

Appendix 1: Summary of objections received to the advertised proposals

Petition Responses

Objection	Type of Objection	Objector	Recommendation	Reason
<p>The charges are considered unfair and unjust and the local users and residents argue that:</p> <p>a) The costs of implementing the scheme will not be cost effective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People will stop using the parks, effecting potential revenue; • The cost of policing the parks; • No evidence has been produced that a net revenue will be produced; 	<p>Petition signed by 2,284 (1,492 online and 792 handwritten)</p>	<p>Coordinated by local resident and regular user of the Country Parks</p>	<p>Make order as advertised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effect on visitor numbers will be monitored and impact assessed in the 2014/2015 financial year. • The scheme will be operated and managed using existing resources and there will be no additional staffing costs. • Based on the existing visitor numbers it has been estimated that an annual income of £85,000 is likely to be generated. However, the exact level of income will not be known until the scheme becomes operational.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No consideration for highway safety and inconvenience on roads surrounding the car parks, and associated costs of imposing restrictions. • Safety of staff collecting money in remote locations and the replacement costs from vandalism of machines; <p>b) Negative impact on physical health, mental health and wellbeing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on health and wellbeing would outweigh financial gain • Failing to heed the messages of Central Government and Welsh Government regarding the importance of health and wellbeing. • Restrict those that have mobility issues and need to park close 			<p>Make order as advertised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impact of any displaced parking will need to be monitored and where necessary introduce parking restrictions. • All procedures to protect staff implementing this scheme will be put in place by following the lone worker policy and risk assessed. • Effect on visitor numbers will be monitored and impact assessed in the 2014/2015 financial year. • The facilities provided at each country park will remain, allowing open access. • The proposed parking scheme does not restrict access to the car parking facilities currently offered
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low income families rely on these facilities as free days out; • Many of the elderly use walks/visits as an opportunity to socialise. <p>c) Discrimination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discriminatory against those on low incomes; • Only those in better financial positions will be able to use the parks; • The poorest members of the county will also suffer poor health and wellbeing, not just financially; • Those with mobility issue will either have to pay or refrain from using the parks. 			<p>Make order as advertised</p>	<p>facilities currently offered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The charging rate is considered reasonable. The option of purchasing a season ticket will also be offered as part of the scheme. • The facilities provided at each country park will remain, allowing open access. • In relation to all points raised under c) Discrimination. The charging rate is considered reasonable. The option of purchasing a season ticket will also be offered as part of the scheme.
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The charges will discourage people from using them, change from previous stance that the country parks provide the opportunity for all to enjoy open space in a safe environment; • What will be the financial benefit when capital investment and running costs are taken into account; • Where will the profits be spent? • Has the introduction of charges to staff car parks been considered? • Will the £50.00 season ticket cover all car parks? • Will annual passes be proposed on a personal basis 				<p>further down the line.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effect on visitor numbers will be monitored and impact assessed in the 2014/2015 financial year. • The majority of running costs will be covered internally through current staff. A small percentage of income will need to be used to cover damage, repairs and maintenance. • The income generated will contribute to the management of the country parks. • The council is investigating a number of options to address budgetary constraints • The season ticket covers every car park in the proposed order and those at Cwmcarn. • The season ticket will cover a specific vehicle and cannot
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<p>so the named individual can park? Will it be transferable between vehicles?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the passes be available from the anniversary of the date of purchase or will it run from 1st of Jan? • Will a reminder system be put in place? • If the finances of the council improve, will the scheme be rescinded? • What increase in council tax will be required if the scheme was abandoned? • What percentage of the deficit will this scheme form? • Will a similar scheme be imposed at the park and ride 				<p>be transferred.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annually from date of purchase. • No, season tickets will expire on the anniversary of the original purchase date. • The council reviews its budget annually. • It is estimated that the scheme will generate approximately £85,000 per annum. The sum would have to be found through other sources and cannot be meaningfully correlated to individual properties through council tax. • The council is reviewing cuts of approximately £14 million over a two-year period from 2015-16. • It is not known at this moment in time. The council
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<p>car parks?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will there be any concessions after 6pm as occurs with many other car parks. 				<p>is currently investigating a number of options to address budgetary constraints.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The charges will apply Monday to Sunday 7:00am – 7:00pm.
<p>Over a hundred local residents that regularly walk with the healthy walking group through Parc Coedtir Bargoed. Many of the walkers are cardiac rehabilitation patients, or suffer and/or are recovering from stress, anxiety and mental health issues. Imposing the charges will jeopardise all the good work to date.</p>	<p>Petition with 120 signatures (60 electronic and 60 handwritten) presented to Councillor Harry Andrews</p>	<p>Pengam Strollers Walking Group – coordinated by walk leader</p>	<p>Make order as advertised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect on visitor numbers will be monitored and impact assessed in the 2014/2015 financial year. Access to the country parks will remain free to all and the introduction of the scheme is necessary in order to safeguard current facilities.
<p>People need places to walk and in doing so promotes health.</p>	<p>Handwritten petition signed by 9 people</p>	<p>Coordinated by local resident.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect on visitor numbers will be monitored and impact assessed in the 2014/2015 financial year. Access to the country parks will remain free to all and the introduction of the scheme is necessary in order to safeguard current facilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many use country parks as places for exercise Many residents will not be 	<p>Standard letter signed and dated by 44 people</p>	<p>Prepared by the Fochriw and Pentwyn residents association.</p>	<p>Make order as advertised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect on visitor numbers will be monitored and impact assessed in the 2014/2015 financial year. The charging rate is

<p>able to afford the charges due to restrictive household budgets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revenue generated from the scheme will be minimal				<p>considered reasonable. The option of purchasing a season ticket will also be offered as part of the scheme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Based on the existing visitor numbers it has been estimated that an annual income of £85,000 is likely to be generated. However, the exact level of income will not be known until the scheme becomes operational.
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Letters of Objection

Eighty letters of objection were received throughout the consultation period. There is a definitive pattern of content and the arguments posed by objectors. This section will provide a matrix of the arguments outlined throughout the eighty letters submitted and highlight the number of letters that mentions each argument to identify the strength of the pattern. However, some particularly in depth consultation responses were received and are dealt with separately.

Grounds of Objection	Specific	Number of letters	Recommendation	Reason
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The country parks are used as spaces to keep fit and healthy. • At local, regional and national level residents are encouraged to exercise and live healthy lifestyles • Regular gentle exercise at these locations maintains a healthy lifestyle • The council should be encouraging residents to use the local environment. • There is a widely reported obesity problem in Wales. 	<p>21 Letters</p> <p>25 Letters</p> <p>27 Letters</p> <p>27 Letters</p> <p>5 Letters</p>	Make order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to the points raised under health: Effect on visitor numbers will be monitored and impact assessed in the 2014/2015 financial year. Access to the country parks will remain free to all and the introduction of the scheme is necessary in order to safeguard current facilities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obesity levels are often linked with deprivation and exercise at country parks can help to reduce the burden on the society. • Impacts on long-term health and wellbeing. • Free medication is provided throughout Wales, the bill in this area will increase as it will limit the exercise people get. 	<p>4 Letters</p> <p>7 Letters</p> <p>2 Letters</p>		
Affecting visitor numbers to Country Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The charges will discourage people from using the country parks. • The decreased visits will impact upon the projected revenue of the scheme. • Visit the country parks for an hour or two at a time and will go elsewhere. • If we have to pay – will go to Caerphilly Mountain Ranch or Cwmcarn Forest Drive. • Facilities such as the cafes at Pen-y-Fan Pond and Parc Cwm Darran will lose custom. 	<p>43 Letters</p> <p>3 Letters</p> <p>1 Letter</p> <p>3 Letters</p> <p>5 Letters</p>	Make order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to points raised regarding visitor numbers: Effect on visitor numbers will be monitored and impact assessed in the 2014/2015 financial year. Access to the country parks will remain free to all and the introduction of the scheme is necessary in order to safeguard current facilities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacting on membership of healthy walking groups. 	3 Letters		
Financial – Capital investment and Running costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The capital investment costs of the machines, signs and installation. • Associated running costs that include regular maintenance of the machines, staff time for enforcing the scheme and money collection. • The car parks are in vulnerable locations and the infrastructure is likely to suffer acts of vandalism, and additional surveillance equipment may need to be installed. • Costs of putting Yellow lines and restrictions on roads surrounding the car parks. 	<p>21 Letters</p> <p>21 Letters</p> <p>21 Letters</p> <p>6 Letters</p>	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The capital investment costs were funded from the 2013/14 budget. • The operation and management of the scheme will largely be undertaken in house and is appreciated that there will be associated maintenance costs. • Vandalism has been considered from the outset and mitigation has been included in the scheme. • The impact of any displaced parking will need to be monitored and where necessary introduce parking restrictions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On most days, there is a limited number of cars parked in the car parks and with such low numbers it makes little economic sense. • Assume that a sound financial model has been established – that demonstrates that revenue will exceed capital and running costs. • Placing further burden on countryside rangers to undertake additional duties. 	<p>3 Letters</p> <p>2 Letters</p> <p>6 Letters</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the existing visitor numbers it has been estimated that an annual income of £85,000 is likely to be generated. However, the exact level of income will not be known until the scheme becomes operational. • Based on the existing visitor numbers it has been estimated that an annual income of £85,000 is likely to be generated. However, the exact level of income will not be known until the scheme becomes operational. • Countryside rangers are able to carry out additional responsibilities alongside their existing duties.
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Compromising road safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People will park in residential areas or outside the designated car parks and walk into the parks. • Loose dogs or children walking near or on the highway has the potential to cause an incident. • Damage will be caused to the verges. 	<p>20 Letters</p> <p>3 Letters</p> <p>3 Letters</p>	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impact of any displaced parking will need to be monitored and where necessary introduce parking restrictions. • Dogs should be kept on leads. • The impact of any displaced parking will need to be monitored and where necessary introduce parking restrictions.
Household Budgets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enjoying the countryside should not be reserved for those that can afford a daily parking fee, it should remain free for all. • Charges at these locations would increase already tight household budgets and many will not be able to afford to use these spaces • Many cannot afford the daily charges, or the £50 for a season ticket in one go. 	<p>20 Letters</p> <p>20 Letters</p> <p>22 Letters</p>	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to the points raised under household budgets: Effect on visitor numbers will be monitored and impact assessed in the 2014/2015 financial year. Access to the country parks will remain free to all and the introduction of the

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caerphilly is known as a deprived area, where most households struggle to earn a living wage • Currently pay to park in town centres, and now expected to pay for leisurely walks in the countryside. • Dog owners should not have to pay to walk their dogs 	<p>2 Letters</p> <p>1 Letter</p> <p>8 Letters</p>		<p>scheme is necessary in order to safeguard current facilities. The charging rate is considered reasonable. The option of purchasing a season ticket will also be offered as part of the scheme.</p>
Council Tax Rises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment: Residents have had to deal with a council tax rise and feel that they pay for the country parks and parking through this form of taxation 	20 Letters	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caerphilly CBC is facing unprecedented financial pressure as a result of UK Government funding cuts. From the 2015/16 financial year the council is faced with making savings in excess of £14 million over a two year period.
Find other means of making cuts or generating revenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop cutting areas of grass that do not need to be cut, i.e the area between the dual carriageway. • Look internally to find efficiency 	<p>1 Letter</p> <p>9 Letters</p>	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In regard to each point highlighted under this heading: Caerphilly CBC is facing unprecedented

	<p>savings, cuts to staffing levels, salaries and bonuses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking fees should be introduced to council car parks and for their employees and councillors. • Money currently spent on unnecessary Welsh translations. • Reduce the management of the parks – grass cutting and plant maintenance and tree management should only take place as and when required. • Leisure events were previously held at Pen-Y-Fan ponds and should be reinstated. • Imposing charges on the anti-social and lazy members of society. • Cut back on unnecessary banners and awful municipal art. • Work with local police to remove illegally park cars on double yellow lines and in bus bays etc 	<p>4 Letters</p> <p>1 Letter</p> <p>1 Letter</p> <p>1 Letter</p> <p>1 Letter</p> <p>1 Letter</p>		<p>financial pressure as a result of UK Government funding cuts. The council is currently investigating a number of options to address budgetary constraints.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gwent Police are responsible for the enforcement of all
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	<p>lines and in bus bays etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impose charging scheme upon dog owners that do not clean up after their dog - Charge dog owners that leave dog waste on site by installing a number of cameras. Or a member of staff should be on hand, to hand out dog bags and fine people on the spot for not cleaning up after their dog. 	2 Letters		<p>enforcement of all parking restrictions within Caerphilly County Borough.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog owners are responsible for cleaning up after their own dog. The council currently employ officers that have responsibilities for such things.
Discrimination against the elderly and disabled	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The elderly and disabled enjoy using these sites, as there is currently free parking adjacent to countryside walks. No facilities at the majority of these sites. 	15 Letters 6 Letters	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect on visitor numbers will be monitored and impact assessed in the 2014/2015 financial year. Access to the country parks will remain free to all and the introduction of the scheme is necessary in order to safeguard current facilities. There are a variety of facilities at the country parks and the scheme

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disabled blue badge holders are entitled to free parking for 3 hours on double yellow lines, why should they pay £1 to use the parks. 	1 Letter		<p>will safeguard them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue badge holders are able to park on double yellow lines for three hours, provided that their car is not parked dangerously or causing an obstruction. However, such exemptions do not apply to off-street car parks within the borough.
No alternatives to driving to the parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The location of the country parks means that the majority of the users have use their cars to get to them 	10 Letters	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of country parks are accessible via public transport.
Improved facilities at country parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it lead to longer opening hours of public conveniences? More bins and dog bins be provided. The country parks should be litter free. 	2 Letters 6 Letters 2 Letters	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No, this scheme will safeguard the facilities currently offered. Not related to car parking scheme. However, there are 32 dog bins provided within the five country parks. Litter is collected regularly at the country

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be marked parking spaces, and users should not have to park in the mud. • Will the profits be reinvested into the country parks. • People expect protection of their cars if they are paying to park. • Comment: Minimal maintenance and removal of litter and emptying of dog-foul bins currently takes place. 	<p>2 Letters</p> <p>3 Letters</p> <p>2 Letters</p> <p>4 Letters</p>		<p>parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of car parks are surfaced and those, which are not, are made up from alternative hard surfacing/grass-crete and provide adequate parking. There is no requirement for all parking spaces to be marked. • The scheme will safeguard the facilities currently offered. • Drivers park at their own risk. However, the proposal will increase the presence of countryside rangers in car parks. • Litter is collected regularly by countryside rangers and dog foul bins are emptied by the environmental services department.

<p>Call for outdoor space – development spreading</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and residents will be denied the opportunity to enjoy open space and the beauty of the countryside. Development means there is less and less open space for residents to enjoy. 	<p>8 Letters</p>	<p>Make Order as advertised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to the country parks will remain free to all and the introduction of the scheme is necessary in order to safeguard current facilities.
<p>Contrary to national/Local Policy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scheme conflicts with the council's policies encouraging people to get out and exercise. • Contrary to Caerphilly's Health and Wellbeing Policy • Contrary to the Single Integrated Plan and one of its aim to get people more active. 	<p>4 Letters 2 Letters 1 Letter</p>	<p>Make Order as advertised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to all points raised in this section. Access to the country parks will remain free to all and the introduction of the scheme is necessary in order to safeguard current facilities offered.
<p>Cwmcarn – Charging scheme</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The introduction of a similar scheme in Cwmcarn has led to residents not visiting. • Cwmcarn has had millions spent on it and provides lots of facilities including a café and toilets. The country parks have almost no facilities in comparison. 	<p>6 Letters</p>	<p>Make Order as advertised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effect on visitor numbers has been monitored and visitor numbers have increased. • Different country parks provide a range of experiences and facilities. The scheme will safeguard the facilities currently offered.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The car parks at Cwmcarn are often full, however this is due to the mountain bikers 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comments noted.
Media attention associated with Chief Executive's pay rise etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The pay scandal associated with the Chief Executive and other senior members of staff. 	5 Letters	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comments unrelated to proposals of introducing car parking charges in country parks.
Next election	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councillors must realise that the residents of this county borough vote and will consider their choices in future elections 	4 Letters	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The scheme was approved as part of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and is reported to the council's cabinet.
Used European Funding to create the open spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comment: Funding was used to form these open spaces. If European funding was used or other external funding, it may be unlawful to profit from charges 	2 Letters	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The facilities provided at each country park will remain, allowing open access Not the case, the income from the scheme will safeguard current facilities, similarly to other facilities.
Parking order notices not sufficient	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A number of the parking order notices providing details were too low and almost impossible to read. 	2 Letters	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The notices displayed followed the legal requirements and is the common method

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They do not make it clear whether the season ticket will cover all the car parks stated. 	1 Letter		<p>for advertising proposed parking orders. Notices were erected at suitable locations and the proposals were also advertised in the press as well as on the Caerphilly website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The season ticket covers all car parks highlighted on the proposed parking order.
When will the fees be increased?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the scheme is brought in, when will the fees be increased. 	1 Letter	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not known, they are not intended to be increased but will be monitored and reviewed and kept in line with the council's financial planning.
Only rectified the problems from heavy industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment: Long endured the spoils of heavy industry. 	2 Letters	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The facilities provided at each country park will remain, allowing open access.
Fishing Clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing club operate on a not for profit basis, even with the £50 season ticket, it represents a significant increase and will result in 	2 Letters	Make Order as advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The charging rate is considered reasonable. The option of purchasing a

	<p>the loss of membership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing club lease fishing rights and should be exempt from the charges. 			<p>season ticket will also be offered as part of the scheme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The charges apply to all and considered reasonable. The fishing lease relates exclusively to the right for fishing.
<p>Charges should only apply to weekdays</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the charges are to be introduced, they should only be applicable to weekdays in order to allow families to enjoy the parks at weekends. 	<p>1 Letter</p>	<p>Make Order as advertised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The charges will apply on weekends as well on weekdays, as advertised.

Individual letters of Objection

Objection	Type of Objection	Objector	Recommendation	Reason
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RTRA is not the most appropriate form of legislation and the procedure used is concerning. • Will continue to seek free parking and there is enough space including parking on the verges to accommodate the demand without using the official car parks. This will cause inconvenience to residents in the area. • Will continue to use the council office car park at Penallta House, when visiting Penallta country park. • Parc Cwm Darran used to be a lovely place to fish until CCBC officers let most of the fish out. The country parks will continue to attract occasional and regular visitors, although it is feared that numbers will greatly decrease. 	<p>One letter and two emails to Legal Services and Traffic Management</p>	<p>Local Resident</p>	<p>Make order as advertised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is the appropriate legislation. • The impact of any displaced parking will need to be monitored and where necessary introduce parking restrictions. • The car park at Penallta House is a public car park. The impact upon this facility will be monitored and assessed following implementation. • The fish issue is unrelated to car parking charges. The Effect on visitor numbers will be monitored and impact assessed in the 2014/2015 financial year.

- The fishing clubs were not consulted on this matter, the annual parking fee is approximately double the membership fee.

Financial Justification - Income and Expenditure at Penallta CP

- Aerial photographs on a dry day showed 12 cars parked in the main car park.
- Based on the assumption that only 4 would pay to park with each paying £1 and was repeated for 10 hours on a dry day the income would be £40.00
- With the average of £30 a day the total income would be £11,000 although the likely income would actually be approximately £5,000 and if VAT is deducted it will be £1,000 less.

- The proposals were advertised in the local press and on site as legally required. The car parking charges are not related to the fishing club membership fee.

- Financial projections have been based upon previous monitoring of the car parks at the country parks. Based on the existing visitor numbers it has been estimated that an annual income of £85,000 is likely to be generated. However, the exact level of income will not be known until the scheme becomes operational.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The installation of three machines would cost £12,000 with it being written off over a 10 year period, £1,200 a year. Whilst machine maintenance, tickets and cash collection would be £1,500 approximately a year • Considerable signing would be required, which would detract from the beauty of the country parks, and would cost approximately £5,000, with £250 being written off over 20 years. • Total cost would be £4,000 and the annual net income could be £1,000 (less than £3 a day), it could be more but it could actually be negative. • It is unacceptable to charge residents £5,000 a year to obtain a risky net income of only £1,000, with a capital 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The capital investment costs were funded from the 2013/14 budget. • Signage will be integrated into the country parks, although remaining visible as signage is a necessary element of the scheme. • Based on the existing visitor numbers it has been estimated that an annual income of £85,000 is likely to be generated. However, the exact level of income will not be known until the scheme becomes operational. • The council have undertaken surveys and projected based on their outcome.
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<p>spend of around £17,000, plus staff and other costs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The parks contribute to and benefit good health and a value should be attached to these benefits. 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The facilities provided at each country park will remain, allowing open access.
<p>The communities in Fochriw and Pentwyn are isolated and Parc Cwm Darran is the only open space they have access to and charges would place financial restrictions on the amount of time and frequency of visiting the park.</p> <p><u>Transport</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main access is by car as bus services are limited and the cost of taking a family on the bus would also be restrictive. <p><u>Enjoyment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the proposed Nant Llesg open cast mine is approved, PCD will be the only refuge residents have from noise and dust for the next 20 years. The park offers residents a 	<p>A letter of Objection</p>	<p>Fochriw and Pentwyn Residents Association</p>	<p>Make order as advertised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The facilities provided at each country park will remain, allowing open access and charges are considered reasonable. Alternative open spaces are also available in the area. The majority of country parks are accessible via public transport. Access to the country parks will remain free to all and the introduction of the scheme is necessary in order to safeguard

<p>free open place to enjoy wildlife and the countryside.</p> <p><u>Health</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used by residents for dog walking, playing areas for children, general relaxation and exercise. • The area suffers from health issues including obesity in both adults and children. • The proposal will discourage physical activity in the local population. • CCBC and Welsh Government have encouraged residents to lead more active lifestyles. • Childhood obesity is dangerously high and placing a financial barrier will prevent parents taking action. • The charges will mean many will not visit. <p><u>Local and National Policy</u></p>				<p>current facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to the points raised under health: Effect on visitor numbers will be monitored and impact assessed in the 2014/2015 financial year. Access to the country parks will remain free to all and the introduction of the scheme is necessary in order to safeguard current facilities.
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This undermines the principles of several local and national policies and plans. Most aim to give residents access to open spaces and to lead healthier lifestyles. The Darran Valley ward is and Objective 1 ward and high up on the WIMD. <p>The proposals relate to the following policies:</p> <p>The CCBC Countryside Strategy; SP1 And SP11 of the LDP; Creating an Active CCBC; Health, Social Care and Well-Being Strategy 2011-14; Living environment Strategy 2007-12 Children and Young People's Plan 2011-14; The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act; One Wales; Our Healthy Future; Climbing Higher: The Welsh Assembly Government: strategy for sport and physical activity; Creating an Active Wales; Walking and Cycling Strategy for Wales and Action Plan; Food and Fitness: Promoting Healthy Eating and Physical Activity for Children and Young People in Wales; Welsh</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no policies that state that free parking facilities should be provided. The introduction of this scheme will safeguard the facilities currently provided at the country parks and ensure that they remain open, providing free access for all.
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<p>Assembly Government Play Policy, PPW TAN 16 Sport, Recreation and Open Space.</p> <p><u>Financial Implications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The car parks are not currently used enough to warrant investment in this scheme • The footfall will decrease and will impact the potential revenue of the café at PCD • Did the council carry out any form of consultation with residents or park users? • The capital investment in machines and signage and the associated running costs will not generate a significant 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the existing visitor numbers it has been estimated that an annual income of £85,000 is likely to be generated. However, the exact level of income will not be known until the scheme becomes operational. • Effect on visitor numbers and members will be monitored and impact assessed in the 2014/2015 financial year. • Consultation was carried out in accordance with the statutory requirements. • Based on the existing visitor numbers it has been estimated that an annual income of £85,000
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<p>return.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents will travel to other authorities to use their facilities. 				<p>is likely to be generated. However, the exact level of income will not be known until the scheme becomes operational. The scheme will largely be managed and operated using existing staff and resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect on visitor numbers will be monitored and impact assessed in the 2014/2015 financial year. Access to the country parks will remain free to all and the introduction of the scheme is necessary in order to safeguard current facilities.
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