

FULL COUNCIL 14TH JULY 2021

OPENING OF BAILEY PARK TOILETS FOR THE SCHOOL SUMMER HOLIDAYS

1. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To approve funding to enable the public toilets at Bailey Park to be opened during the school summer holidays.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The public toilets at Bailey Park have until recently been opened only at weekends and by request if an event is taking place in the park.
- 2.2 In discussions with MCC regarding a revised annual contribution towards the maintenance and cleaning of the three toilet blocks in the town centre, the toilets at Bailey Park were not included and therefore outside the annual contribution.
- 2.3 Bailey Park has always been well used but through recent lockdowns has been more heavily used. There have been reports to Councillors and to the Town Clerk of young children getting 'caught short' when playing in Bailey Park which is distressing for the child and parents.

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1 With school summer holidays about to start, opening the public toilets on the same basis as the town centre toilets ie 7 days a week from 8am – 5pm (approx.) would no doubt be welcome by people using the park.
- 3.2 The cost of opening the toilets for the period 21st July – 1st September will be £800. The public toilets budget is fully committed so it is proposed that £800 is vired from salaries to cover this additional cost.
- 3.3 The Town Council currently has a separate contract with PHS to provide nappy and sanitary bins and their emptying in the three toilet blocks in town. The cost of providing nappy & sanitary bins for 6 weeks at Bailey Park with a weekly collection would be £496.00 (£180.00 sanitary bins, £216.00 nappy bins)
- 3.4 Should Council agree to this proposal it is suggested that the Town Council Facebook page, Town Council website and also a press release in the Abergavenny Chronicle is issued to make people aware. Notices should also be attached to the railings around the children's play area and on the toilet doors informing people that the toilets are open.
- 3.5 Councillors may wish to consider additional opening of the toilets at weekends from Easter through to school summer holidays and continued opening of the toilets 7 days a week through the school summer holidays. This would have financial implications which will be considered during the 2022/23 budget setting process.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 To approve the reopening of the Bailey Park public toilets 7 days a week from 8am – 5pm commencing 21st July 2021 ending 1st September 2021 at a cost of £800 to MCC and £496 for the provision of and emptying of nappy and sanitary bins for the duration.