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Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Department of the Chief Executive

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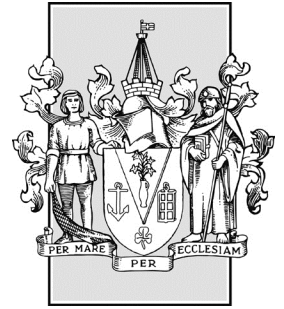
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Dear Councillor

PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - MONDAY, 27TH NOVEMBER, 2017

Please find enclosed a copy of the questions from members of the public and the respective responses given at the meeting of the Place Scrutiny Committee held on Monday, 27th November, 2017

Yours faithfully

Tim Row

Principal Democratic Services Officer

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PUBLIC QUESTIONS FOR PLACE SCRUTINY – 27 November 2017

Question 1 from Mr David Webb to the Executive Councillor for Culture, Tourism and the Economy (Cllr Holland)

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Question

What is happening about Shoebury Heritage site and what date will it be opened?

Answer

Thank you for your question Mr Webb. I assume from what you are asking you refer to the proposed heritage centre in the former cart and wagon shed. We are still in negotiation with the developers who own the site but the intention is to take ownership once all the wider issues are resolved. The opportunity to then use the site and operate as a heritage centre is something that the local coastal community team is planning to take forward. This will be subject to sourcing external funding to deliver their objectives but is included in the wider tourism strategy to increase the offer for visitors.

Question 2 from Mr David Webb to the Executive Councillor for Transport, Waste & Cleaning (Cllr Tony Cox)

Question

The cost of garden waste bags has increased by 30 pence from £6.20 to £6.50. Why has this been increased and does the portfolio holder think this will have a negative impact in the reduction of residents using the service and does the portfolio holder think this will lead to cross contamination of garden waste in pink and black bags increasing black bags going to landfill?

Answer

The increased cost was an administrative error that has now been rectified with all libraries, post offices and other commercial outlets who have now been written to and informed of this. In relation to supplies of garden waste sacks to the outlets then there should not be any shortage. Outlets are aware that the responsibility to order sufficient stocks is with them and once requisitioned they are delivered by Veolia within a couple of days of placing their order. This minor administrative error has been rectified swiftly and will not impact on cross contamination, recycling performance and any subsequent increase in black sack residual waste.

Question 1 from Ms Josie Hewitt to the Executive Councillor for Transport, Waste & Cleaning (Cllr Tony Cox)

Question

Why are Clifftown residents not entitled to visitor parking permits to purchase when other wards Milton, Southend victoria, Beresford etc are entitled to £5.00 books of 20 bi-monthly? Why is there this inequality and discrimination? Surely there is a compromise that can be met for the residents of this ward?

Answer

The town centre is a controlled parking zone subject to parking charges and these charges ensure a turnover of parking is maintained by discouraging long term parking. The area needs to accommodate parking for numerous activities including parking for the local shopping and tourist facilities and parking availability is vital to ensure local business can thrive. There is however, recognition that residents also need to park.

Any residents living within the area are able to park in the pay and display parking bays at a significantly reduced charge by purchasing the annual season ticket. As the parking demands are incredibly high, the numbers of season tickets available to each property is limited to two per household with no ability to purchase parking for visitors.

A resident's parking area is designed to give residents a priority where other parking demands can mean that residents are prevented from parking near to their homes. Schemes such as these offer the opportunity to purchase parking for visitors.

It is appreciated that both types of area suffer from parking demands but the roads within the town centre area need to accommodate far higher numbers of vehicles with a regular turnover to ensure the local businesses thrive.

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