



CAR PARK MANAGEMENT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 73/19

9 SEPTEMBER 2019

The purpose of this Report is to update Members on the project of the Town Council taking on the ownership or management of the Central, Grove Road, Eastern Esplanade and La Falaise Car Parks.

No. DETAILS

1) BACKGROUND

- a) Ventnor Town Council has managed four of the town's Car Parks – Dudley Road, Market Street, Pound Lane and Shore Road – since August 2015 on the basis of a 23 year lease with rent fixed at the average of the previous three years' income from them.
 - b) The Town Council Meeting of 11 June 2018 returned to the possibility of extending the management arrangement to the other four car parks – Central, Grove Road, Eastern Esplanade and La Falaise – following the advice of our consultant, Parkspace Consultancy's Andy Stafford, that *taking over control of the town's car parking facilities from the Isle of Wight Council offers Ventnor an excellent opportunity to help stimulate the local, and wider, economy.*
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2) PROGRESS

- a) This has become particularly relevant in the context of the Town Council's commitment to improving the safety and accessibility aspects of the town centre.
 - b) The Town Council's Business Case for taking on the management of the other four car parks was presented to the Isle of Wight Council last December and is available from our web site by clicking [this link](#).
 - c) A response has been delayed by the fact that the Isle of Wight Council is conducting an Island-wide review of its car parking arrangements starting from the basis set out in the Draft [Isle of Wight Parking Strategy](#) Report by WYG of March 2016.
 - d) However, a very constructive meeting on Wednesday 4 September with the Isle of Wight Council's Deputy Leader Stuart Hutchinson, accompanied by Alex Minns and Sean Newton, gave the Mayor, Councillors Tony Marvin and Jason Mack with the Clerk and Nick Cox an opportunity to discuss the next steps.
 - e) Officers from both Councils will meet in the next week to agree how the short-stay parking provision can be accommodated in the Central Car Park as well as the wider context that could allow a subsidy element for that relocated parking to be subsidised by tariff adjustments in the other car parks.
 - f) In order to ensure that the resultant arrangements are the best possible for both Councils and have sufficient flexibility to enable adjustment over time, it would be advisable for the Town Council to agree to a further two days' of advice from our consultant Andy Stafford.
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3) RECOMMENDATION

The Town Council is recommended to agree to fund two further days' consultancy from Parkspace Consulting at a cost, including expenses, of up to £1,500.
