**Email received from Wealden on Thursday 13th February 2020**

Dear Victoria

Thanks for your email, albeit I am slightly taken aback at the tone and content. In particular I’d ask you to reflect on the wording in your final paragraph and consider whether that is helpful to constructive partnership working.

Just to be clear, there is no reluctance to answer questions but if you refer to earlier emails you will see that the vast majority of questions you have posed have been answered.

I also understand that you have had discussions with my officers about the car park and that you have agreed a date of 6th April as being the effective date of transfer. It seems therefore that you have accepted the decision and on a practical level, are moving forward with implementing it. You email approach does seem at odds with that.

Nevertheless, to try and draw a line under this, I can advise as follows:

i) what documents and/or materials your committee had to assist you in the decision making process; - see my emails of 6th & 14th  Jan below. If they are not clear, we considered the information you submitted alongside a cost analysis of the two options together with a report from officers.

ii) whether we can have copies of said documents and/or materials; - these are internal documents that were for our Asset Management Group

iii) the detail of what other options were considered by you; - see email of 14th Jan. If that isn’t clear, I can clarify that we considered carrying on with the current arrangement versus taking the management of the car park back in house.

iv) what is meant by “in the best interests of the wider residents of Wealden” as set out in your email as a reason for your decision; - I disagree with you that these words are meaningless.

v) the extent to which the fact that you already manage other car parks in Wealden influenced your decision; - see my email of 14th Jan below

vi) why you have concluded that the same standards you allude to in your email could not be met by APC’s continued management of the car parks; - I am unclear about the point you are seeking to make here

vii) what WDC’s intention (short and long term) is vis a vis keeping open the public toilets in both car parks; - see my email of 28th Jan

viii) whether WDC intend for charge for parking in the Willows post 1st April; - see my email of 28th Jan

ix) if the answer is ‘yes’ to viii) above, how you say that fits within WDC’s policy not to charge for parking owned/managed by WDC within Wealden; - As you know, the charges at the Alfriston (and Pevensey) car parks are only possible due to Wealden agreeing and approving the charges through our car parking order and fees and charges register. It is not correct therefore to imply that continuing with that arrangement does not fit with our current policy. For a number of years now, Wealden’s policy has been to charge for the tourist car parks at Alfriston and Pevensey.

x) whether any consideration was given to engagement with APC before finalising you’re decision; and – we did engage with APC. This was clarified in my emails of 6th, 14th & 28th Jan

xi) to what extent was there consultation with our local Cllr, Cllr Lunn, before your decision was taken. – see email from Cllr Lunn

I trust that the above helps the Parish Council and that we can now move forward with this matter.

Kind regards

Trevor