

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY

Bryan Sweetland - Cabinet Member for Environment,
Highways and Waste

DECISION NO.

12/01957

Unrestricted

Subject: Pitch Fee for New Coldharbour Lane Gypsy & Traveller Site

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways & Waste, I agree to the implementation of a £65 per week pitch fee at the new Coldharbour Lane Gypsy & Traveller Site (under the Mobile Homes Act 1983).

Reason(s) for decision

The new Coldharbour Lane Gypsy & Traveller site is currently being constructed and will be available for occupation early in 2013, the £65 weekly fee will cover the site maintenance costs and repayment of a significant proportion of the prudential borrowing needed to build the site. This fee will be increased from £44.50 per week due to the major improvement, complete redevelopment and expansion of the site to offer new facilities and amenities.

The adjustment to the weekly fee will take effect from the handover of each new pitch on the new site, or 1 April 2013 for existing pitch occupiers, subject to consultation under the Mobile Homes Act 1983.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation

On 20 September 2012 the Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee recommended that the Cabinet Member approve the new £65 per week pitch fee for the new Coldharbour site.

Consultation over the design of the new site has taken place with current occupiers, and they will be consulted over the proposed increase to the pitch fee.

Any alternatives considered:

Maintaining the original pitch fee was not considered to be a viable option owing to the maintenance and management costs of the site and the need to repay prudential borrowing to pay for the site (of which this will meet a portion).

A higher fee was not considered to be necessary. £65 would meet the needs of the Council and not be unduly onerous on those renting pitches.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

None

Supporting Documents:

Communities and Local Government Guide to the Mobile Homes Act:
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/pdf/2072956.pdf>

'Pitch Fee for New Coldharbour Lane Gypsy & Traveller Site' EHW Cabinet Committee report – 20 September 2012

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/s34101/Item%20B1%20%20COLDHARBOUR%20FINAL%20V%20USE.pdf>



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