

REPORT FROM: HOUSING, HEALTH AND ENGINEERING MANAGER

TO: NELSON COMMITTEE

DATE: 1 JULY 2019

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REVIEW OF TOWN CENTRE CAR PARKS WITHIN NELSON

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide members with an updated report on the current provision of public car parks in Nelson, and specifically of the current provision in the town centre.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That members note the current provision of public car parks in Nelson, including those within the town centre.
- (2) That members note the number of business-only car parking permits which have been purchased to date.
- (3) That members note the extension of the long-stay car park on Sagar Street into the former taxi rank.
- (4) That members note that following the demolition of the multistorey car park, car parking is accounted for in any future developments in Nelson town centre, including the bidding process of the Future High Street Fund.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) To provide a framework on which to decrease costs and increase income on public car parks in Nelson.
- (2) To ensure that there is sufficient long-stay town centre parking available in Nelson.

BACKGROUND

1. The Neighbourhood Services Manager submitted a report to Management Team on 19 March 2019 on the current usage, cost, condition and management for all 46 Council-owned car parks in the borough.

Amongst other recommendations, it was resolved:

- “(1) That the current provision for car parks in Pendle be noted.
- (2) That following the proposed demolition of the multistorey car park, car parking is accounted for in any future developments in Nelson town centre, including the bidding process of the Future High Street Fund.”

ISSUE

2. There are currently 18 public car parks in Nelson. The table below shows the number of long- and short-stay car parks

Name	Long	Short	No of Bays	Town Centre
Booth Street		Yes	16	Yes
Broadway		Yes	44	Yes
Calder Street	Yes		32	Yes
Carr Road	Yes		58	No
Chapel Street	Yes		67	Yes
Chatham Street	Yes		20	No
Cuba Street	Yes		23	Yes
Every Street		Yes	20	Yes
Leeds Road	Yes		10	No
Netherfield Road	Yes		10	Yes
New Brown Street		Yes	23	Yes
The Palace	Yes		28	Yes
Rigby Street	Yes		35	Yes
Sagar Street	Yes		16	Yes
Stanley Street		Yes	20	Yes
Other Management				
Nelson Town Centre		Yes	159	Yes
Wavelengths		Yes	64	Yes
Morrisons		Yes	381	Yes
Total No of Bays	299	727	1,026	
Of Which are Town Centre	211	727	938	

3. It has been acknowledged that many of the short-stay car parks in Nelson town centre are used by office workers who move their vehicles every two and a half. Since the introduction of business permits just over 12 months ago, we have sold £3,600 (incl VAT) in permits. In the main, the drivers that have purchased a permit either park on New Brown Street or Booth Street car parks. Officers have not received any negative feedback from other users of the short-stay car parks with regard to a noticeable drop in the number of available parking spaces due to the introduction of business permits.

4. The Palace Car Park was changed from short stay to long stay just over 12 months ago. Again this has been well received and there has been no negative feedback from town centre car park users.
5. Nelson Town Centre Car Park (formerly Goitside) was transferred to Home Bargains in September 2017. The car park is now enforced as a three-hour short-stay car park by a private company. It is still classed as a public car park and has therefore been taken into account when calculating the number of parking spaces currently available in Nelson town centre.
6. The same applies to Morrisons' car park. Whilst it is managed and enforced privately, the car park signage still makes it clear that it is a public car park that can be used by all.
7. New signage and lining have recently been completed on the Wavelengths car park on behalf of Pendle Leisure Trust prior to the introduction of a revised pay-and-display scheme on the car park. A new pay-and-display machine has been installed and enforcement on the car park is being managed by the Council on behalf of Pendle Leisure Trust.
8. The multistorey car park is now closed and in the process of being demolished. Whilst the car park was privately owned, it was still used as a free long-stay public car park.
9. The car park had six storeys, with only four being used in recent times. The last usage study was carried out in May 2016. There were 187 bays on the car park and the average use was as follows:

	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
AM	14%	3%	34%	13%	32%	27%	32%
NOON	29%	2%	48%	45%	57%	40%	52%
PM	10%	1%	32%	40%	39%	36%	37%

10. Whilst officers initially received a number of enquiries following the closure of the multistorey with regard to advice on other places to park, things seem to have settled down now.
11. The loss of this car park has, however, had a detrimental impact on the long-stay parking availability in Nelson, and it is likely that vehicles have been displaced onto residential streets around the town centre.
12. It is therefore essential that we look for additional pieces of land in the town centre which can be used for parking. The licence for the former taxi rank on Sagar Street Nelson is currently being terminated following breaches of the conditions of the licence. This gives us the opportunity for this site to be linked to the current Sagar Street Car Park for additional long-stay parking. Appendix 2 shows a draft design of this new car park, which will create an additional 30 parking spaces to the 16 already located on Sagar Street Car Park.
13. A separate bid to this Committee's capital programme has been made for the works required to create this new section of car park. It is estimated that this will cost £8,500.
14. Officers have recently been putting together a funding bid to the Future High Street Fund. This is a £600 million Government-funded project, with the potential to receive up to £10m for the Council for major works within the town centre area. Pendle will be looking at Nelson town centre. Whilst the bid process is currently at the early stages and the overall vision is at a strategic level, it is noted that the demand for town centre parking will be taken into account during any future master planning work undertaken and any funding bids.

CONCLUSION

15. Despite the introduction of business permits to town centre parking, we are still in a position where we need to create opportunities for long-stay parking in the town centre whilst still promoting our short-stay disc parking car parks which are important to town centre economic viability.

RECOMMENDATION

16. It is therefore recommended that:

- we continue to promote business permit parking on town centre car parks;
- we look to use the former taxi rank on Sagar Street for long-stay parking; and
- we take into account the demand for town centre parking during any future master planning work undertaken.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: The Council does not currently have a policy on renting out long-term car parking spaces.

Financial: As detailed within the report.

Legal: None arising directly from this report.

Risk Management: The Council does not accept liability for any damage to vehicles whilst parked on any of the public car parks. Drivers park at their own risk.

Health and Safety: None arising directly from this report.

Sustainability: By charging rent to users of specific bays on public car parks, the Council can ensure an income which will assist with the continued maintenance of the car parks.

Community Safety: None arising directly from this report.

Equality and Diversity: None arising directly from this report.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Nelson Town Centre Car Park Plan.

Appendix 2: Plan Showing Sagar Street Car Park and Former Taxi Rank.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

Car Parking in Nelson



- | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Long Stay Parking | Chapel Street | Rigby Street | Calder Street |
| Short Stay Parking
(2 1/2 hour disc parking) | Sagar Street | Cuba Street
(Part Residents Only) | The Palace |
| | Nelson Town Centre
(3 hour disc parking) | New Brown Street | Broadway |
| | Every Street | Stanley Street | Booth Street |

Disabled parking area: Manchester Road.
Spaces are marked for disabled drivers on all short stay car parks.

Pendle Council Town Hall, Market Street, Nelson, Lancashire, BB9 7LG.
Telephone: 01282 661661 www.pendle.gov.uk



5 to 9

Areas to be excavated, disposed of and new surfacing laid

Remove & stump grind

SAGAR STREET

New kerbs

New sign

Ramp