

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - ECONOMY
14 NOVEMBER 2013

PUBLIC QUESTION UNDER STANDING ORDER 19

The Cathedral and Quay car park currently closes at 10pm. we would like consideration to be given to it closing at 11.00pm or even 10.30 p.m. would help. Whilst this is only a small difference, an hour or even half an hour, would make a considerable difference to the residents of Exeter and visitors to our City wanting to attend events/concerts/theatre within the area and enjoy all that the City has to offer in the evenings.

We would therefore like to ask that as part of the work that Exeter City Council are doing, looking into Night time economy and the development of the Quayside, would you as the portfolio holder please look into the viability of extending the opening hours of the Quay car park bringing them in line with other car parks within the City of Exeter .

Reply

The Portfolio Holder for Economy and Culture thanked Mr and Mrs Poad for the question. She highlighted a number of car parks in the area that could also be used when visiting city centre venues. Although the Cathedral and Quay car park had spare capacity, she addressed the matter of the closing time, advising that regular occurrences of anti-social behaviour and vandalism in the past had influenced the decision to close.

Members considered a number of well documented issues relating to this car park and requested that any extension of the opening hours should take into account the possibility of an increased level of disturbance to local residents. They hoped that local residents would be appropriately consulted. A Member, who was also the Ward Councillor for St David's ward suggested that the name of the car park could appear to be misleading, and was in some way associated with the Cathedral. She was also aware of a number of instances of minor but aggravating issues in the area.

Members requested that the issue raised by Mr and Mrs Poad over the closing time of the Cathedral and Quay car park should be included in a review of car parking in the city.

Members noted that the issue of the closing time and other aspects of the Cathedral and Quay car park would be included in a review of car parking in the city, which had already commenced.