

Date: 07 October 2021

Title: Report Item 10 – Electric Car Charging Points

By: K Larkin (Parish Clerk)

Purpose: To provide background information on ESCC strategy and on the government's On-Street Residential Chargepoint Strategy

Recommendation: a) To note the report
b) To consider requesting ESCC to add the parish to its strategy for providing charging points across East Sussex

1. At the parish council's last Strengthening Local Relationships meeting on 02 March 2021 a question was raised as to whether the county council had plans for the provision of Electric Vehicle charging points across East Sussex. The parish was advised to contact the ESCC Team Manager – Environment, as he is co-ordinating the strategy approach for the County Council. His advice is as follows:

The County Council is in the early stages of looking into what EV charging infrastructure may be required where. There are some complex issues, including land ownership, power supply, funding and procurement, that need to be addressed. In the meantime, please let me know if you would like me to add the Parish Council to a list of organisations interested in charge points in your area, so that we can come back to you once we are further forward.

If the Parish Council is keen to progress quickly then you can apply for funding from the government's 'On Street Residential Charge point scheme' for the installation of EV charge points (please see: [On-Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme guidance for local authorities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/on-street-residential-chargepoint-scheme-guidance-for-local-authorities)). The land that you would like to install charge points on will need to be owned by the PC and there is a need to fund 25% of the costs. If you have any questions then the team that runs the scheme would be more than happy to help (please email: onstreetchargepoints@est.org.uk).

2. It is recommended that the parish council be added to the county council's list of organisations interested in having charge points in their area.

3. It is doubtful whether the parish council should opt for taking direct action independently of ESCC by applying for funding from central government. The stated purpose of the government scheme is to increase the availability of on-street chargepoints in residential streets where off-street parking is not available, thereby ensuring that on-street parking is not a barrier to realising the benefits of owning a plug-in EV. Local authority car park chargepoints must be available to residents for free overnight, between 6pm and 8am, and car parks must have a minimum 'maximum stay' time of at least 4 hours during the day. These conditions may rule out the use of the Downlands Way car park,

but leave open the possibility that charge points could be provided in the main village car park which is owned and managed by Wealden District Council. An enquiry has been made of Wealden District Council as to their policy on the provision of car charging points, and a response is awaited.

4. The provision of electric vehicle charging points is not currently included in the parish council's budget. The cost is highly variable depending on availability of electricity etc. but the government scheme does not expect to pay more than £7,500 per chargepoint, suggesting that the total cost should not be more than £10,000 (i.e. £2,500 payable by the parish) unless connection costs are unusually high in a particular location. The majority are expected to be much cheaper.