

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

24 June 2025

TOWN CLERK'S OPEN REPORT

COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. To consider a request for the provision of bins

Bin requests have been received as follows:

- (a) Sidelands Road / Alcester Road – Councillor Harding has brought to our attention the need of a bin(s) in this location, following on from a resident who is looking after a bench and identified a need for a dual waste bin to be provided. Map and photograph at Appendix A.
- (b) Timothy Bridge Road where it meets the canal. Councillor Albon has brought to our attention the need of a dual waste bin due to dog waste being left on the pavement in the area. Map at Appendix B.

Members are reminded that the provision of bins can now be funded from Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money.

2. To consider a request for the provision of a new bus shelter

A member of the public has raised the state of repair of the bus shelter on Brookside Road, Stratford-upon-Avon. This is on a busy bus route and used regularly by residents in the area. Please see pictures provided at Appendix C.

A Quote has been received in line with the Town Council's current street furniture shown at Appendix D. As the replacement shelter must match existing infrastructure and is only available from this supplier, the situation falls within the exception outlined in Financial Regulation 5. An identical bus shelter was purchased and installed by this supplier in 2020 on Wordsworth Avenue, Trinity Mead development. This supplier has been used previously. The Clerk hopes to have two further comparable quotations and these will be tabled at the meeting.

Members are reminded that the provision of bus shelters can now be funded from Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money.

3. To consider the offer from Persimmon Homes to take ownership of Sonnet Park on the Banbury Road

Persimmon Homes have given us notice of the intention to offer the Town Council ownership of the public open space with a fee of £116,000 plus indexation.

This Committees' Terms of Reference is to consider the management of any land:

4.22 The management of any miscellaneous open space coming under total or partial control of the Town Council.

Background

By Minute 33 (2023/24) the Town Council RESOLVED:

Offer of Open Space - Planning 20/02665/FUL – Stratford-upon-Avon Business & Technology Park, Banbury Road

Consideration was given to an initial offer from Persimmon Homes for the transfer of ownership of a play area at the above site.

There was concern expressed as to the liability the Town Council would have once the associated money had been utilised and who would be responsible for the required routine inspections. In addition, no details of what type of equipment would be installed and this was a big factor in the longevity of the equipment.

Following consideration of the pros and cons of the Town Council taking on responsibility for such areas and the fact that the Town Council did not currently have any other ownership of play areas within the Town it was

RESOLVED: That before a decision was made, further information be sought from the developer and the possibility of working with the District Council on ownership of play areas be explored.

Since the last meeting there has been consultation with Persimmon and further developments with the District Council on play areas – subsequent decisions of the Council has been to decline offers of play areas (Minute 83 2024/25) and leave to the District Council, who already manage similar facilities across the town, ensuring consistency and professional oversight.

The Town Council will have 40 days to consider the offer once it is received. If the Town Council decides to decline, the land and associated fee will be offered to the District Council, which currently manages similar areas in the town. Should they also decline, the land will remain with the developer and may be transferred to a Management Company in future.

Financial

As members are aware, the Town Council does not currently own any other play areas within the town. If the Council wishes to consider this offer, several factors will need to be evaluated, including insurance, the duration of the fee, the entity responsible for conducting weekly inspections and risk assessments, the requirement for an annual ROSPA inspection, and the overall costs related to general maintenance and replacement and be budgeted for accordingly.

Members are also asked to consider whether the Devolution proposals could result in the Town Council taking on responsibility for play areas within the town anyway, and whether these would be accompanied by the necessary management funding fee as well.

Options

The options open to the Council, are to accept or decline the offer and a recommendation of this Committee to Council is sought.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

4. To agree the membership of the Climate Change Working Group for 2025/26

To agree the membership of the Climate Change Working Group for 2025/26.

Current members are Councillors Coles, Duck, J Fradgley, Lee, MacDonald and Rashwan.

Town Clerk
18.06.2025