

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

DECISION

meeting date: TUESDAY, 24th MAY 2022  
title: CAR PARKING REPORT  
submitted by: JOHN HEAP – DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
principal author: ADRIAN HARPER – HEAD OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

## 1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To seek Members' views on the changes to the car park ticket machines and inform committee the current position of electric charging points.
- 1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:
  - Council Ambitions – To protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area and to protect the natural and built environment.
  - Community Objectives – To encourage and develop more sustainable forms of transport by charging for off-street car parking.
  - Corporate Priorities - Maintaining and improving the environmental quality of the Ribble Valley in line with our priority of environmental excellence.

## 2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The council own 16 car parks and a capital scheme has been approved to replace all the parking machines on the car parks.
- 2.2 Electric Charging Points: Investigations into funding opportunities are ongoing and a visit from the Energy Savings trust has been arranged to assist with this.

## 3 ISSUES

- 3.1 Part of the preliminary works for the capital scheme to replace the parking machines is to investigate options for different aspects of the infrastructure including payment options, numbers of machines and power supply alternatives.
- 3.2 The council currently operate with 2 types of payment schemes. The original machines only take coins whilst the 6 retro fitted machines accept contactless payments. All the car parks have the facility of pay by phone. All current machines have a hard-wired power supply.
- 3.3 The current machines available are able to carry out all the payment options that the council has enjoyed to date with the addition of Apple Pay and Google Pay. They are also, generally, solar powered but some machines will require both.
- 3.4 All the available options could be used on all the car parks apart from Dunsop Bridge and Slaidburn. As a result of their rural location and lack of a good mobile phone signal the parking machine companies have suggested that these car parks remain cash only.
- 3.5 Investigations are ongoing with telecommunication contractors to try to find way of boosting the mobile phone signal in these car parks to enable them to have the full suite of payment options. The viability of this will depend on the cost

#### 4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – The Capital Scheme has been approved for 2022/23 to the sum of £123800
- Political – These changes could show the Council to be progressive and innovative and can only be seen as a positive move
- Reputation – The scheme should only enhance the reputation of the Council.
- Equality & Diversity – No implications have been identified.

#### 5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

5.1 Refer the results of the investigations from both the electric charging points and the parking machines to the car park working group for consideration.

5.2 Delegate to the Director of Community Services, in consultation with the car park working group, decisions on the final specifications for the renewed infrastructure.

ADRIAN HARPER  
HEAD OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

JOHN HEAP  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

#### BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

For further information please ask for Adrian Harper, extension 4523.

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