

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

14 December 2010

**Item 5 – Public Participation
Wiltshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 – Car Parking Strategy (item 6)**

Statement from Mr W G V Hall, Director, Martingate Centre Ltd, Corsham

On 19th October Martingate Centre Ltd, following a consultation meeting with Mr Chris Major, formally asked our local councillors to answer three specific questions. We have not received any answers.

In particular, and in the context of a fair policy for all across the county we asked, "why our shopkeepers should continue to bear the cost of repairing and maintaining the Newlands Road Car park while this is paid for by the Council out of the parking charges in all other car parks in the county?" The maintenance responsibility lies with the Martingate and the cost is recharged to the tenants under the centre service charge. We suggested that if this arrangement continued, the 20p first hour should be retained. We also suggested the provision of some free parking in the adjacent underutilised long term car park.

If the council is not prepared to accept parity on car park maintenance costs consistent with parity on parking charges, Martingate would now like to propose that a limited number of free spaces at the top end of the long park (about 20) be made available free of charge for the first hour for our shoppers.

I would be grateful if you would draw this matter to the attention of the cabinet.