

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

2 July 2024

TOWN CLERK'S OPEN REPORT

(a) Amenity Survey

- **To consider the responses for the request of a dog bin on Cherry Street (located outside the Bridge Club).**

Surveys were completed from 48 households – all are in favour of a dog waste bin after an increase in waste left by dog owners.

To note there is no longer any budget for street furniture and this expenditure will come out of CIL money as agreed by the Finance Committee.

Costings for provision, installation and emptying are as follows:

£250.00 for the bin

£150.00 for the installation

£146.00 per annum for the bin to be emptied on a weekly basis.

(b) Cemetery Extension Update

- **To note the update**

As previously requested by the Group an update on the project was requested.

The requested Environmental Agency testing of the site is about to conclude following a six month period and results look favourable, given we have experienced one of the wettest periods since records began, and that no groundwater had been detected. Our Consultant had stated that this would indicate there appears to be no fundamental barriers to obtaining planning permission for the proposals for a cemetery extension.

This is to be reported to a meeting of the Cemetery Extension Group to meet in mid-July.

(c) Holy Trinity Churchyard

- **To consider a request to repaint the gates.**

The Town Council holds the responsibility for the maintenance of the closed churchyard. Councillor MacDonald has approached the Town Council on behalf of the Church to request the repainting and repair of the main gates and side panels. Pictures will be provided at the meeting.

Our responsibility is to ensure that the closed churchyard is well-maintained, safe, and respected as a valuable community asset. Whilst it does not appear to be a health and safety issue, there is indication that the gates would benefit from re-painting. It is thought these were last done 20 years ago. Councillor MacDonald has indicated that whilst there is disrepair to the paint there is also the accumulation of algae and moss. It has been suggested that the volunteer group may wish to consider the gentle washing of the gates to be rid of this.

An external contractor has proposed removing, treating, and painting the gates at a cost of £38.40 per linear meter. However, they have specified that the posts would need to be treated on-site, a service which they do not provide. If the Committee approves, we can explore other contractors who may offer this additional service.

A budget exists for maintaining the Holy Trinity churchyard. As we are still in the early stages of the budget year, it may be wise to delay this project until the new year to assess the remaining budget. The Town Council's main priority is ensuring the safety of the area, and the maintenance and pruning of trees have consistently strained the budget due to unexpected incidents.

Town Clerk
26 June 2024