

REPORT TO THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

26 November 2018

Cabinet Member: Councillor Dafydd Meurig

Subject: Parking Order, Y Fach, Abersoch

Liaison Officers: Dafydd Gibbard, Senior Property Manager, Environment Department

Decision sought

To approve the introduction of an Off-street Parking Order, Y Fach, Abersoch

Local member's views

I confirm that I have no objection to the Order.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The area near y Fach, Abersoch, borders the A499 highway and is a popular location for visitors to the nearby beach. Over the years, motorists have parked on the verge of the road without any regulatory arrangements. Pedestrians crossed this busy highway that had no formal crossing, leading to safety risks.
- 1.2 In order to extend the current space available for parking, to improve the quality of the provision and create a safer environment for pedestrians and motorists, last year the Council invested in a scheme that enabled people to park and cross the road in a manner that was safer and more organised.
- 1.3 At the same time a consultation was held on the management arrangements that would be necessary to ensure that this parking space was sensibly managed. It is necessary to secure the ability to ensure that this space is not misused by motorists or caravan users for long periods, and to promote a reasonable amount of turnover during the daytime.
- 1.4 Observations on the proposal were received and discussions were held with the Local Member and the Community Council before forming conclusions on the most logical arrangements, namely, to introduce pay and display arrangements during the holiday

season only (March to October) and to prohibit use by caravans and motorhomes between 10pm and 8am.

2. OBJECTION

2.1 A copy of the correspondence from the objector is attached at Appendix B.

2.2 A summary of the matters referred to by the objector is included below, and the Council's response to each matter:

Subject	The Council's Response
Charging for parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Council has adopted a long standing Parking Strategy which includes specific criteria for parking charges. In accordance with the Strategy's criteria, it is intended to charge for the use of the car park as it is in a location which is heavily used by tourists. No charge will be made outside the holiday season (November to February).• The income created from car parks contributes to the cost of maintaining the county's highways network and maintaining the 106 car parks provided by the Council.• Charging for parking in suitable locations promotes turnover and ensures that the parking spaces are not misused e.g. excessive parking periods, unauthorised use by travellers etc.
The parking fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Council's parking fees have been reviewed as part of the Parking Strategy and is consistent throughout the county, having considered the type of location etc. The location in question is a popular location for tourists and is consistent with other similar locations.
Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The avoidance of any safety risks is a core part of the design process of any scheme of this type, and the development entirely conforms to all the health and safety requirements. Planning permission has been secured, and as part of the design the 30mph zone has been extended in order to reduce speeds before reaching this location.• Increasing the safety of motorists and pedestrians was one of the main reasons for creating this new resource.

3. CONCLUSIONS

3.1 This parking resource was created in response to the wishes of the local community. The proposal has been advertised in accordance with the statutory requirements and has received overall support. Only one objection has been received.

3.2 It is recommended that the above response to the individual points raised by the objector supports and justifies the intention to confirm the Parking Order.

APPENDICES

A – a copy of the Notice to create an Off Street Parking Places Order, y Fach, Abersoch.

B – the objector's correspondence.