

Questions

Lance Allan – Trowbridge Town Council

Comments and Questions on Service Devolution

To Councillor Richard Clewer – Cabinet Member for Housing, Corporate Services, Arts, Heritage and Tourism

Agenda Item 7 – Service Devolution.

Statement - Trowbridge Town Council is pleased to note that; after almost ten years of suggesting to Wiltshire Council that it must invest resources in devolution to parish and town councils and that it must not ignore the easy wins afforded by transfers of small parcels of land and services to the many parish councils, rather than just concentrating its efforts on the significantly more difficult larger town councils; Wiltshire Council is now doing both of these, evidenced by recent changes and this proposal.

Trowbridge Town Council remains concerned that the policy proposed for the parish councils appears to treat them differently from the larger town councils and potentially treats the parishes more favourably.

Question

Why has Trowbridge Town Council been informed that it can no longer take over the Bradford Road car-park which is identified as a non-strategic car-park, yet the parish councils are being offered the opportunity to take over their own non-strategic car-parks?

Response

The car parks referred in the paper are those already leased to Parish Councils, there will be consistency between the non-strategic car parks offered to all Town and Parish Councils.

The council uses parking charges and restrictions to manage traffic flow, with the income for 'off street' parking supporting vital services such as public transport. Officer recommendation to service delegate or asset transfer chargeable car parks would be that this is not appropriate due to the loss of management of traffic movements and the financial impact upon supported services. The car parks previously transferred are non-chargeable car parks.