

ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023

E32/23 SERVICE DELIVERY UPDATE

1. TOWN TEAM

The Town Team have made a start on cleaning down all the street furniture and bins in the town centre which has involved some early starts to enable them to be followed through town by the street sweeper to clean up the dirt this produces.

A few litter bins have been recently vandalised or damaged – in particular the one outside the corner shop on Hereford Road/Park Crescent, which appears to have been driven into twice by the van that belongs to the shop.

Fly Tipping incidents have been increasing and reported to the Waste Team, in particular a large quantity of full energy drinks cans that had been dumped in MCC bags by various bins around the town – they are likely to be from a local shop as they were out of date stock.

The Town Team will be finishing removal of all tree stumps at the Bus Station Beds in the next week to enable the next stage of works to be carried out as detailed in the Town Clerk's Update.

The Team Leader will be out of action from the end of April for up to 3 months due to pending operations, so a meeting is being sought with Nigel Leaworthy and the Grounds Team Leaders to seek temporary cover to ensure the team can continue to operate at full capacity in the lead up to Wales In Bloom and Britain In Bloom.

2. DOG BINS

The 2023/24 Contract from Merlin Environmental Waste Services Ltd is attached for consideration and ratification. Costs will increase to £7 per bin from April.

New dog bins have been requested at three locations via MCC officers and members of the public. They have been asked for at the following:

- Linda Vista Gardens entrance from Byefield Lane Car Park
- Corner of Deri View School
- Vicinity of 22 Park Crescent

Maps show we have bins very close to all these locations so it is suggested a day of chalk spraying signs to indicate where the nearest bins are to these locations to try tackle the amount of dog waste being left on the streets in these locations would be beneficial. The Town Clerk would like to request a volunteer task group to do this on a day when we can borrow the signs and chalk spray from MCC.

3. GARDENS/BEDS/PLANTERS MAINTENANCE

Costs for providing ongoing maintenance of the beds at Castle and Tudor Street and planters on Nevill Street, St Johns Square, and Lion Street, will be increasing from £18 per hour to £22.50 per hour from April 2023. A revision of requirements and contracts is underway and will be brought to ATC at the next Environment Committee. New contracts are being drafted for the planters across the rest of the town but is on hold

until a full audit is complete and decisions have been undertaken on the locations and required planter types going forward. Amberol will be visiting the town on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 11am to carry out a walk around with our current contractor to look at our requirements and show us some samples. A quote for replacing 'like for like' is attached for consideration. Due to short time scales, a short Extraordinary Meeting may be required to discuss quotes and decide upon expenditure via a short online meeting so we can have the new planters in place for planting early May.

#### 4. TOILETS SLA

As per instructions from Policy and Resources Committee, the Town Clerk has spoken to the Deputy Buildings Cleaning Supervisor A Berrington and had the 2.5% uplift included in clause 3.4 as requested. Signed SLAs are attached for your approval and ratification. Should ATC now be satisfied with the SLA provided, a decision to instruct the Town Clerk to now pay the outstanding invoice for 2022/23 is now sought.