



Notes of the South West Group Meeting

Held on: 20th November 2014

At: The Ballroom, Torre Abbey Historic House, Kings Drive, Torquay

Item	Notes
1.	<p>Welcome, apologies and Notes of Previous Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Hurley introduced the meeting and has had a number of apologies sent to him which he will supply.
2.	<p>BPA updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alison Tooze gave an update on the various stakeholder groups (DVLA/TEC/Coins/CCTV/LA Best Practice) and dates and asked that anyone wishing to be involved should contact Dave Smith at the BPA. Parkex dates have been sent as 21st-23rd April 2015 at the NEC. • There is a project under way to research the research, pulling together various research projects that have been done recently. • AT went into detail regarding the AOS membership and the challenges that the rival trade association (IPC) has created. There is also a consultation underway regarding the AOS and making it truly independent of the BPA. This will have a possible impact on membership and also affect some staff at the BPA directly involved in the AOS. Consultation ends early next year.
3.	<p>A long debate was had regarding the delivery of professionalism in Parking Award (PiPA) and the link to existing charters and the masterplan for the BPA. It was widely acknowledged by the group that a charter was easily achieved but really would mean nothing if it is not audited. However with auditing comes cost and Martin Williams highlighted that LA/s who simply are not allowed to join such schemes would fall outside of these schemes. Nicola Keyworth-Wright added that the public simply don't know or care what charters are for and choose parking places simply on convenience and not whether it has a badge.</p> <p>The corporate members stated that they will inevitably join and achieve whatever status was required if it became a requirement of tenders. However they would wish it to add real value to the tender process rather than a simple tick box exercise. This would be a mammoth task given the diverse sectors in the industry as one size would not fit all.</p> <p>There were a number of comments regarding PiPA - Jim Daniels stated that we need to move away from the focus on enforcement and highlight the traffic management objectives. Liz Bridgens said that the media only ever focus on the negative as they see that as interesting and good news just isn't. Steve Hurley added that we should perhaps question if we approach things from the right angle, e.g. with appeals we look for reasons to reject, should be look for reasons to accept? AT added that at the PDS board there was a real focus on raising standards through qualifications and also through the content in contracts.</p>

4.	Chas gave an update on Park mark and the group watched the Park mark 10 th anniversary youtube clip. Numbers have levelled out at just under 5000 nationally, some LA's are leaving but private sector sites are joining, including the first marina site.	
5.	AT updated the group on the deregulation bill and DCLG consultations everyone is encouraged to respond ASAP. Mike Marrs highlighted that the minister will be attending the next council of representatives meeting and if anyone had questions they can submit them via him, the BPA or any other CoR member.	
6.	<p>SH announced to the group that this would be his last meeting as he had taken voluntary redundancy from Torbay Council. Paul Kyte thanked Steve on behalf of the group as he has been an excellent chairman. The Group wished him well for the future. AT explained that there will be a call for candidates and a vote for chair. The role gives membership of the CoR and with that comes some responsibilities but hopefully not too onerous to represent the group at BPA meetings.</p> <p>There was an agreement that meetings will continue twice a year in May/June and October/November. The BPA would like regional groups to take ownership of agendas and venues to avoid them becoming repetitive across the regions.</p>	
	Meeting closed	