

Suggested changes to parking charges in Cutteslowe Park and Alexandra Courts.

These are intended to be fiscally neutral and at the same time to result in much better conditions for residents near and visitors to Cutteslowe Park, while correcting an anomaly in the charging structures at Alexandra Courts compared to the Summertown and Ferry Pool car parks

I am basing my assumptions on the usage and income data provided to Value and Performance Scrutiny Committee on November 5th 2012.

At present there is a charge of 50p for one hour's parking in Cutteslowe park and although it is a small charge, it nevertheless makes some people park in the surrounding roads instead. The County Council are proposing to allow free parking for up to two hours in the roads around, which is likely to mean that parking will continue here for short-time park visitors. Residents are asking that this time be reduced to one hour – to reduce on-street parking by park users – but this would be almost totally eliminated if people could park in the Park for one hour free of charge.

Usage and income for 0-1 hours

at Harbord Road 1/9/11 to 30/6/12:	at the A40 car park
6082 vehicles for £3041	2013 vehicles for £1006.50.

Total income from people parking for less than an hour £4047.50.

Charges for longer stays both here and at Alex Courts are

1-3 hours £1
3-5 hours £2
5-24 hours at Alex Courts - £10, Cutteslowe Park charge of £2 covers 5-24 hours.

Proposed new charges 2013/4

Cutteslowe and Alex Courts 50p, £1.05 and £2.10, meaning no increase in the 0-1 hour charge.

Charges at Summertown and Ferry Pool car parks are proposed for 2013/4:

0-1 hour £1.10
1-2 hours £1.60
2-3 hours £3.10
3-4 hours £5.10
4-8+hours £12.80

Alex Courts spaces are well-used but mostly by shoppers and people working in Summertown. It would be possible to allow tennis court users to have a discounted rate if the 0-1 and 1-2 hour charges were increased to much closer to Summertown levels.

Alex Courts usage and income for the period 1/9/11 to 30/6/12

0-1 hour	1024	-	£512	increasing to	£512
1-3 hours	2417	-	£2417	"	£2537.85
3-5 hours	1036		£2072	"	£2175.60
5-24 hours	14				i.e. negligible

Total income for people parking up to 5 hours = £5001 at 2012/3 rates, and £5225.45.

Assuming that the usage is distributed as follows and using the Summertown car park charges for 2013/4

0-1 hour	1024	1024x £1.10 =	£1126.40
1-2 hours	1517	1517x £1.60 =	£2427.20
2-3 hours	900	900x £3.10 =	£2790.00
3-4 hours	800	800x £5.10 =	£4080.00
4-5 hours	236	236x £12.80 =	£3020.80

Assuming that in fact no-one would park for more than 4 hours, as they tend not to do at Summertown ,
The total income would be £10,423.60 compared with the £5225.45 if charges were only raised to 2013/4 Cutteslowe park rates, i.e. an extra £5198.15.

This compares with the loss of the income from having a free hour at Cutteslowe of £4047.50, i.e. income increased by £1150.65.

Even allowing for some discounts for tennis players and a possible reduction in parking at Alex Courts, the suggested changes would be at the very least fiscally neutral.

This comparison is based on the income and usage for the same period provided by officers for V&P , and would of course be different for a different time period, but the relative advantage of the new regime at Alex Courts would be much the same.

I propose that the charges at Alex Courts should be raised to be the same as in the two Summertown car parks.

It would be possible to raise a similar income as would be lost at Cutteslowe by charging slightly less at Alex Courts eg £1, £1.50, £2.50, £4 if people felt that this would be a good idea. This would be £8749.50, i.e. an extra £3524.05 which is only £523.45 less than the loss from the free hour at Cutteslowe.