

ARGYLL STREET SURGERY – DISABLED ACCESS AND PARKING FACILITY

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report updates the Committee on the issues related to the present status of parking provision in association with Argyll St. Surgery Dunoon.

Development of a specific parking facility for the surgery was discussed at previous Business Days but any progress was held in abeyance until the conclusion of the Dunoon Joint Campus options appraisal process.

No progress has been possible in the intervening period, since the decision to retain the three separate education sites in Dunoon, due to other departmental commitments.

Clarity is required on the future of Parking Policy and the provision of “free” spaces to independent organisations out with the control of the Council.

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 The provision of a specific parking facility for Argyll St. Surgery has been discussed at several Business days. Concerns were raised regarding the present facility, utilising Jane Villa car park opposite and the distance disabled users had to travel to enter the surgery.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The committee direct officers to hold all further design work in abeyance until the parking review workshops, scheduled for autumn / winter 2014.

4.0 DETAIL

4.1 There are historical agreements in place, where designated parking bays in Jane Villa car park are set aside for doctors and patients attending the surgery. This arrangement has been in operation for several years, since the Practice moved into the new building and bays are marked accordingly.

4.2 The distance to the crossing point at John St and then back to the Surgery has been a source of frequent complaint. The surgery was developed without the necessary parking facilities and the surrounding land is under the ownership of the Council under various portfolios.

4.3 Proposals were put to a previous business day on alternative treatments on the surgery side of Argyll St. to allow access onto the land to the north of the surgery. Two proposals were put forward:-

- # A 1:12 disabled ramp access from new laybys and realigned footway.
- # A new access road and car park, with level access to the surgery.

Estimated costs were tentatively put between £31k and £47k but no budget within Roads and Amenity Services has been identified, which could be used to provide this facility to a private organization, out with Council control.

4.4 Improvements to assets owned by the Council including the recently replaced John St traffic light crossing points and the proposed improvements to Jane Villa car park, may improve the operation of the existing arrangement.

4.5 The impending Argyll and Bute Parking Policy paper, Elected Members Seminar and Area based Workshops may have an influence on the future of the present arrangements, with regard to the continued provision of free parking spaces.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The provision of a parking facility, by the Council, for a privately run organization is a subject requiring clarification for future consistency within a Council wide Parking Policy. No further movement on planning or delivery of any proposed schemes will be practicable until after this issue is confirmed.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

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| 6.1 | Policy | Future Parking Policy awaited, to provide guidance. |
| 6.2 | Financial | No maintenance related budget available to provide this facility. |
| 6.3 | Legal | None. |
| 6.4 | HR | None |
| 6.5 | Equalities | None |
| 6.6 | Risk | None. |
| 6.7 | CS | None |

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