and permit fees is difficult at this time but is necessary to ensure the Council can maintain the delivery of its services to the public

Question 4- Stacey Gray

Can I ask that MDDC consider free parking in the evening to encourage and revitalise our much-needed night-time economy?

Answer- It is this PDG's recommendation that a free 30 minute period after 6pm continues. This will ultimately be decided on at Cabinet on 4 April 2023.

Can I ask that MDDC consider a 30 minute or 1-hour free parking offer to ensure the use of our much need amenities such as the Post Office and Banks remain uncostly to those that need them – including but not exhaustive of businesses and our older community?

Answer- The Parking Service will be working closely with members and business owners on future changes to parking tariffs. This will include a working group and liaison with communities to identify what works best for them against the authority's aims. This was recommended at the Economy PDG held on the 16 March 2023.

Ultimately, I ask you, is the long-term prosperity of Tiverton a high priority? And if so, I ask that MDDC look at the long-term.

Answer- Ensuring prosperity in all communities is a continual focus of the Council. However, we must also ensure that we can deliver secure and effective services to the public. This will mean making decisions that are unpopular but crucial to ensuring longevity for all concerned. We have tried to do this in the best way possible, both by pulling the previous car parking notice and then amending the previous options put forward by Economy PDG on the 16 March 2023.

Is this committee and MDDC committed to thinking long term and for the benefit of the next generation?

Answer- As above, the authority will be looking to engage with stakeholders regarding future changes and tariff structures. This will enable communities to provide a 'what works best' option against the requirements of the service and overall Council.

Further Question raised by Mr Nick Quinn in relation to financial modelling of proposals

Further Information Requested in relation to projections relating to financial modelling

The appendices 3 & 4 (Economy Parking PDG Paper 16 March 2023) show costing models which are a reflection of the most recent vend data analysis (Sept 21 – Aug 22). This process is done to use the most up-to-date vend (footfall) data available to us to project what the current tariff pricing would generate. This data is then used to model what new pricing tariffs would look like and what additional income this would generate based on the vend data within the above stated period. Once a new pricing option is approved the additional income generated by the new pricing needs to be compared with the budgeted income data for the current year.

Example – 22/23 Budgeted net income

22/23 Budgeted net income from P&D £648,000 - compare this to the net income that would be generated by the proposal agreed at PDG 16/3/23 of £772,197.72 ($£926,637.26/6*5$) = a rise in budget terms of £124,197.72

22/23 Budgeted net income from Permits £76,700 – compare this to the net income that would be generated by the proposal agreed at PDG 16/3/23 of £144,272.92 (£173,127.50/6*5) = a rise in budget terms of £67,572.92

The new pricing proposal recommended at PDG on 16/3/23 by Cllr Bob Evans would generate additional income totalling £191,770.64. If this proposal is agreed at Cabinet on the 4 April 2023 the total budgeted income for 23/24 for P&D & permits would be £648,000+£76,700+ additional income of £124,197.72+£67,572.92 = £916,470.64 – Added to this is other income of £7,630 to make the total income excluding PCN fine £924,100.12 – This is shown the in 23/24 Econ PDG proposed budget table below.

Summary

Budgeted Expenditure for 23/24 are £1,004,350.00

Budgeted Income for 23/24 -£966,870 which was set at full Council on 08/03/23, Economy PDG recommendations on 16/03/23 will generate £924,100.12 in income, reduction of £42,769.88 from the agreed income budget on 08/03/23.

Shows a deficit of £80,249.88.

Parking Services Budget 23/24 agreed by Full Council on 08/03/23

Account Description	Approved Budget 23/24 Full Council on 08/03/23	Econ PDG proposed 23/24 Budget 16/03/23
PREMISES COSTS	381,650.00	381,650.00
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	89,710.00	89,710.00
RECHARGES	316,310.00	316,310.00
CAPITAL CHARGES - DEPRECIATION	216,680.00	216,680.00
INCOME (EXCLUDING PCN)	-966,870.00	- 924,100.12
TOTALS	37,480.00	80,249.88

Note that the income set by Full Council on 08/03/23 was based on a different pricing proposal then the one recommended by Economy PDG on 16/03/23