

# Cirencester Parking Demand Project Board

## Meeting notes 16 October 2017

**Please note these notes are available to the public except any sections shown in yellow which must remain confidential.**

**Attendees:** Councillors: Cllr. Mark Harris, (Chairman), Cllr. Chris Hancock, Cllr. Mark MacKenzie-Charrington, Cllr. Jenny Forde, Officers: Claire Locke, Christine Cushway, Philippa Lowe, Bob McNally and Helen Argo (note taker)

**1 Apologies:** Cllr. Nicholas Parsons, Christine Gore,

**2 Notes of the Last meeting**

The notes of the meeting held on 18 September were approved.

Any matters arising will be addressed during the meeting.

**3** Text has been deleted to protect confidential information relating to specific negotiations with site owners, site purchase and lease negotiations and financial data which cannot yet be made public.

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**4 Brewery Court**

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There are a number of pre commencement conditions which have still to be sorted out, ie: drainage and parking.

Bob McNally reported that the Wilts and Glos Standard has raised the fact the planning permission is expiring soon and has suggested that it will automatically be extended. Kevin Field has been asked to respond officially.

**5 BPA conference**

Cllrs Harris and Forde attended the recent British Parking Association (BPA) conference. They reported back on a number of useful discussions and workshops. The aim of a good car park is to get the traffic off the highways as quickly as possible and parked within 5 minutes. (We will need to work with Highways regarding the phasing of the traffic lights on the cross roads at the Waterloo.) The BPA is looking at drawing up a "Parking Standards" guidance. The Councillors were shown various case studies, an award winning car park in Cambridge which finished ahead of time and within budget, the Council was credited with the best public consultation. It was suggested that we contact them for advice. The internal design of the car park can be constructed fairly cheaply, the expense occurs in the wrap of the building.

The life cycle of the car park needs to be taken in to account, ie what will happen to it in 30 years' time. What might be relevant now may not be in the future so we need our new car park to be able to adapt to future needs, new decks added or lower levels transformed into shops/offices depending on demand. If the car park is carefully designed it can regenerate an area. In Norwich the car park reflects the surrounding area and doesn't look like a car park.

We need to make it as easy as we can for people to pay. Various new ways of paying are being looked at by the BPA, camera recognition, cars fitted with a chip or a toggle system - it's like a sophisticated form of the London congestion charge. Cars need to register for a toggle and payment is automated by direct debit.

Wide parking spaces are deemed to be much safer and mini ramps to guide when reversing into spaces are a good idea.

Within 15 years electric vehicles will become more prevalent, induction charging where a vehicle drives over a box to charge itself. We need to be aware of the progression of cars; autonomous vehicles that park themselves, and self-driving cars. We need to allow for at least 5% of the car park for electric vehicles.

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It was suggested that we get a parking expert consultant on board first before instructing an architect. Christine Cushway said that the car park will be designed by TEP, an architect will only design its wrapping and its integration with its surrounds. One of the big problems around car parks are the anti-social behaviour they attract. A parking expert would be able to advise us in getting the design right. Jenny Forde shared a number of parking expert contacts with Claire Locke with the possibility of them pitching for the business at the next meeting.

There is no target date for the completion of the decked Waterloo car park but Claire is putting together a project plan to identify a timescale.

## **6 On Street review of parking in Cirencester**

It was agreed that Cirencester should have a new review of on street parking. It was stated that a resident in Purley Road parked outside their house for three years without buying a permit as residential permit areas are not checked by the APCOA contractors working for OCC.

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## **9 Communications**

The Wilts and Glos Standard has contacted CDC regarding the New Homes Bonus and where the money will be spent, Bob McNally has responded by saying some of this money will be spent on the Waterloo, following the bid that was submitted detailing the parking demand created by the housing development and the viability of the Waterloo scheme to meet that demand.

Bob will be producing a 4 page Cotswold News before Christmas, any contributions need to be with Bob by the end of October with the final draft by the second week of November.

A summary of the parking conference will go on the Parking Board website and closer to Christmas a press release on "7 ways to park in Cirencester".

## **9        AOB**

Cllr Harris requested the minutes are distributed earlier next month.

## **10       Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be on **Monday 20 November at 2pm**, Ermin Room due to the Local Plan Examination.