

Agenda Item No. 4(c)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE**

10 November 2015

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

COUNTRYSIDE SERVICE CHARGES 2016 - 2018

(1) **Purpose of Report** To seek the Cabinet Member's approval for the proposed charges at Countryside Service sites for 2016-18.

(2) **Information and Analysis** The Countryside Service review its facility charges on a two year basis to minimise the implementation costs of changing charges associated with pay and display car parking. The current charges should, on this basis, be reviewed for April 2016.

Charges are currently set on the basis of one of three principles:

- It is accepted that the service is subsidised and set accordingly.
- The charge is set at "the going rate" by comparison with other similar facilities.
- The charge is the actual cost of providing the service.

On a practical note, many low charges are also rounded to figures that are easy to handle when considering change, etc.

The proposed charges for 2016-18 are attached. The rate of inflation for the last two years has been very low so, for many low value charges, it is not considered appropriate to increase them at this time. There are a number of exceptions to this:

- For car park charges, when these were originally introduced, it was intended to increase these by 10% at each review until they reached a point where they were in line with "the going local rate" for other similar car parks. Since the County Council's charges are still below comparable local rates, it is felt that a 10% increase is justified. Parking charges have to be agreed by amending the legal order which requires advertising and formal consultation, with resultant costs, which is why they are only increased every two years.

- For “special events” the Countryside Service introduced a charge of £6 per car this year. This was first levied at the Woodland Festival in September 2015 and there were a number of practical difficulties in collecting the charge. It is proposed therefore to review this charge separately and come back to members with a proposal for a more easily collected charge at a later date.
- For cycle hire, it is proposed that the charges should be commensurate with the rates of other providers in the area. Since Council charges remain below local rates for comparable service, it is felt that an increase is justified.
- For a number of entry fees, hire of land and buildings, and staff based activities, it is proposed that charges should be increased in order to better reflect the actual costs of providing the service.
- Elvaston rates – It is hoped that it will be possible to promote the use of the Gothic Hall at Elvaston for private events, however, the current charging structure is not competitive when compared with similar facilities in National Trust properties and does not always cover the staff costs of taking and administering these bookings. A more realistic scale of charges is therefore proposed.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: financial, legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

(3) **Key Decision** No.

(4) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(5) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer contact details – Chris Coombs, extension 39821.

(6) **OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION** That the schedule of charges for 2016 – 2018, as attached to the report, be approved.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

Countryside Charges Increase Calculator

Item			Current 2014/15 (£)	Proposed 2016/18 (£)	Method of setting Charge
Car Parking	Cars Etc	2 Hours	1.30	1.40	1
		4 Hours	2.60	2.90	1
		All Day	4.00	4.40	1
		Season	66.00	72.60	2
	Lorries/Coaches/Vehicles Towing a Trailer	2 Hours	3.40	3.70	1
		4 Hours	5.30	5.80	1
		All Day	7.90	8.70	1
		Season	132.00	145.20	2
	Special events (All vehicles)	Per day	6.00		2
	Horseboxes	Annual Permit	16.50	18.20	2
Middleton Top Engine House		Adult	2.70	2.70	2
		Child/Concession	1.30	1.30	2
		Group Visits - Static	26.60	26.60	2
		Group Visits - Working	53.20	53.20	2
High Peak Junction Admission & Audio Tour		Adult	2.70	2.70	2
		Child/Concession	1.30	1.30	2
		Family (2+3)	6.90	6.90	2
		Group Booking Rate	26.60	26.60	2
Chesterfield & Cromford Canals Canoeing/ Unpowered Boats	Per Boat Per Session	Derbyshire LEA Schools	1.60	1.60	1
		Other Schools	1.60	1.60	1
		Commercial Users	2.70	2.70	1
		Individuals	1.60	1.60	1
Chesterfield Canal (only) Canoeing/ Unpowered Boats	1 Week Licence	Individual private boats	7.00	7.00	1
	(per 10 boats)	Non-profit groups	25.00	25.00	1
		Commercial groups	50.00	50.00	1
	Annual Licence	Individual private boats	50.00	50.00	1
	(per boat)	Individual BCU Members	25.00	25.00	1
	(per 10 boats)	Non-profit groups	100.00	125.00	1
		Commercial groups	400.00	400.00	1
Chesterfield Canal Powered Boats	Per Boat	Per Day	5.00	5.00	1
		Per Week	20.00	20.00	1
		Annual Licence	100.00	100.00	1
Staff led activities	Day	Per Hour	25.00	35.00	2
	Evening	Per Hour	30.00	41.00	2

To exclude Special events

To be seperately considered

Events (Guided Walks etc)		Adult	3.20	3.20	2
		Child/Concession	1.60	1.60	2
		Family (2+3)	8.00	8.00	2
		Under 5's	0.00	0.00	2
Cycle Hire	Adult	3 Hours	13.00	14.00	1
		All Day	16.00	17.00	1
	Child Bike/Buggy/Trailer	3 Hours	9.00	10.00	1
		All Day	11.00	12.00	1
	Trailer (without hire bike)	3 Hours	11.00	12.00	1
		All Day	13.00	14.00	1
	Child Seat/Helmet	-	0.00	0.00	1
	Tandem	3 Hours	26.00	28.00	1
		All Day	32.00	34.00	1
	Group Booking Rate (per bike)	3 Hours	8.00	9.00	1
All Day		10.00	11.00	1	
Extended Hire		per extra day	0.00	8.00	1
Tramper Hire		Annual Registration	21.00	21.00	2
		Per Hour Rate	5.00	5.00	2
Firewood Sale	Seasoned (per bag)		3.70	3.70	1
	Unseasons, Unlogged (collected, per cubic meter)		29.00	29.00	1
Caravan Rallies (Shipley events field/Elvaston Caravan Site)		Minimum Charge (or 7 Units)	65.00	65.00	1
		Per unit Per Night	9.00	9.00	1
Car Rallies	Minimum Charge (or 10 units)		40.00	40.00	1
	Per Unit Per Day		4.00	4.00	1
	Per Unit day & night (inc. tent/caravan)		9.00	9.00	1
Elvaston Showground Hire (per day)	Full Showground (27 acres)	Reduced	1,000.00	1,200.00	1
		Standard	1,250.00	1,500.00	1
		Full	1,500.00	1,800.00	1
	1/2 Showground (13.5 acres)	Reduced	550.00	700.00	1
		Standard	750.00	900.00	1
		Full	950.00	1,150.00	1
	1/4 Showground	Reduced	300.00	400.00	1
		Standard	400.00	500.00	1
		Full	525.00	650.00	1
	Set up/Set down fee per day (large events/full showground)	Reduced	200.00	250.00	1
		Standard	200.00	250.00	1
		Full	300.00	350.00	1

Events Field - Tapton/ShipleY/ Elvaston	1/2 day	Reduced	30.00	50.00	1		
		Standard	50.00	100.00	1		
		Full	250.00	250.00	1		
	Full Day	Reduced	50.00	100.00	1		
		Standard	80.00	200.00	1		
		Full	500.00	500.00	1		
Managed Forest Schools site (Elvaston)	1/2 day	Reduced	20.00	20.00	1		
		Standard	20.00	30.00	1		
	Full Day	Reduced	40.00	40.00	1		
		Standard	40.00	50.00	1		
Room Hire - Green Room, ShipleY/Classroom, Elvaston	1/2 day	Reduced	25.00	25.00	1		
		Standard	35.00	35.00	1		
		Full	65.00	65.00	1		
	Full Day	Reduced	40.00	40.00	1		
		Standard	60.00	60.00	1		
		Full	120.00	120.00	1		
Exhibition Space (full day only/ excluding retail)		Reduced	30.00	30.00	1		
		Standard	40.00	40.00	1		
		Full	50.00	50.00	1		
Gothic Hall, Elvaston	1/2 Day	Reduced	60.00	120.00	1		
		Standard	80.00	160.00	1		
		Full	100.00	200.00	1		
	Full Day	Reduced	120.00	240.00	1		
		Standard	160.00	320.00	1		
		Full	200.00	400.00	1		
Staff Time (support for event/opening or locking up)		Normal Hours	25.00	35.00	1		
		Overtime	30.00	41.00	1		
Admin fee: e.g. all events not requiring a space for hire e.g 10k runs, Ramathon etc							
			Reduced (below £250 participants)	10.00	15.00	1	
			Full (large events i.e. over 250 participants)		50.00	1	
			Pitch fees (providers at DCC events)				
			Commercial provider/retail		50.00	1	
			Charity e.g. RSPB		30.00	1	
			Old English Garden				
Half day only/exclusive use			100.00	1			

Methods of Setting Charges

1. By comparison (The going rate)
2. Subsidised to encourage take up or service