



Notes of the Northern Ireland Group Meeting

Held on: 28th April 2015

At: Premier Meetings, Belfast City Centre, 2-6 Waring Street, Belfast

Item	Notes	Action Points
1.	<p>Welcome and Notes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>The meeting was opened by Davy Palmer (DP), chair of the BPA Northern Ireland Group. DP welcomed Ashley Bijster (AB), President of the BPA to Belfast and asked her if she would like to address the meeting. This was a joint meeting of the IPA and the BPA.</p>	
2.	<p>AB gave a brief presentation on her year to date as President of the BPA and her aspirations for the rest of her term of office.</p> <p>AB stated that she was very happy to have been given the opportunity to visit Belfast to take part in the meeting and was keen to meet with as many members as possible.</p> <p>At this point the attendees of the IPA meeting adjourned to another room to begin their meeting. In the meantime the members of the BPA and invited guests from the newly formed N Ireland councils began the meeting with a number of presentations on different subjects.</p>	
3.	<p>Presentations;</p> <p>Overview on the transfer of the Off Street Parking function to the 11 new super councils – presented by Seán McConnell TransportNI.</p> <p>Seán gave a brief presentation on;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how the car parks were to be managed by TransportNI for the next 18 months, • the development of an Agency Agreement and a Technical Specification to manage the enforcement and processing operations • What changes will the customer experience, and what has basically remained as before. <p>Managing and operating Car Parks – Peter Lowe MD of RTA Associates Ltd.</p> <p>Peter gave a comprehensive overview, especially for the council delegates, of the complexities involved in managing car parks to get the best possible performance and value for money. In his presentation he looked at ;</p> <p><i>Car Park Management</i> – dealing with diverse issues such as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsibility for the public owned off street parking provision, • Setting of tariffs, 	

- Maintenance,
- Legislation,
- TUPE,
- Car park usage,
- Accommodation, and
- Recruitment and Training.

He went on to cover what was required for the provision of;

- Enforcement and Administration processes,
- Managing revenue streams, and
- Options for service delivery

He advised that as 18months in the Agency Agreement is a short period of time the councils should focus on;

- How will they organize service delivery
- How best to procure as a group or individuals
- How to commence work on procurement routes
- What is required in preparation for staff recruitment and welfare

Click [here](#) to view the presentation slides.

Structure and Asset Management - Russell Simmons Director – Pyle Car Park Consultants

Russell took an in depth look at how car park structures should be managed. In particular he focussed on;

- Legal Obligations
- Asset Management
- Life-Care Plans
- Maintenance
- Pay systems

He paid particular attention to the pay systems that were available to councils and highlighted the advantages and disadvantages of the Pay on Foot and Pay and Display systems. He advised that councils should do plenty of research over the incoming months and pointed them in the direction of the BPA and other information sources to assist with their decision making

Click [here](#) to view the presentation slides.

After Lunch both the IPA and the BPA delegates continued in a joint meeting where they discussed the following;

- The Consultation on Parking on Private Land in N Ireland
- Reviewing the Shared Parking Plan for the Island of Ireland

4.	<p>The Consultation on Parking on Private Land in N Ireland</p> <p>Seán McConnell provided a brief outline of the outcome of the consultation – there were 16 respondents to the consultation – and the decision was that there was no requirement to change from the current format.</p> <p>It was agreed that this was unsatisfactory state to leave this issue especially when in the past there had been a number of requests to the BPA for action. It was agreed that Patrick Troy should contact the Dept Of Environment Minister, Minister Durkan, for an update on the Department’s intentions on this matter.</p> <p>Cross Border Enforcement and Debt Collection</p> <p>Seán McConnell gave a brief presentation on the process used by DRD to access keeper detail and collect debt. He advised that EU legislation limited the Department pursuing the collection of debt through the courts. He advised that the UK and Republic of Ireland may in 2105 sign up to the EUCARIS project. This may make the process of data sharing easier.</p>	Patrick Troy
5.	<p>BPA and general parking updates –</p> <p>Tom Porter, in Kelvin Reynolds absence, gave a brief overview of the decision on the Parking Eye LTD v Barry Beavis case and explained how the outcome could impact on the parking industry in England.</p> <p>Ashley Bijster advised the council delegates on the merits of the Park Mark scheme. She encouraged anyone not yet in the scheme to consider the Award especially with the benefit of increased PR.</p> <p>Ashley Bijster advised delegates on the new parking qualifications awarded by Wamitab. A number of centres are now offering the qualifications and more are expected to be approved shortly. Anyone wishing more information on what is on offer should contact Alison Tooze, at the BPA (Alison.T@britishparking.co.uk).</p>	
6.	<p>Shared Parking Plan for the island of Ireland – Keith Gavin provided a brief overview on the work of the IPA to delegates. Following a short discussion it was agreed that the IPA and the BPA should carry out a review on the Shared Parking Plan document. Keith Gavin agreed to lead this review.</p>	Keith Gavin
7.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Keith Gavin from the IPA thanked the BPA for their support and for the invitation to this meeting.</p> <p>He advised that the IPA President’s Dinner is scheduled for Nov 2015.</p> <p>The meeting ended at 15.00 hours</p>	