**Paper to Amenities Committee, February 2021**

Electric Vehicle (EV) charging facility, Mercers Yard

The emerging structure of EV charging facilities in the UK is that there are broadly 3 types:

1. 3-6kW – usually at locations where rapid charging is unnecessary (e.g. homes or workplaces). Charge time 4-8hrs
2. 7-22kW – usually at destinations where people will be parked for a while (e.g. shoppers’ carparks). Charge time 2hrs+
3. Upto 50kW (or even higher in some cases) – becoming common now at [what we used to call] petrol stations. Charge time 30 mins.

The proposed new petrol station on the A47 at Uppingham is expected to include category ‘c’ charging facilities. This perhaps should cause UTC to question the future of our existing charging facility in Mercer’s Yard, which is 7.5kW.

On the one hand the two facilities will serve different markets (UTC facility aimed at shoppers or other visitors to Uppingham town centre, A47 facility aimed at through traffic wanting a quick refill). Nevertheless there remains the possibility that the new A47 facility will attract many of the users who currently use the UTC facility, leaving us with the costs of providing that facility for (perhaps) not much usage, and thus not much revenue to us (though the revenue we currently earn is anyway so small as to be fairly irrelevant).

This leaves us with 3 options:

1. Remove the facility as no longer being much needed. We would thus escape the costs of running it.
2. Upgrade the facility to “upto 50kW” standard, in order to try to compete – perhaps through charging a marginally cheaper price? - with the A47 facility (though whether we would succeed in attracting through traffic into the town to use our facility is unknown – possibly through traffic would find it just easier not to bother diverting off the through road?)
3. Leave the facility as it is.

An initial discussion with BP (our provider at present) has shown that the cost of an upgrade to a 22kW unit (they’ve not offered us anything higher) is £2,490 + VAT plus installation cost. The latter, subject to survey, might be appreciable if our existing cables would need renewing so as to carry the extra current.

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