

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAIN COUNCIL OF FELPHAM PARISH COUNCIL 7<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023.

The below transcript is from the minutes that are currently being prepared and has been supplied to Arun District Council by the Felpham Parish Council Clerk.

The proposed changes to the free parking provision in Links Avenue and Grassmere include the following mechanics:

1. ADC to introduce a Pay & Display machine within the car park. Visitors to the car parks would not be required to pay for parking but would be required to obtain a ticket for free parking from the Pay & Display machine. Once obtained, visitors would be required to display the ticket on the dashboard of their vehicle. Any vehicles not displaying a valid free parking ticket would be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice. This would enable Arun District Council to gather quantifiable data regarding the usage of the car park and to ensure that abandoned vehicles are identified at an early stage.
2. Alongside the introduction of machines within the car park, the proposed changes include introducing a no return period within the free car parks. Thus, ensuring that Arun District Council can take enforcement action against motorists abusing the car parks and to remove abandoned vehicles in a timelier manner. It is also considered that introducing the requirement to obtain a parking ticket, alongside the introduction of a no return period, will discourage 'long stayers' within the free car parks, enabling greater availability of parking spaces.
3. Further meetings will be required to enable discussions regarding the updating of the original contracts between ADC and Felpham Parish Council. The original contracts dates back to 1994 /1995 and the Parish Council contributions have not increased in line with the terms set out in the original contract. It is considered that the terms and conditions of the original contract require updating as are now outdated. This will likely include increasing the Parish Councils contributions to reflect the increased costs incurred by ADC for the maintenance and operation of Links Avenue and Grassmere car parks.
4. At this time, Arun District Council are unable to confirm an exact increase to the contributions, but we are anticipating the increase to be 10%, in line with inflation, for both Links Avenue and Grassmere car parks.
5. ADC have also met with our Property & Estates team regarding the condition of Links Avenue car park and have agreed to resurface and re-line the whole car park. These works are anticipated to commence during 2024. The estimated cost of the repair and maintenance works is anticipated to be in the region of £35,000. Grassmere car park is scheduled to be resurfaced and re-lined in 2025/2026 at an anticipated cost to the Council of £40,000. However, this cost was anticipated in 2022 as part of our planned maintenance schedule and is likely to increase. Due to the increasing costs of business rates, water & sewerage and repairs & maintenance to both car parks, we anticipate the Parish Council contributions being revisited as part of contract re-negotiations in 2024.

*Councillors discussed the proposals at length.*

***Councillor Steve Baker proposed that Felpham Parish Council accept the proposed changes to Links Avenue and Grassmere Car Parks. This was seconded by Councillor Antony Bassett and was agreed by the majority of councillors with one abstention.***