



Notes from the Wales Group Regional Meeting

Held on 13 July 2011
At Ladywell House, Newtown, Powys.

With thanks to sponsors Keltic Clothing, Liberty Services & Excel Civil Enforcement Ltd

Item	Notes	Action Points
1.	<p>Apologies Colin Jones (Gwynedd) Patrick Troy (BPA) Arlette Brown (BPA)</p>	
2.	<p>Welcome and notes from previous meeting</p> <p>Peter Lowe (PL) welcomed all to the Wales Group Regional Meeting. PL commented that it is extremely positive that the Group has a varied and substantial agenda to work through at today's meeting.</p> <p>Sincere thanks were expressed to Keltic Clothing, Liberty Services & Excel Civil Enforcement Ltd as the supporters for today's meeting and the forthcoming year for the Wales Group.</p> <p>Previous meeting notes were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graham Brown's presidential year came to an end on 6th July and he has been succeeded by Paul Necus as BPA president for 2011/2012. Paul hopes to visit the Wales Group in the near future. • Parking Practice Note about using local courts for pursuance of debts – still being considered. • Queries surrounding legislation for dog fouling is on-going. • Welsh Government cannot introduce blanket ban on pavement parking (powers not devolved). Individual LA's can introduce TRO if required. 	
3.	<p>Open Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Derek McEwan, Denbighshire <p>Denbighshire County Council (DCC) are currently considering piloting use of ANPR within off- street car parks. DCC are considering the pros/cons of data collection and surveillance, and need to be sure that evidence collected satisfies legal requirements i.e. 'approved devices' and TPT demands. Need to have clear guidance on systems and procedures. Approval covers entire system not just camera.</p> <p>Use of ANPR could allow more effective use of CEO's and could be useful for LA's who have car parks to manage that are considerable distance away from main hub. Welsh Government will be making legislation in 2012. Feasibility</p>	

	<p>details from DCC will feed in. Welsh Government will adjust regulations/legislation if needed but need proof of concept from start to finish first.</p> <p>Some discussion ensued around the subject area.</p>	
4.	<p>Presentation from Jeremy Frost – National Anti Fraud Network (NAFN)</p> <p>Jeremy welcomed the invitation to talk with the Wales Regional Group.</p> <p>NAFN are a local authority geared service, focused around data and intelligence. Corporate membership therefore the whole LA can access service. Access is through a secure website etc. NAFN provides a service to pursue foreign registered vehicles in their own country. There is no fee to do this but if they find the owner and obtain payment they will charge a commission fee plus fee for identifying owner. (This may be of interest to LA's as 'Sparks' project is unlikely to progress as UK not signed European directive to 'share data')</p> <p>http://www.nafn.gov.uk/ for more information if required.</p>	
5.	<p>Presentation from Lynn Witham – Council Member for BPA</p> <p>Lynn advised that BPA recently launched Master Plans for England, Scotland and Wales. The BPA will review the Master Plan on annual basis with rolling objectives.</p> <p>Wales Master Plan 2011 includes such aspirations as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent appeals service for entire private parking sector • Improvement of accuracy of DVLA data • PCN levy set to ensure compliance • Standard PCN & associated documents across Wales for LA's operating CPE • Improvement of CEO protection <p>It was noted that Wales Masterplan has been produced by BPA HQ. Neither Welsh Government nor BPA members have been consulted. It was commented that the Masterplan should represent the Group views therefore in future it would be a positive move if BPA engages with its members in Wales to develop a meaningful Welsh Masterplan. Comments were also made about the number of aspirational objectives and if there were too many to progress within 1 year.</p> <p>Considerable discussion centred on the issue of CEO protection. Concerns were raised that this issue was on the 2010 Masterplan and is still in place. Questions were asked if there had been any progress on this matter.</p> <p>The group agreed that it would be appropriate to have regular feedback at this meeting as to the progress of objectives contained within the Wales Master Plan.</p>	<p>BPA to provide feedback accordingly for Group meeting.</p>
6.	<p>Presentation from Simon Williams – Representative from Healthcare Parking Special Interest Group</p>	

	<p>Simon Williams (SW) gave an overview of issues faced by Healthcare establishments in relation to parking provision. The removal of charges on 1/4/2008 in Wales caused a number of concerns and issues i.e. 'first come first served' / loss of income & impact on services etc. There is a need to consider conflicting demands from staff/visitors & patients – often staff are the biggest abusers of parking. It is very difficult to find solutions that work for all users. Discussions focused around opportunities for local authorities to work with healthcare sites. SW indicated that he was sure that such an approach would be welcomed in that sector.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Presentation from Lynn Witham – Council member for BPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Executive Update Publication of the Government's Freedom Bill in February 2011 incorporated plans for a total ban on clamping and removals from private land 'without lawful authority' included proposals for keeper liability. Patrick Troy has given evidence to the Bills Committee on this and has also submitted amendments to the Bill via Ministers. Expectation that BPA will deliver an independent appeals service before Government will make regulations on keeper liability. Drawing evidence together to support call for review of PCN levy outside London and for the implementation of the moving traffic powers. • Approved Operator Scheme Currently 161 members of the scheme. Complaints are increasing however there are standard letters and a clear process for dealing with public complaints. Recently expelled two members. List of approved operators is on the BPA website. • BPA Annual Conference The BPA Annual Conference is on 29th September 2011. Good response for call for papers. Theme: '<i>The Lean Green Parking Machine: smarter ways to efficient parking management that doesn't cost the earth</i>'. Talks/masterclass etc. Brochure to be circulated – early bird booking discount available. • Scottish Exhibition Exhibition alongside the Autumn meeting of the Scottish Regional Group on 25th October. Further details to follow. • TEC Liason Group Due to be established in next few months – Wales Representative required. • Futures Group (BPA internal group) To consider the way BPA is structured and how to move forward. The group will report to BPA Council in September. Also looking at rejuvenating Northern Ireland group, working with Irish Parking Association. • Healthcare SIG Recently held a meeting – next meeting to be a joint meeting in London. • Parkex 2012 At National Hall, Olympia London 17-18 April 2012. • Local Authority Special Interest Group Next meeting 13th September – venue TBC. Will be joined by Structures and Asset Management SIG. • Members Dinner November 30th 2011 at Drapers Hall, London – more details to follow. 	<p>Wales Group Rep required</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPA website <p>Members can create own profile – can then select their preferences in terms of information they receive. Greater range of online services over the coming year. BPA actively using social media such as Twitter and Facebook.</p> <p>A comment was raised that many of the events are London based. It was discussed at BPA Council where it was decided all events remain based around London. However there was not a positive experience when PARKEX took place in Birmingham. It is recognised that events do need to move around. This is an on-going issue.</p>	
8.	<p>Presentation from Kelvin Reynolds – Representative for BPA</p> <p>Approved Operator Scheme: Spoke about tackling rogue operators on private land. Many are taking advantage of the public. This is currently dealt with through Trespass/Contract Law. There are many stakeholders in this industry i.e. Govnt/Home Office/DFT etc but no one in charge. Therefore this was an area identifies for future work.</p> <p>Considerable work to be undertaken for Freedoms Bill. (see Chief Executive Comments for more details of BPA involvement).</p> <p>ParkMark® Safer Parking Award: The scheme has evolved over a number of years and the current arrangement offers the best value & intuitive. Current membership stands at 4656 (149 sites in Wales). There is continual promotion of scheme and on-going development at various events. Chas Cannon (SPS Development Manager for Wales) indicated that there are 419 Park Mark accredited sites for the South West & South Wales.</p>	Feedback for North Wales to be provided by Area Manager
9.	<p>Presentation from Paul Kyte – Feedback from Bailiffs Special Interest Group</p> <p>Paul Kyte (PK) attended the BESIG in May 2011. There were a number of attendees including a Ministry of Justice representative. Many areas were discussed including ANPR operational requirements, Data transfer to/from TEC and TEC guidance, warrant reissues, secure emails and DVLA data.</p> <p>CASE: Andrews v’s Bolton may be of interest to members to review. Suggestions made for ‘best practice’. Next meeting is in August 2011.</p>	Paul Kyte to feedback from Aug BESIG meeting
10.	<p>Presentation from Colin Eaketts - Welsh Government (WG)</p> <p>Colin Eaketts (CE) gave an update on new Legislation/Regulations being considered by WG. CPE TMA Regulations are being reviewed and extended for moving traffic/approved devices/bus lane enforcement. Comments have been received from TPT and WG legal services are currently considering.</p> <p>CE indicated that there had been discussions about a standard PCN for Wales and</p>	Group

	<p>this is currently a 'work in progress'. There is general Local Authority support for this if it was progressed. To do so, they would need to check other associated documents and Regulations. WG would also consult with all LA's & TPT and may even involve consumer groups to ensure the proposed PCN 'user friendly'. CE would like assistance from group as this area of work progresses.</p> <p>Blue Badge Improvement Service (BBIS): A number of meetings have been held across Wales with Stakeholders, advising of the proposed changes to the scheme. A new badge will be launched for Spring 2012. Consultation on a number of issues is due to be circulated Summer 2011. All feedback is welcome on these consultations.</p> <p>The PCN levy was discussed and this is still an ongoing area of work. WG are sympathetic and if evidence could be provided they would consider the situation.</p> <p>Regarding dropped kerbs: only Pembrokeshire completing this. Powys are considering. Wales Penalty Processing Partnership (WPPP) have undertaken work for partnership regarding leaflet & policy. WG supportive as long as appropriate publicity is undertaken by LA's.</p>	<p>Members to assist as CE required</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Any Other Business (AOB)</p> <p>DVLA focus group: Peter Cawsey advised that the group met at beginning of June, as a subgroup of LASIG. They are engaging with DVLA and the Elise project is on target – existing links will cease by December 2011. There is ongoing work in other areas of concern. i.e. accuracy/ response time after 6 months etc.</p> <p>Liberty: Steve Martin from Liberty, advised that not only were Liberty synonymous with printing services but have been involved with outsourcing notice processing for over a decade. For further information of this service – contact Steve Martin.</p> <p>Overnight Bans for motorhomes/caravans: Issues in Ceredigion (currently not CPE) where the Local Authority receives a lot of complaints. However what can be done is limited and advice from other officers would be most welcome.</p> <p>Request for next meeting agenda item: electric charging points</p> <p>Peter Lowe indicated that the group discussions focused a lot around CPE issues. He is keen to have other members involved so please raise issues from other sectors. Thanks given to all guest speakers and again to group sponsors</p>	<p>Group to assist if able.</p> <p>BPA to arrange presentation for next meeting.</p>
	<p><u>Date of Next BPA Wales Group Regional Meeting: 17 November 2011</u></p> <p>Venue to be confirmed (likely to be Ladywell House Newtown)</p>	

