



Planning and Transport Committee

Date: 12th June 2019

Title: Potential car parking enforcement measures

Purpose of the Report: To seek Member endorsement to draw down a maximum of £1,500 from earmarked reserves for the purposes of creating a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for Mentmore Road recreation ground car park.

Contact Officer: Mark Saccoccio – Town Clerk

Corporate Aim	To continue to liaise with the local authority on matters for which it is responsible and which affect residents of the parish	
Implications:		
Financial	√	As of 31 st May 2019, earmarked reserves – Highways Schemes (920/9065) stood at £30,000.
Human Resources		
Operational/Service delivery	√	
Procedural/Legal		
Risk/Health and Safety		

1. RECOMMENDATION

1.1 Should Members be minded to support the proposal:-

- i) To draw down a maximum of £1,500 from earmarked reserves for the purposes of creating a TRO for Mentmore Road recreation ground car park.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting held 4th March 2019, the Grounds and Environmental Services Committee endorsed the principle that the Town Council works in partnership with Central Bedfordshire Council in scoping out the potential of introducing

parking enforcement measures within certain town council owned car parks. As Members are minded, Mentmore Road recreation ground car park continues to be an attractive and convenient location for vehicles to be left for long periods of the day with impunity. The present situation has become acute to the point whereby hirers of the pavilion building together with tennis club and bowls club are forced to find spaces elsewhere. For example, it is not uncommon to find the car park 75% full even when there are no activities taking place within the park.

3. WAY FORWARD

- 3.1 Should Members be minded to support the recommendation, Central Bedfordshire Council as the Highways Authority would implement and thereafter manage such a scheme. From discussions with highway colleagues, the implementation process would include:-
- i) Formally write to Central Bedfordshire Council seeking its permission to create and thereafter enforce any future TRO.
 - ii) To confirm that the Town Council is prepared to pay for the creation of said TRO. It is estimated that the cost of creating such an Order will be approximately £1,000. The majority of the cost being on the associated advertising.
 - iii) In consultation with the principal authority, to decide on the restrictions that may be put in place. For example, to allow a maximum 3 hour stay and no return within 2 hours.
- 3.2 Whilst the introduction of any parking restrictions can to some prove unpopular, the lack of any kind of meaningful restrictions is leading to individuals taking advantage to the detriment of the community at large.