

BUDGET 2011/12 – CONSULTATION RESPONSES

1. Consideration needs to be given to scrapping Parish councils. Although Parish councillors are volunteers and most never claim expenses the clerk is a paid post. As a FORMER Parish councillor, the Parish council have few if any powers and 99% of all actions are referred to the City or County for a response or action. Surely the public could approach the City or the County directly. This may not be within your capacity for action, but surely it should be flagged up to central government as it is just a tier of government that is not efficient, and economies of scale must surely play a part if all parish land and duties (where there are any) are transferred to the City.. As part of the big society surely 2 tiers of government are enough.

2. Further to the message from Alison Taylor below, I would like to respond by saying I fully support the ending of the purple sack scheme for collecting domestic rubbish, thereby saving the City Council £30,000 per annum.

The current scheme is wasteful as it delivers a minimum number of purple sacks to every household whether they need them all that week or not.

I believe it would be more efficient (and obviously cheaper for the Council, given this predicted saving) to let people buy their own bin bags (and not stipulate that they must be purple), so only the number of bags that are needed are manufactured. The time taken to deliver the sacks by the City Council will also be saved.

More vision and imagination is needed to get the recycling rate up from 50% (and reduce the cost of waste collection further), such as a national deposit scheme on bottles, cans and cartons where people would receive cash for returning their empties to designated collection points. This would also dramatically reduce the litter problem.

3. I have one or two ideas for MAKING money from existing facilities.

We in the zone A parking zone, have been campaigning to get Residents only Parking due to pressures on our zone from the college, Academy and various other schools, making it impossible to park near our homes, on which we pay very high council tax.

If we were to get Residents only parking, and in fact if other city centre areas were given the same, it would force shoppers to use the city car parks where

they would have to pay this would increase revenues, and help towards the deficit you have with the County Council.

Alternatively, parking charges on our streets would again encourage shoppers to either use public transport or park in the city centre parks - not on our streets.

All other cities in the UK have residents only, or mixed charge/residents only parking.... only Carlisle doesn't.

These proposals will also enable more Wardens to be employed to police illegal parking, disk clocking etc etc., which we have to suffer in zone A, because no one comes to stick tickets on the offenders.

Penrith is a good example of how to cash in on parking.

Comments would be appreciated.