

REPORT TO CABINET

REPORT OF: Councillor Mike Taylor – Portfolio Holder for Resources and Assets

REPORT NO: AFM0176

DATE: 6th December 2010

TITLE:	CAR PARKS PROPOSED CHANGES TO CLASSIFICATION	
KEY DECISION OR POLICY FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL:	Statutory Order	
PORTFOLIO HOLDER: NAME AND DESIGNATION:	CLLR MIKE TAYLOR – RESOURCES AND ASSETS	
CONTACT OFFICERS:	L.Banner – Service Manager Property and Facilities l.banner@southkesteven.gov.uk P.Stokes – Head of Assets p.stokes@southkesteven.gov.uk	
INITIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT:	Carried out and Referred to in paragraph (7) below:	Full impact assessment Required:No
Equality and Diversity		
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT:	This report is publicly available via Your Council and Democracy website link: www.southkesteven.gov.uk	
BACKGROUND PAPERS	South Kesteven Car Parking Order 2002 (as varied in 2006) Report no. AFM0146 Report no. AFM0160	

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Cabinet, following completion of consultation, consider the details of this report and recommend to Council approval of the new Off –Street Car Parking Order 2010 as appended to this report to incorporate:

- *the reclassification from long stay to short stay at levels 1 and 2 at Welham Street Car Park, Grantham*
- *the reclassification from long stay to short stay for the whole of Wharf Road Car Park, Stamford.*

2. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT/DECISION REQUIRED

To seek Cabinet's decision to recommend to Council proposed changes to classification of Levels 1 and 2 at Welham Street Car Park, Grantham and the whole of Wharf Road Car Park, Stamford to approve the introduction of the new Order.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT (SUMMARY – USE APPENDICES FOR DETAILED INFORMATION)

Consultation on the reclassification of the car parks at Welham Street, Grantham (levels 1 and 2) and Wharf Road, Stamford commenced following approval by Cabinet on the 4th October 2010. The process commenced with consultation with the regulatory authorities for a period of 28 days. No objections were received; therefore, this was advertised in both the Grantham Journal and the Stamford Mercury for a period of 21 days, with notices also being placed in the car parks concerned. A copy of the draft order was also made available for inspection in the Council Offices.

At the date of writing this report there were three objections from members of the public against the idea for Welham Street Car Park, Grantham (levels 1 and 2) and twelve objections relating to Wharf Road Car Park, Stamford.

Welham Street, Grantham

The objections relating to Welham Street Car Park, Grantham (levels 1 and 2) are regarding the impact on permit holders and there appears to be a misunderstanding in that the correspondents had not realised that permits for long stay parking would still be available for levels 3-6 and there would be no price increase for the permits. Welham Street Car Park is currently under utilised on all days of the week, with several spaces available on all levels.

A review has been undertaken, which has identified a lack of short stay parking on the eastern side close to the St Peter's Hill main shopping thoroughfare. Whilst there is short term parking on the St Catherine's Road site, this is limited to Saturdays only and does not meet the overall demand for shopper's car parking needs. The proposal is to further maximise the usage of the Welham Street Multi Storey car park by introducing short stay parking on the bottom two levels, which will be convenient for shoppers and short term users. The remainder of the car park would stay as long term parking.

Wharf Road, Stamford

The objections relating to Wharf Road Car Park, Stamford are essentially regarding the logistics of the alternative long stay car park, being at the Cattle Market, Stamford, personal preference, potential impact of the distance of the long stay car park on local businesses and from Permit Holders not wishing to transfer location in the future.

A review of has identified there is a need to reclassify the Wharf Road Car Park in order to meet the demands of short stay car parking provision within the town centre vicinity. Analysis of ticket sales demonstrates that, on average, 2/3rds of users stay for a maximum of three hours and therefore only a 1/3rd are using the car park for long term parking. This has the adverse effect of denying the maximisation of the spaces for shoppers and short term users. Analysis has also identified the under utilisation of the Cattle Market car park as a long stay destination as approximately 60% of the

ticket sales are for three hours or less. The proposal would encourage those users to use the Wharf Road site and conversely move the current long stay users of Wharf Road to the Cattle Market.

It is not considered that the Cattle Market Car Park, Stamford, represents much further to walk to the Town Centre, having exists across The Meadows to one side and on the other an exit via Station Road, which is considered equidistant to Wharf Road from the Town Centre.

4. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

No other options have been considered as this is a follow on from the previous report.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable.

6. RISK AND MITIGATION (INCLUDING HEALTH AND SAFETY AND DATA QUALITY)

Risk
Not Applicable.

7. ISSUES ARISING FROM EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

This process has been assessed for equality impact.

8. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

N/A

9. COMMENTS OF DEPUTY SECTION 151 OFFICER

The proposed changes to the designation classification to the car parks referred to in the report will have a positive impact of additional income of approximately £100K per annum (based on assumed usage of both sites). If the proposed changes are made to the Order then the budget framework proposals for 2011/12 will be updated accordingly. There may be an amendment required to the car parking cash collection resulting from the proposed changes which will need to be considered in order to ensure their smooth operation.

10. COMMENTS OF MONITORING OFFICER

The process for introducing a change to a car parking order is set out in the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996. A full consultation is required with statutory consultees and members of the public. Any change to a car parking order must be approved by full Council. The consultation period ends on the 26th November 2010. This report is made subject to all comments received from consultees up to that date. These will be reported to Cabinet verbally on the date of the meeting. The Council issued a statement of reasons and the draft order for consultees. A copy of the Statement of reasons is as appended to this report with the draft order.