



**Glossopdale Area Forum  
Glossopdale Community College, Hadfield Site  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2007  
Topic: Regenerating Glossopdale**

Questions and Answers

**Following the presentation on Glossop Vision Update and Pavement Improvements in Glossop:**

**Question 1: From a representative of High Street Retailers**

There has been significant disruption of Glossop High Street since March due to Gas pipe improvements and Traffic light alterations. Businesses have been suffering due to problems with on street parking, mess on roads etc and this is now being followed by footpath work by Glossop Vision. Smaller shops say that people are not coming to Glossop due to these difficulties and if Council wants to support local retailers then the council should suspend the expensive off street car parking until the work is completed and this will help put confidence back in the high street. I have brought a petition of 700 signatures that want something done about the parking. Please consider this.

**Answer: Dai Larner (HPBC):**

We are conscious of the issues faced by businesses. The reason that the pavement improvement work is being done is to try and improve the town centre so more people will shop there.

HPBC officers have been talking to businesses to keep them informed of progress of the work.

In respect of car parking: We are willing to receive the petition. One issue we have to consider is the revenue that we receive as a result of charging for parking and the shortfall that would occur if we cut car park fees.

We will look at the request that has been made.

**Question 2: From High Street Retailer.**

Why is there free car parking in Whaley Bridge, New Mills?

**Answer: Dai Larner (HPBC)**

We levy Car Park charges in New Mills and the council is in the process of reviewing its car parking charges.

**Question 3: From High Street Retailer**

Can you provide a breakdown of the costs of providing the car parks in Glossop. Some years ago I asked this question. What profit is made from the management of the car parks? Can this be provided?

**Answer: Dai Larner (HPBC)**

There are various costs involved in maintaining and providing ticketing machines and enforcement and a surplus is generated. The net income to the Council is £580,000 which is used to keep down council tax rises and invest in services.

**Supplementary: High Street Retailer.**

My staff buy season tickets for off street parking but could not find anywhere to park recently. They counted 30 cars with HPBC permits on Edward Street car park.

**Answer: Dai Larner (HPBC)**

In response to requests from residents we have informed staff that Municipal buildings car park is to be kept free from use by council employees whilst the work to Howard Town Mill is completed. This has resulted in staff using Edward St. car park.

**Supplementary: High Street Retailer.**

Are the council employees taxed on the provision of car parking as a benefit?

**Answer: Dai Larner (HPBC)**

Car park passes are only available to employees for whom access to a car is an essential part of their job (for example, planning officers, environmental health officers and building control officers). It is not a taxable benefit.

**Resident comment:**

I don't come into Glossop as it costs to park.

**Question 4: From George Street Retailer:** On Street car parking enforcement.

There appears to be no enforcement of the regulations covering limited stay for on street parking. Why is this? The Police have suggested that Derbyshire County Council should be contacted when I have made enquiries with them. Traffic wardens do not exist now. Why are the police not enforcing these regulations?

In 13 yrs the number of people shopping in the high street and adjoining shops has fallen.

**Answer: Inspector Stuart Thompson (Derbyshire Police):**

It is currently the responsibility of the police to enforce these regulations. This enforcement has to be balanced with other local issues and I have to allocate resources as appropriate. Parking is a lower level priority than other crime related policing at present. 2 traffic wardens have been redeployed as PCSO's in Glossop. We have one traffic warden who covers the area from Ashbourne to Glossop. This means that they are seen less frequently in any one area.

The responsibility for enforcement of parking regulations will transfer to Derbyshire County Council in the near future.

**Dia Larner (HPBC) :**

We are discussing the issue of civil parking enforcement with DCC with a view to this commencing in 2008

**Question 4 supplementary:**

Who pays the salaries of traffic wardens?

**Answer: Detective Chief Inspector Sam Slack:**

Traffic Warden's have been changed to PCSO's due to Government priorities in response to residents wishes to have more community based policing. Uniformed enforcement in communities was seen as a priority over Traffic Wardens therefore some funding comes from Government and some from Derbyshire Police for these new posts.

**Comment from J Hart (Head Teacher Glossopdale Community College):**

I have seen positive support from the Police with the new system in dealing with anti social behaviour in particular.

**Question 5 From Councillor G Oakley:**

We now have very few trees in the centre of Glossop and I was surprised to see some removed from the triangle of land adjoining the steps up to the Co-op building as part of the Glossop Vision improvements.

How could contractors cut three trees down by mistake?

**Answer: D Larner (HPBC)**

The contractors had got clear plans of which trees were to be removed and 3 were to be kept. They misread the plans and have apologised and have agreed to replace the trees. We took the Contractor taken to task on this and can only apologise on behalf of the contractor.

The replacement trees will be of a suitable size that will not be damaged in the short term whilst they become fully established.

**Question 6: From Representative of Glossop Environmental Trust.**

Have HPBC/DCC got an integrated transport policy? This would address the issue of alternatives to cars and also help in considering how to attract visitors to do something in Glossop other than shop.

**Answer: Dai Larnar (HPBC)**

One of our regeneration schemes, Woods Mill will provide mixed use in a sustainable location close to the train and bus routes.

We work closely with DCC on their integrated transport plan and we have already had useful discussions on integration. We will be looking at this issue later this evening as part of the exercise in 'Shaping High Peak'.

**Answer: Neil Hickman ( DCC Highways)**

DCC has got an Integrated Transport Plan. We work closely with HPBC and want to support their regeneration in Glossop. We try to provide alternative transport to cars.

**Comment from resident:**

Many people do not know what all the Glossop Vision work is about. Are there plans available?

**Answer: Dai Larnar (HPBC)**

We have consulted on the proposals and had exhibitions, used the press etc to inform residents, we will try to continue to communicate via the press.

Local people have been actively involved in the current solutions.

For information: The current Glossop Vision Plans can be viewed on the HPBC website:

[www.highpeak.gov.uk/neighbourhood/glossopvision](http://www.highpeak.gov.uk/neighbourhood/glossopvision)

**Question 7: From Resident:**

Will parking attendants under the new system only work around towns or elsewhere in the boroughs?

**Answer: Dai Larnar (HPBC):**

Individual Boroughs will manage where the attendants will operate.

**Question 8: From Representative of Derbyshire Coalition for Inclusive Living,**

Is the pavement from the Market Place to High Street being renewed?

**Answer Dai Larnar (HPBC):**

It is part of the current work but it is being reviewed due to the quality of the work that has been completed.

**Response:** It is not well designed and is undulating. The materials being used may be an issue.

**Supplementary:**

Is equality being built into the 'Shaping High Peak' Plans for 2026?

**Answer: Dai Larnar (HPBC)**

We will do. We take equality seriously and are endeavoring to ensure that we consult with all groups such as Access groups on these plans.

**Question 9: From High Street Retailer:**

Were the Market Street flags the first phase of the improvement works? If so, then the quality of the work needs to be properly supervised to ensure that all the work is of the required standard.

**Answer D Lerner (HPBC):**

We will not be happy until the quality is what we expect.

**End of questions**