

## **Agenda Item –**

### **Free short-stay parking in Keynsham**

To be moved by a Member of the Conservative Group

#### **Council notes:**

- That in answer to a Cabinet Question tabled in May 2012, the Cabinet Member for Transport stated: *'The implementation of free parking in Keynsham is not currently being considered during the redevelopment of the town centre.'* But that: *'Consideration, however, is being given to the duration of stay within each car park as part of the regeneration project to ensure that there is a balance of short and long stay parking available to all visitors in both the short and long term.'*

#### **Council believes:**

- That during the current difficult economic climate, the Council should be taking whatever action it reasonably can to support local businesses.
- That the period of demolition and redevelopment of Keynsham town centre will be a time of significant disruption for the town's residents and High Street businesses and will result in the loss of some free short-stay parking, and that during this period the Council should be doing whatever it can to support the High Street.
- That the completion of the Keynsham Tesco store and its accompanying car park allows for greater flexibility in the times of operation than was previously possible at the Council-run car parks, in particular at Ashton Way car park.
- That a period of free parking in town centres helps to support the local economy and the vitality of the High Street, as highlighted in the recent Portas Report.
- That the creation of free short-stay parking at Ashton Way car park will prove beneficial to the local economy and support Keynsham High Street, and that the creation of more long-stay parking spaces would help ease problems with residential parking on neighbouring roads.

#### **Council resolves:**

- To request that Cabinet investigate and seek to implement, on a trial basis throughout the town centre redevelopment, two hours' free parking at Ashton Way car park. Such arrangement to be alongside the creation of a number of chargeable long-stay parking spaces at

Ashton Way car park, so as to reduce parking pressure on nearby residential roads and mitigate the cost of free short-stay parking.