

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 2 JUNE 2015
title: SOME LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CONTACTS,
AND DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITY OF CAR PARKING
submitted by: JOHN HEAP, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
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1 PURPOSE

To provide contacts for some services offered by Lancashire County Council about which enquiries or complaints may be received, and to explain the division of responsibilities for car parking enforcement.

2 BACKGROUND

Due to the transfer of work from Ribble Valley Borough Council to Lancashire County Council, there are a variety of issues that are still reported to RVBC that should be directed at LCC:

(a) Public Rights of Way (PROW)

Responsibility for Public Rights of Way transferred to LCC over twelve months ago. RVBC had previously carried out some maintenance work to PROW in an arrangement with LCC, but now has no duties or budget to do so. All Public Rights of Way enquiries are redirected to LCC.

(b) Highways

Adopted highways are the responsibility of LCC. Unadopted highways are generally the responsibility of the landowner or the property owner/s adjacent to them. We handle basic enquiries and can find out if a road is adopted, but issues with adopted highways are directed towards LCC Highways section on 0300 1236780 or highways@lancashire.gov.uk. Gritting and major cleaning issues affecting safety on the adopted highway would also be LCC responsibility.

RVBC has a responsibility for smaller cleansing issues on the highway, and employs a road sweeping vehicle for such an eventuality.

(c) Flooding and Land Drainage

LCC is the Lead Local Flood Authority for the Ribble Valley area. Any flooding incidents should be reported to them so that they can log them and investigate if they deem it necessary (They have investigatory and enforcement powers with regards to flooding). They are also responsible for consenting works on ordinary watercourses. RVBC has a responsibility to inform LCC of any flooding incidents that are reported to us, but members of the public can report incidents directly to LCC's Flood Risk Management Team if they wish. Our contact is Chris Dunderdale, chris.dunderdale@lancashire.gov.uk or 01772 534593, and he is happy to be contacted directly.

(d) Bus Shelters

We have a list of shelters headed "Quality Bus Route" that are the responsibility of LCC to maintain. Generally, the other shelters in the borough are maintained by RVBC, but there are also several owned by the Parish Councils. RVBC has records of ownership for all shelters, and handle or redirect enquiries accordingly.

- (e) **On- street Parking**
All on-street parking is dealt with by LCC.
- (f) **Off-street Parking**
Off-street parking falls under RVBC.

Off-street parking is not a statutory service, but the Council has a Parking Policy to provide off-street parking.

There are currently 9 car parks in Clitheroe – 3 short stay (220 spaces) and 6 long stay (260 spaces).

There are also Council car parks at Longridge, Chipping, Dunsop Bridge, Ribchester, Sabden, Chipping, Slaidburn, and Bolton by Bowland.

The policy of charging on short stay car parks was adopted originally because it frees up spaces for shoppers and visitors which, without the charging, would potentially be full of workers' or residents' cars for the day.

The Council takes payment of off-street car parking from the motorist either through an annual contract (payable in advance), or through a cash payment to the on-site pay and display parking machines. These machines (23 in total on the Council's 19 chargeable sites) accept payment by cash only.

There is presently a scheme in the Capital Programme 2017/2018 to change the paying machines to allow for the introduction of the new pound coin and also to investigate and provide a cashless payment option eg debit/credit card, and by transfer of funds initiated from the motorists' "smart phone" as there is an expectation on the Council that such a process be available.

Chipside provide a back office service for processing parking penalties to the Chipside Lancashire Group (Ribble Valley, Preston, Pendle, West Lancashire, Fylde, Hyndburn, Chorley, and Burnley).

Car park charges income for 2014/15 was £288,428 and the forecast for 2015/16 is £297,790.

The payment taken is used solely for the maintenance of the car parks.

There is presently a demand for additional car park spaces in Clitheroe, and Whalley, and this Committee's Car Park Working Group meets on a regular basis in order to address this, and other car parking issues throughout the borough.

3 **CONCLUSION**

That the purpose of this report has been achieved by providing contacts at LCC, and by clarifying the division of responsibilities for car parking enforcement.

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