#### CITY OF STOKE-ON-TRENT (TRAFFIC REGULATION) (OFF STREET CAR PARKS) (NO. 14) ORDER 2021

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the City of Stoke on Trent on 23 November 2021 made an Order under Sections 32, 33 and 35 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984.

The effect of this Order which comes into operation on 29 November 2021 is as follows :-

1. To designate a parking place as specified in the schedule below as an Off-Street Parking Place and introduce new parking charges and various terms & conditions so that vehicles park correctly with in the Parking Place and within the designated parking bays during its operating hours.

#### SCHEDULE OFF STREET CAR PARK (24 Hour Charging)

Spode Car Park 1 (located off Elenora Street)

Up to 2 Hours Free Up to 3 Hrs - £3.40 All Day (to midnight) - £4.60 Sunday – Free

Westport Lake Car Park

Up tp 1 Hour - £1 Up to 3 Hours - £1.50 Upto 24 Hours - £3 12 Month Permits - £100

Central Forest Park Car park

Up to 1 Hour - £1 Up to 3 Hours - £1.50 Upto 24 Hours - £3 12 Month Permits - £100

A copy of this Order may be examined on the City Council's Website and search (advertised traffic orders). If you wish to question the validity of this Order or any provision in it on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the above-mentioned Act or on the grounds that the requirements of that Act or any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order you may within six weeks of the date hereof apply to the High Court for this purpose.

DATED this 26th day of November 2021.

Contact Officer: David Follows, Housing, Growth & Prosperity - Telephone: 01782 234963

#### CITY OF STOKE-ON-TRENT (TRAFFIC REGULATION) (OFF STREET CAR PARKS) (NO. 14) ORDER 2021

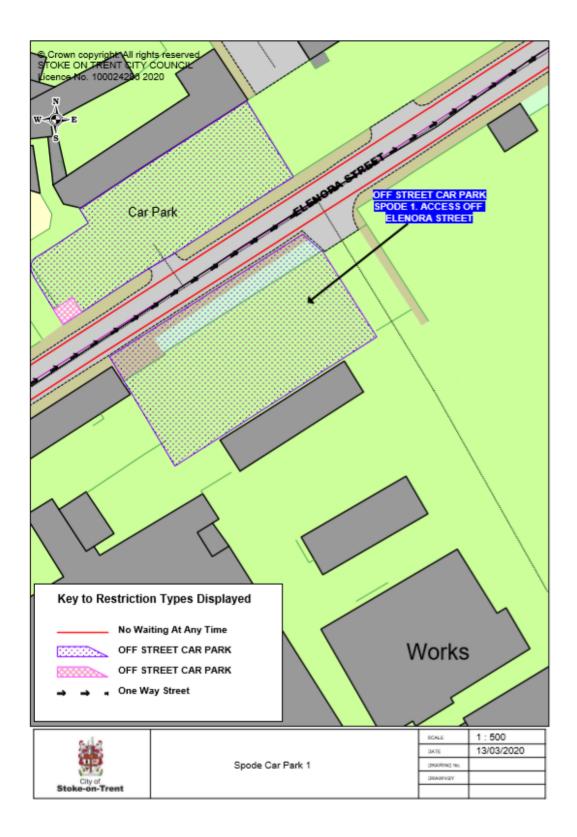
### Statement of Council's Reasons

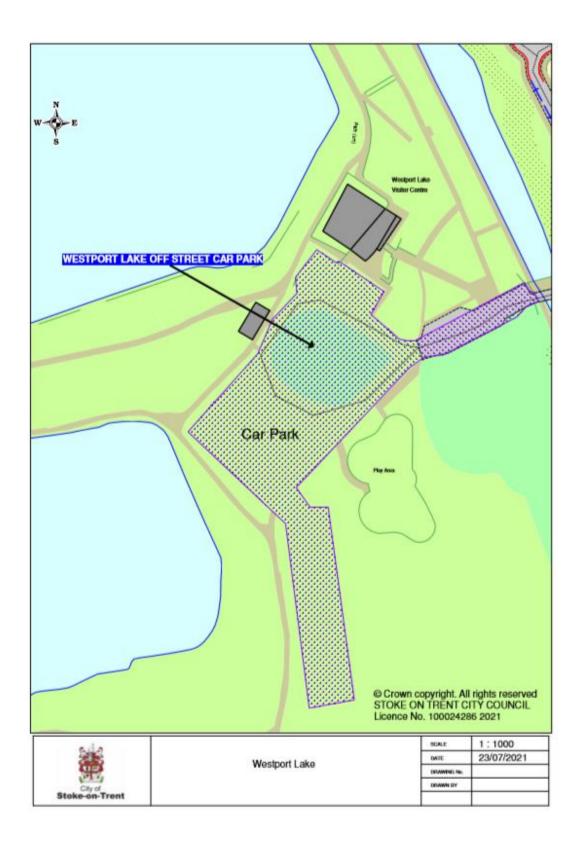
The Current Car Park facilities associated to Westport Lake Visitor Centre, Central Forest Park and Spode do get heavily congested and vehicles do sometimes park for longer than necessary periods which does not provide a turnover of parking for people to enjoy the facility they are visiting.

To help alleviate these ongoing parking concerns the Local Authority intends to exercise their functions of s.122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (RTRA) so to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) by providing terms and conditions of use for these off street parking places.

The traffic order proposes to introduce car parking charges at on the above car parks to support the environmental maintenance and improvement of the facilities and amenities open to the public and better manage the use of the car parks.







#### CITY OF STOKE-ON-TRENT (TRAFFIC REGULATION) (OFF STREET CAR PARKS) (NO. 14) ORDER 2021

**THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STOKE-ON-TRENT** in exercise of its powers under Sections 1, 2, 4, 32, 35 and 51 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ("the Act") and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act **HEREBY MAKE THE FOLLOWING ORDER :-**

## <u>PART I</u>

### **GENERAL**

#### Interpretation

In this Order, except where the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them:

"Charging Period" means, in relation to those Car Parking Places referred to the schedule attached;

"**Civil Enforcement Officer**" has the same meaning as in Part 6, Section 76 of the Traffic Management Act 2004.

"designated parking bay" means a marked individual vehicle space.

"Driver" in relation to a vehicle waiting in respect in a parking place, means the person driving the vehicle at the time it is left in the parking place

"Owner" has the same meaning as in Section 142 of "the Act"

"**Parking Place**" means the area of land which has been designated as a parking place in the schedule of this Order and provided by the council under Section 32 of the Act;

"**Relevant Position**" in the case of a vehicle fitted with a front windscreen, the ticket or permit is exhibited thereon with the obverse side facing forwards on the nearside of and immediately behind the windscreen

"Specified Class" means a motor car, passenger vehicle or goods vehicle which has a maximum gross weight not exceeding 3.5 tonnes.

"Traffic Sign" has the same meaning as in Section 142 of the Act;

"The Act" means the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

"the council" means The Council of the City of Stoke -on-Trent.

#### PART II DESIGNATION AND USE OF PARKING PLACES

 The parking place referred to in the Schedule hereto may be used, subject to the provisions of this Order, as a place to leave vehicles of such classes, in such positions, on such days, during such hours, for such period and on payment of such charges as are specified in relation thereto in the Schedule hereto Class and Position of vehicle

- Where in the Schedule a Parking Place is described as available for vehicles of a specified class or vehicles to be left in a specified location, no person shall permit a vehicle to wait in that Parking Place or in any parking bay within the Parking Place,
  - (i) unless it is of the specified class
  - (ii) unless it is wholly within a marked parking bay: or
  - (iii) in a position other than that specified

#### Maximum Period of Stay

3. Where in the Schedule a Parking Place is described as available on specified days, during specified hours or for a maximum period of stay, no person shall permit a vehicle to wait in that Parking Place on any day, during such hours or for any period other or longer than those specified.

#### Disabled Person's Parking Bays

4. No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to park in a parking bay marked for Disabled Persons unless the vehicle displays a Disabled Person's Badge in the relevant position and immediately before or immediately after the act of parking the vehicle has been or is about to be used by the person(s) in respect of whom the badge has been issued.

#### Power to close or suspend Parking Places

- 5. Nothing in this Order shall prevent the Council by notice, sign or barrier displayed in the Parking Place:
  - (i) from closing the Parking Place or any part thereof for any period; and / or
  - (ii) from setting aside the Parking Place or any part or parts thereof on all days or on certain days or during certain parts of days for use only by particular vehicles or organisations.
- 6. Any person authorised by the Council suspending the use of a Parking Place or any part thereof in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 shall thereupon place or cause to be placed in or adjacent to that Parking Place or that part thereof a notice or traffic sign indicating that the use of that Parking Place or that part thereof is suspended and that waiting by vehicles is prohibited.
- 7. No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to be left in a Parking Place or any part thereof during such periods that the use of that Parking Place or that part thereof is suspended or during such period as there is in or adjacent thereto a notice or traffic sign placed by or on behalf of the Council in pursuance of the preceding Article.

#### PART III CHARGES FOR PARKING

#### Payment

8. The driver of a vehicle using a Parking Place shall upon leaving the vehicle in the Parking Place pay the appropriate charge (if any) in accordance with the scale of charges specified in the Schedule hereto.

#### Pay and Display Parking Places

9. The driver of a vehicle using a Pay and Display Parking Place shall upon leaving the vehicle in the Parking Place, and on payment of a charge, purchase a Pay and Display ticket at the level of charge and for the period required in accordance with the scale of charges specified in the First Schedule.

### Means of Payment

10. The charge referred to in the preceding Article shall be payable by the insertion of an appropriate coin, coins or banknotes, or other approved method of payment together making up the amount of the charge into the ticket machine situated in that Parking Place or by payment to a person nominated by the Council.

#### Display of Ticket

- 11. The driver of the vehicle shall:
  - display the Pay and Display ticket issued on payment of the charge in the relevant position on the vehicle in respect of which it was issued.
    and
  - ensure that a Pay and Display ticket is purchased and displayed to cover the entire period that the vehicle is parked in the Parking Place

## Validity of pay and Display Tickets

- 12. A Pay and Display ticket is not transferable from one vehicle to another.
- 13. A Pay and Display ticket is valid only in the Parking Place in which it was issued. This is defined by the reference code of the parking ticket machine located in that Parking Place printed on the Pay and Display ticket.

## Expiry of Parking Period.

14. The expiry of the period for which the charge specified for that Parking Place in the Schedule has been paid shall be indicated when there is exhibited on the vehicle a parking ticket and the time shown on the clock of the issuing ticket machine is later than the time at which the period for which a charge has been paid expired.

### No Ticket Displayed

- 15. If at any time while a vehicle is left in a Parking Place no Pay and Display Ticket is displayed on that vehicle in the relevant position and in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 it shall be deemed that the charge has not been paid.
- 16. If at the time when a vehicle is left during the permitted hours in a Parking Place and on the nearest ticket machine in that Parking Place there is a notice placed by any person duly authorised by the Council, indicating that the said ticket machine is out of order, then a ticket should be obtained from another machine in that Parking Place (where provided).
- 17. Where no valid Pay and Display ticket can be obtained and displayed vehicles may be left in a Parking Place but may not be left for longer than the maximum period of waiting in that Parking Place as specified in the Schedule.

## **Restriction on Removal**

18. When a Pay and Display ticket or season ticket or permit has been exhibited on a vehicle in the relevant position no person shall remove the Pay and Display ticket or season ticket or permit from the vehicle until the vehicle is removed from the Parking Place.

#### PART IV EXEMPTIONS FROM DAILY CHARGES

19. No daily charge shall be payable in respect of:

- a vehicle which displays in the relevant position a valid Disabled Person's Badge provided that the vehicle immediately before or after the act of parking has been used or is about to be used by the person(s) in respect of whom the badge is issued;
- (ii) a motor cycle which is left in a parking bay specified for such vehicles (if any);
- (iii) a vehicle left displaying in a relevant position a Season Ticket valid for

that Parking Place;

(iv) a vehicle left displaying in a relevant position a pass or permit issued

by the Council valid for that time and for that Parking Place.

## Absence of Ticket Machine

If at the time when a vehicle is left in a Parking Place shown during the charging hours there is no ticket machine at the Parking Place, or all the ticket machines at that Parking Place carry notices placed upon them by a person duly authorised by the Council indicating that they are out of order, the driver of that vehicle shall be exempt from purchasing a parking ticket.

#### PART V RELOCATION AND REMOVAL OF VEHICLES

#### Relocation of a vehicle

20. Where any vehicle is standing in a Parking Place in contravention of the provisions of this Order, or is left in such a manner so as to cause danger or obstruction a Civil Enforcement Officer or a person authorised by the Council may, using such measures as are appropriate, alter or cause to be altered the position of the vehicle.

#### Removal of a vehicle

21. Where a Civil Enforcement Officer or a person authorised by the Council is of the opinion that any of the provisions contained in this Order have been contravened or not complied with in respect of a vehicle left in a Parking Place he/she may, using such measures as are appropriate, remove or cause to be removed the vehicle from the Parking Place.

#### **Emergencies**

22. A Civil Enforcement Officer, a person authorised by the Council or a Police Constable in uniform may, using such measures as are appropriate, move or cause to be moved in the case of an emergency to any place he/she thinks fit, any vehicle left in a Parking Place.

#### Safe Keeping

23. Any person removing a vehicle from a Parking Place under the preceding

Articles shall make such arrangements as may be reasonably necessary to provide for the safe keeping of the vehicle

#### PART VI OTHER PROVISIONS

#### Stop engine and apply brakes

24. The driver of a motor vehicle using a Parking Place shall stop the engine as soon as the vehicle is in the parking space and shall not start the engine except when about to change the position of the vehicle in or to depart from the Parking Place:

#### Manner of parking trailers

25. The driver of a vehicle drawing a trailer shall not permit the vehicle or the trailer to wait in a Parking Place unless they have been disconnected, and for the purposes of this Order the vehicle and the trailer shall be deemed to be separate vehicles and the driver of the leading vehicle shall be deemed to be the driver of both of the vehicles. A valid ticket must be purchased for the trailer in addition to the vehicle.

### Repair of vehicles in Parking Places

26. No person shall, while a vehicle is in a Parking Place, permit the carrying out of any work of maintenance or repair thereto except such as may be necessary to enable the vehicle to be moved from the Parking Place.

### Vehicle Tax and Insurance

- 27. No person shall permit any vehicle to wait in a Parking Place:
  - (i) unless the vehicle has a current licence which is issued in accordance with the provisions of the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994;
  - (ii) unless there is in relation to the use of the vehicle by the driver such a policy of insurance as complies with requirements of the Road Traffic Act 1988;

### Entry and Exit

- 28. Where signs are erected or surface markings are laid for the purpose of indicating the entrances to or exits from the Parking Place; or indicating that a vehicle proceed in a specified direction, no person shall drive or cause to be driven any vehicle:
  - (i) so that it enters the Parking Place otherwise than by an entrance, or leaves the Parking Place otherwise than by an exit;
  - (ii) in a direction other than that specified;
  - (iii) In a manner or at a speed so as to cause danger to other users of the Parking Place.

#### Use of vehicles and Parking Places

29. No person shall in a Parking Place:

- (i) without the express written permission of the Council, use a vehicle, in connection with the sale of any article, including the vehicle itself, to any person in or near the Parking Place or in connection with the selling or offering for hire of skill or services in any other capacity;
- (ii) sound any horn or other similar instrument except when about to change the position of the vehicle in or to depart from the Parking Place:
- (iii) except with the permission or at the direction of a Civil Enforcement Officer or a person authorised by the Council or a police constable in uniform, drive any vehicle other than for the purpose of leaving the vehicle in the Parking Place in accordance with the provisions of this Order or for the purpose of departing from the Parking Place or for the purpose of visiting any amenity site in the Parking Place:
- (iv) use any part of the Parking Place or a vehicle in a Parking Place without the express written permission of the Council for;
  - a) Sleeping or camping purposes
  - b) Cooking purposes

- c) the purpose of washing, valeting or servicing any vehicle or part thereof other than is reasonably necessary to enable that vehicle to depart from the Parking Place;
- (v) use that Parking Place solely as a means of passage proceeding from one road to another;
- (vi) deposit or leave any vehicle, trailer, or anything which formed part of a vehicle or trailer, or any rubbish, litter or anything with the purpose of abandoning it there;
- (vii) wantonly shout or otherwise make any noise to cause disturbance or annoyance of users of the Parking Place or residents or other occupiers of adjacent premises;
- (viii) act in a manner to cause nuisance or danger to any car park user. resident or other person;
- (ix) erect or cause or permit to be erected, any tent, booth, stand, building or other structure;
- (x) light or cause to be lit a fire.

### PART\_VII LIABILITIES / PENALTIES

### **Liability**

30. The Council accepts no liability for the loss or damage to vehicles or other property left in Parking Place to which this Order applies.

#### Wilful Damage

31. Any person who with intent to defraud interferes with the parking ticket machine or operates or attempts to operate it by the insertion of objects other than undamaged and unaltered coins of legal tender and of the appropriate denomination, or other approved method of payment, shall be liable to prosecution.

### PART VIII CONTRAVENTION AND PENALTY CHARGE

#### **Contravention**

32. If a vehicle is left in a Parking Place referred to in the Schedule without complying with the requirements of this Order, a contravention shall have occurred and a Penalty Charge shall be payable. A Penalty Charge Notice showing the information required by the 2004 Act may then be issued by a Civil Enforcement Officer in accordance with the requirements of the 2004 Act or any subsequently applicable legislation.

#### Notice of Penalty Charge

33. In the case of a vehicle in respect of which the Penalty Charge may have been incurred, it shall be the duty of a Civil Enforcement Officer to attach to the vehicle in a conspicuous position a Penalty Charge Notice which shall include the following particulars: a) the registration mark of the vehicle or where the vehicle is being used under a trade licence the number of the trade plate carried by the vehicle;

the date and time at which the Civil Enforcement Officer first noticed that a Penalty Charge Notice had been incurred under this Order;

the reason for the Penalty Charge Notice being incurred; a statement that a Penalty Charge Notice is required to be paid; the manner in which and the time within which the Penalty Charge Notice should be paid.

#### **Restriction on removal of Notices**

- 34.A Penalty Charge Notice fixed to a vehicle in accordance with the preceding Article shall not be removed or interfered with except by or under the authority of:
  - (i) The owner, or person in charge of, of the vehicle;
  - (ii) The council for the place in which the vehicle in question was found

### **INTERPRETATION AND CITATION**

- 35. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the Interpretation of an Act of Parliament.
- 36. To revoke those parts of the Traffic Regulation Orders specified in the schedule of revocations hereto. And these Orders are hereby amended.
- 37. This Order shall come into operation on the 29 November 2021 and may be cited as the City of Stoke-on-Trent (Traffic Regulation) (Off Street Car Parks) (No.14) Order, 2021

DATED this 23rd day of November 2021.

SIGNED ON BEHALF of the COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STOKE-ON-TRENT

Authorised signatory

#### SCHEDULE OFF STREET CAR PARK (24 Hour Charging)

Spode Car Park 1 (located off Elenora Street)

Up to 2 Hours Free Up to 3 Hrs - £3.40 All Day (to midnight) - £4.60 Sunday – Free Westport Lake Car Park

Up tp 1 Hour - £1 Up to 3 Hours - £1.50 Upto 24 Hours - £3 12 Month Permits - £100

Central Forest Park Car park

Up to 1 Hour - £1 Up to 3 Hours - £1.50 Upto 24 Hours - £3 12 Month Permits - £100



# Operational Business Meeting (OBM) 03 November 2021

# <u>Creation of Off Street Car Parks and Introduction of Parking</u> <u>Charges at Central Forest Park and Westport Lake</u>

Report of Director of Housing, Development and Growth

Report Author: Carol Gibbs, Ian Tamburello

Type of Decision: Chief Officer Delegated Decision

**Cabinet Member:** Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Infrastructure and Heritage

Wards Affected: Birches Head and Central Forest Park, Burslem Central

## Stronger Together Priorities and how they are applicable:

- An innovative and commercial council, providing effective leadership to help transform outcomes.
- This report outlines the outcome of a consultation exercise associated with the creation of off street car parks and introduction of parking charges at Westport Lake and Central Forest Park necessary to contribute towards delivering the City Council's 2021/22 budget.
- Work with our communities to make them healthier, safer and more sustainable.
- All surplus income derived from these locations will be invested in environmental services to help sustain the environment and community facilities. Patrols will provide natural oversight at the locations, so discouraging anti-social behaviour and contributing to enhanced site security.

## 1.0 Reason and Purpose of Report:

**1.1** The purpose of this report is to outline the objections to the provisions contained within City Of Stoke On Trent (Traffic Regulation) (Off Street Car Parks) (No. 14) Order 2021 and to seek approval to make the order as outlined within this report.

## 2.0 Recommendation(s):

**2.1** That City of Stoke-on-Trent (Traffic Regulation) City Of Stoke On Trent (Traffic Regulation) (Off Street Car Parks) (No. 14) Order 2021 Order, 2021 be made as advertised and as shown in Appendix B respectively, as attached to this report.

## 3.0 Summary of Main Points:

**3.1** The introduction of parking charges at Westport Lake and Central Forest Park was publicly consulted in the City Council's 2021/22 Budget Consultation (ref: CMS03-2122) and subsequently approved at the City Council Meeting on 25 February 2021.

**3.2** The introduction of parking charges at Westport Lake and Central Forest Park was publicly consulted in the City Council's 2021/22 Budget Consultation (ref: CMS03-2122) and subsequently approved at the City Council Meeting on 25 February 2021.

**3.3** In order to introduce and regulate parking charges the council has advertised via Traffic Regulation Orders its intention to create off-street parking places and introduce parking charges. Copies of the relevant notices and plans are appended to the report.

**3.4** A number of comments and objections were received in respect of the advertised Traffic Regulation Order (TRO): Details of these comments/ objections together with the officers response is detailed in Appendix A.

### 3.5 Conclusion

The proposed traffic regulation orders to create off-street parking places and introduce parking charges will:-

- Enable officers to deliver the actions agreed and approved City Council's 2021/22 Budget
- Deliver income from the charges at Westport Lake and Central Forest Park that will return to the council's general fund, to be reinvested into frontline services including keeping the parks safe, managed and maintained.
- Support the maintenance of £280,000 equipment investment at Central Forest Park.
- Provide a civil enforcement patrol oversight at the parks dissuading ASB, unwelcome visitors and ensuring appropriate space turnover.

It is therefore proposed that the relevant traffic orders be made as advertised (as shown on the Plans attached at Appendix C

## List of Background papers (information not already published):

None

## List the appendices included as part of this report:

Appendix A – Objections / Comments received to Public Consultation Appendix B – Advertised Notice of Intention Appendix C – Location Plans of Car Parks

**Implications taken into consideration in this report** (*Please list as separate appendix if required*):

## Financial and Commercial:

The estimated cost of advertising and making the Traffic Regulation Orders as outlined in this report is approximately  $\pounds$ 1,500 and will be funded from the

£60,000 capital allocation set aside to fund the project delivery costs including parking machines and signage, legal traffic orders, infrastructure and initial support services.

## Legal:

Traffic Regulation Orders are permitted to be advertised and made under The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended).

Section 35 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 makes provision for the regulation of off-street parking places in respect of:

- i. (i) the use of the parking place, and in particular the vehicles or class of vehicles which may be entitled to use it,
- ii. (ii) the conditions on which it may be used,
- iii. (iii) the charges to be paid in connection with its use (where it is an offstreet one), and
- iv. (iv) the removal from it of a vehicle left there in contravention of the order and the safe custody of the vehicle.

Section 55 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 compels local authorities to account for the income and expenditure associated with any parking place and the legitimate application of any surplus that may be used for:-

- (a) the making good to the general fund of any amount charged to that fund (to make good any deficit in the SPA) in the 4 years immediately preceding the financial year in question;
- (b) meeting all or any part of the cost of the provision and maintenance by the local authority of off-street parking accommodation, whether in the open or under cover;
- (c) the making to other local authorities or to other persons of contributions towards the cost of the provision and maintenance by them, in the area of the local authority or elsewhere, of off-street parking accommodation, whether in the open or under cover;
- (d) if it appears to the local authority that the provision in their area of further off-street parking accommodation is unnecessary or undesirable, the following purposes—
  - (i) meeting costs incurred, whether by the local authority or by some other person, in the provision or operation of, or of facilities for, public passenger transport services,
  - (ii) the purposes of a highway or road improvement project in the local authority's area,
  - (iii) in the case of a London authority, meeting costs incurred by the authority in respect of the maintenance of roads maintained at the public expense by them,
  - (iv) the purposes of environmental improvement in the local authority's area,

 (v) in the case of such local authorities as may be prescribed, any other purposes for which the authority may lawfully incur expenditure;

## Human Resources:

There are no human resources implications associated with this scheme.

## Public Health and Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012:

There are no relevant implications. There are no direct social value benefits of this scheme.

## Equality Impact or Environmental Impact Assessments:

An equality impact assessment carried out during consultation identified that Introducing charges would disadvantage those of low income who may not visit; may visit less often; or may have to park further away and walk to the facility. The facility itself however, would remain free to use. The City Council will maintain its current support to blue badge holders of providing free parking off the highway on un-barriered surface car parks.

## Key Risks:

Price point drives insufficient or excess demand, this will be subject to periodic review.

## **Options Considered:**

- Approve the Recommendations Carry out the scheme as outlined in this report and enable officers to deliver the actions agreed and approved City Council's 2021/22 Budget; deliver income from the charges at Westport Lake and Central Forest Park that will return to the council's general fund, to be reinvested into frontline services including keeping the parks safe, managed and maintained; support the maintenance of new equipment investment at Central Forest Park; and provide a civil enforcement patrol oversight at the parks dissuading ASB, unwelcome visitors and ensuring appropriate space turnover. This is the preferred option.
- 2. Do nothing

### **APPENDIX A - Objections / Comments received to Public Consultation**

Summary of Comments / Objections Received. (the same or similar objections / responses have not been duplicated below): The park was given to people so we had open space to use, not so the council could try and make money out of it.

<u>Officers' Response</u>: The park remains free to use. The council will reinvest any surplus generated into public services, including protecting the quality and utility of the park for users.

<u>Summary of Comments / Objections Received:</u> On site businesses will lose trade and prospective events like funfairs may be affected. The Visitor Centre and Cafe at Westport Lake are operated by a charity close to my heart and will be adversely affected by the introduction of these charges, as visitors to the Lake will feel far less inclined to pop into the cafe and treat themselves to a cuppa and cake if they've had to fork out for parking.

<u>Officers' Response:</u> Individual consultation and engagement has been established with business owners within the parks and any resolutions will be finalized before charging commences. Any commercial hire agreements will be negotiated on a case by case basis, and may include parking concessions.

<u>Summary of Comments / Objections Received:</u> The elderly who need to drive there may not feel they can justify a parking fee but are not fit enough to walk.

Families who want to spend the day there and need to drive to carry picnics etc may not come now.

Inactivity and obesity are potential killers, which cost the public purse, post Covid more people are on low incomes and the rising cost of living and we rely on parks for physical and mental wellbeing by enjoying outdoor recreation, and the introduction of charges will curtail the uptake of that activity.

<u>Officers' Response:</u> The City Council will maintain its position of going beyond that required by law of providing free parking to blue badge holders on surface level off street car parks.

As a consequence of feedback during the budget consultation, elected members reduced the proposed parking charges significantly.

The park remains free to use. The council will reinvest any surplus generated into public services, including protecting the quality of the park.

<u>Summary of Comments / Objections Received:</u> These places should be parking free zone so the people are not pressured about having to pay the parking fees and having to constantly worry about how much time there is left to enjoy at the park.

<u>Officers' Response:</u> As a consequence of feedback during the budget consultation, elected members reduced the proposed parking charges significantly and restructured the charges so that regular visitors could take advantage of an annual pass and those staying for longer periods could do so for much less than proposed.

<u>Summary of Comments / Objections Received:</u> I use Westport Lake to get out and exercise and enjoy the fresh air and nature. I see many women using the park in the same way and it is clear that women find it to be a safe place to walk/jog. There has been much in the media about women's safety in outside spaces and I am concerned that these charges will push women into walking in less safe places, or spending more time isolated at home.

<u>Officers' Response:</u> Officers are engaged with the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner in delivering improvements through the Safer Streets agenda to improve female safety and confidence.

The introduction of parking charges will introduce regular patrols at the car parks by civil enforcement officers which will provide natural surveillance to the car parks, enhancing public safety, and any surplus generated from the parking charges will be invested in the upkeep of the parks, including infrastructure like CCTV and lighting which provides security and confidence to parks users.

## **APPENDIX B – Advertised Notice of Intention**

### CITY OF STOKE-ON-TRENT (TRAFFIC REGULATION) (OFF STREET CAR PARKS) (NO. 14) ORDER 2021

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Council of the City of Stoke on Trent propose to make an Order under Sections 32, 33 and 35 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984.

The effect of this Order which comes into operation on 29 November 2021 is as follows :-

1. To designate a parking place as specified in the schedule below as an Off-Street Parking Place and introduce new parking charges and various terms & conditions so that vehicles park correctly with in the Parking Place and within the designated parking bays during its operating hours.

### SCHEDULE OFF STREET CAR PARK (24 Hour Charging)

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Up to 2 Hours Free Up to 3 Hrs - £3.40 All Day (to midnight) - £4.60 Sunday – Free

Westport Lake Car Park

Up tp 1 Hour - £1 Up to 3 Hours - £1.50 Upto 24 Hours - £3 12 Month Permits - £100

Central Forest Park Car park

Up to 1 Hour - £1 Up to 3 Hours - £1.50 Upto 24 Hours - £3 12 Month Permits - £100

Full details of these proposals are contained in draft Orders which, together with maps showing the roads concerned and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make this Order, may be examined by visiting Stoke Traffweb.

If you wish to object to the proposed Order you should send your objections, together with the grounds thereof, in writing to the address shown above or by e-mail to traffic.orders@stoke.gov.uk, quoting reference: DF/NM/TRO14/2021, by the 22nd day of September 2021.

DATED this 1st day of September 2021.

Contact Officer: David Follows, Housing, Growth & Prosperity - Telephone: 01782 234963

# **APPENDIX C – Location Plans of Car Parks**



