



CENTRAL CAR PARK

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 39/20

18 MAY 2020

The purpose of this Report is to update members on progress to date with the proposed development of the Central Car Park.

No. DETAILS

1) BACKGROUND

- a) Report 19/20 for the Town Council meeting of 9 March 2020 outlined options for the development of the Central Car Park that included the potential for expanding the number of parking bays to at least offset the loss of income from the four bays needed for the new Public Toilet and accommodate the a possible replacement of the current 12 free parking spaces on the High Street.
 - b) Nick Cox provided an initial draft outline of how that might be achieved that was attached to the Report.
 - c) Minute 28/20 of that meeting resolved to authorise the Clerk to secure guide prices for the redesign and open discussions with the Isle of Wight Council on the possibility.
-

2) PROGRESS

- a) The proposal was submitted to the Isle of Wight Council by email on 15 March and a response received from its Property Services Senior Surveyor Barry Cooke on 30 April that is attached to this Report.
 - b) The immediately relevant section of that email in the context of Minute 28/20 is:
We are happy to investigate this further but, as you say, will need this to be professionally evaluated. To this end, we will need to involve Highways colleagues (Stewart Chandler in the first instance, and I have copied him into this email) who, in turn, will need to obtain fee estimates from Island Roads for evaluation of your proposal
 - c) Accordingly, Stewart Chandler has been asked to obtain the referred to fee estimates from Island Roads for evaluation of the proposal.
 - d) However, it does not have to be Island Roads that does the evaluation and so our previous consultant, Andy Stafford of Parkspace Consulting, has also been asked to provide a quotation for this element of the work.
-

3) PARTNERSHIP WORKING

- a) Although Barry Cooke's email addresses the proposed potential redesign of the car park, it does not reflect the partnership working basis that has long been in place between the two Councils.
 - b) While it is not unreasonable that the Town Council might be expected to fund the professional evaluation of the proposal as the necessary initial stage, it is clearly not reasonable to expect the Town Council to fund any resultant works that would, if they are judged viable, increase the income of the Isle of Wight Council from this car park for years to come.
-

4) RECOMMENDATION

Members are recommended to consider the progress to date with the proposal and consider their response to the apparent absence of partnership working.
