



BARGOED TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT GROUP - 3RD OCTOBER 2012

SUBJECT: TOWN CENTRE PARKING STRATEGY FOR BARGOED

REPORT BY: ENGINEERING SERVICES DIVISION

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek the views of the Town Centre Management Group on the proposed parking strategy for Bargoed town centre.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The town centre parking strategy for Bargoed aims to maximise the attractiveness and accessibility of the available car parking provision during the regeneration and retail plateau development works and beyond, in order to support the vitality and viability of Bargoed town.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 Bargoed is the only significant retail centre in this part of the county borough covered by the Heads of the Valleys Programme – identified by the Welsh Government as a regeneration priority area. As such Bargoed plays an important role in the Heads of the Valleys Programme and Strategy.
- 3.2 Bargoed is identified as a Principal Centre in the Council's adopted Local Development Plan and is the location for major retail and leisure development in that Plan.
- 3.3 The Bargoed Town Centre Action Plan identifies redevelopment of this part of the town centre as its main proposal
- 3.4 Regenerating the County Borough's town centres, including Bargoed, is one of the main priorities in the Council's regeneration strategy – "People, Business, Places".

4. THE REGENERATION OF BARGOED TOWN

- 4.1 The Bargoed Plateau retail development is now under construction with completion anticipated towards the end of 2013. The site is now under the control of the developer and protected by site hoardings. This has necessitated the loss of informal parking spaces that have been partly compensated for by the provision by the developer of an interim car park at the entrance to the retail plateau. Some disruption to surrounding streets and lanes has also been inevitable while essential service diversions have taken place.
- 4.2 The next stage will be the excavation of material from the western edged of the site and its transfer to the Aberbargoed plateau on the other side of the valley, followed by the creation of

piled foundations. The steel framework will be erected in the New Year and from then on we should be able to see the development 'taking shape'.

- 4.3 In parallel with the retail development, the final phases of the public realm improvements will take place between the autumn of 2012 and the summer of 2013. This will involve street works to widen the pavements along Hanbury Road and the creation of a new public space at Hanbury Square.
- 4.4 In the meantime officers will continue to take steps to secure a cinema operator for phase 2 of the plateau development and also a developer for a restaurant on the corner site.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report is for information purposes, so the Council's EqIA process does not need to be applied.

6. TOWN CENTRE PARKING STRATEGY FOR BARGOED

- 6.1 The proposed strategy is attached as Appendix A and is considered to be essential in maximising the availability of and access to parking provision within the town centre, in particular during the extended period of disruption whilst regeneration works are ongoing.
- 6.2 The strategy seeks to balance the provision of a level of parking to support the regeneration of the town with the wider aim to encourage more sustainable means of access to the town centre.
- 6.3 The strategy is supported by an action plan and communication strategy and the views of the Bargoed Town Centre Management Group are sought on all aspects in order to finalise the document.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 None.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 None.

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 As listed below. Any comments received will be reported to the Group.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The Town Centre Management Group are asked for their comments on the proposed strategy and support for its implementation.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 The reasons for the recommendation is to support the regeneration objectives for Bargoed town under the Council's regeneration strategy – "People, Business, Places".

12. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

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Consultees: Cllr. Tom Williams – Cabinet Member for Highways Transportation & Engineering
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Development
Cllr. David Carter – Ward Member for Bargoed
Cllr. Tudor Davies - Ward Member for Bargoed
Cllr. Diane Price – Ward Member for Bargoed
Cllr. Alan Higgs – Ward Member for Aberbargoed
Cllr. Keith Reynolds – Ward Member for Aberbargoed
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Background papers: None

Appendices:
Appendix A Draft Bargoed Town Centre Parking Strategy