

# Agenda

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## Delegated Decisions of the Board Member, City Development

Date: **Thursday 10 November 2011**

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Time: **4.30 pm**

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Place: **Town Hall, Oxford**

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For any further information please contact:

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# Delegated Decisions of the Board Member, City Development

## Board Member

## Portfolio

Councillor Colin Cook

City Development

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# AGENDA

## PART ONE PUBLIC BUSINESS

Pages

### 1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Guidance on personal and personal prejudicial interests is attached to these agenda pages.

### 2 PUBLIC ADDRESSES

Members of the public may, if the Board Member agrees, ask a question of the Board Member on any item for decision on this agenda (other than on the minutes). The full text of any question must be notified to the Head of Law and Governance by no later than 9.30 am two clear working days before the meeting. Questions by the public will be taken as read and, at the Board Member's discretion, responded to either orally or in writing at the meeting. No supplementary question or questioning will be permitted.

The total time permitted for this item will be 15 minutes.

### 3 COUNCILLOR ADDRESSES

City Councillors may, at the Board Member's discretion, ask a question or address the Board Member on an item for decision on the agenda (other than on the minutes). The full text of any question and the nature of any address must be notified to the Head of Law and Governance by no later than 9.30 am two clear working days before the meeting. Questions by councillors will be taken as read and, at the Board Member's discretion, responded to either orally or in writing at the meeting. No supplementary question or questioning will be permitted. If an address is made, the Board member will either respond or have regard to the points raised in reaching her or his decision. If the address is by the Chair of a Scrutiny Committee or her or his nominee then the Board member will be required to say as part of their decision whether they accept the Scrutiny recommendations made.

#### **4 PARK AND RIDE CAR PARKS - EVENING CHARGES**

1 - 4

Lead Member: Councillor Cook

Report of the Head of Direct Services

This report recommends the Board Member to approve a reduction in the parking charge at the Pear Tree, Red Bridge and Seacourt park and ride car parks from £1.50 to nil between 6.30 pm and 5.00 am.

#### **5 MATTERS EXEMPT FROM PUBLICATION**

If the Board member wishes to exclude the press and the public from the meeting during consideration of any of the items on the exempt from publication part of the agenda, it will be necessary for the Board member to pass a resolution in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 21(1)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 on the grounds that their presence could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in specific paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

The Board member may maintain the exemption if and so long as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

## **DECLARING INTERESTS**

What is a personal interest?

You have a personal interest in a matter if that matter affects the well-being or financial position of you, your relatives or people with whom you have a close personal association more than it would affect the majority of other people in the ward(s) to which the matter relates.

A personal interest can affect you, your relatives or people with whom you have a close personal association positively or negatively. If you or they would stand to lose by the decision, you should also declare it.

You also have a personal interest in a matter if it relates to any interests, which you must register.

### **What do I need to do if I have a personal interest?**

You must declare it when you get to the item on the agenda headed "Declarations of Interest" or as soon as it becomes apparent to you. You may still speak and vote unless it is a prejudicial interest.

If a matter affects a body to which you have been appointed by the authority, or a body exercising functions of a public nature, you only need declare the interest if you are going to speak on the matter.

### **What is a prejudicial interest?**

You have a prejudicial interest in a matter if;

- a) a member of the public, who knows the relevant facts, would reasonably think your personal interest is so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgment of the public interest; and
- b) the matter affects your financial interests or relates to a licensing or regulatory matter; and
- c) the interest does not fall within one of the exempt categories at paragraph 10(2)(c) of the Code of Conduct.

### **What do I need to do if I have a prejudicial interest?**

If you have a prejudicial interest you must withdraw from the meeting. However, under paragraph 12(2) of the Code of Conduct, if members of the public are allowed to make representations, give evidence or answer questions about that matter, you may also make representations as if you were a member of the public. However, you must withdraw from the meeting once you have made your representations and before any debate starts.

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**To:** Delegated Decision of the Board Member,  
City Development

**Date:** 10 November 2011

**Report of:** Head of Direct Services

**Title of Report:** Park and Ride Car Parks – Evening Charges

### Summary and Recommendations

<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	To propose the introduction of a nil charge in the evenings and overnight at the Peartree, Redbridge and Seacourt Park and Ride car parks.
<b>Key decision?</b>	Not Key
<b>Executive Lead Member:</b>	Councillor Colin Cook
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	Vibrant sustainable economy
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	Approve the reduction of the charge at the Peartree, Redbridge and Seacourt Park and Ride car parks from £1.50 to Nil between 6.30pm and 5.00am.

## **1. Background**

- 1.1 The Council, following the recent take back of Park and Ride sites from the County Council, have been in discussions with the Oxford Bus Company that operates the service from Park and Ride into the City Centre. The discussions relate to the potential fall in customers coming into the City Centre in the evenings for theatre and other entertainment. This would potentially have two effects, one being a fall in the vibrant night life experience of the City Centre and the other, a reduction in customers from Park and Ride sites which would make more difficult the ability of the bus company to recoup the recent investment in their service.

## **2. Proposal**

- 2.1 The proposal is to reduce the current charge to nil for those customers that park in the car parks from 6.30pm onwards.
- 2.2 To achieve this it is proposed that signage on each site is amended to reflect the revised charging structure. Each pay machine is altered so that it will only accept cash between the hours of 5.00am and 6.30pm. Should a customer try to put cash into the pay machine after this time, the machine would reject the coinage. The pay by phone supplier will amend the tariff charges accordingly.
- 2.3 At present notices are being placed at each Park and Ride car park to inform customers that there is a proposal to reduce charges after 6.30pm and enforcement of current charges after this time will be suspended until a decision is made.

## **3. Financial Implications**

- 3.1 The Bus Company has provided average usage numbers for customers after 6.00pm, Monday to Saturday. On the assumption that these numbers are reasonable the loss of income is estimated at £30k per year on an ongoing basis (£15k for 2011/12 and £30k in subsequent complete years). This situation will be monitored and appropriate mitigating action will be taken as required.

## **4. Legal Implications**

- 4.1 The proposal will require an amendment to the existing parking place Order under the provisions of Section 35C of the Road Traffic Act 1984 (variation at off-street parking places). A notice giving not less than 21 days needs to be displayed and placed in the local press prior to implementing the proposed change. Officers have taken this action under delegated authority.



## **5. Equalities Impact**

5.1 There are no equality issues arising from this proposal.

## **6. Climate Change / Environmental Impact**

6.1 Impact is likely to be positive as fewer vehicles will be coming into the City Centre and therefore making shorter journeys and using less fuel.

## **7. Risk**

7.1 Loss of income cannot be verified at this time since number of users is uncertain and potential reduction in usage of City Centre parking is unknown, particularly for late night shopping periods. Impact and probability is considered low. Position will be monitored.

7.2 Potential complaints from those who want to stay overnight until after 5.00am the following day and are unable to purchase ticket via the pay machine. Impact and probability is considered medium. Customers are able to purchase tickets via pay by phone and web sites. Position will be monitored. Customers are not permitted by the Order to park for longer than 24 hours in any case.

### **Name and contact details of author:-**

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**List of background papers: None**

**Version number: V2 and Final**

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