

## **COUNCIL**

**WEDNESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2020**

### **MAINTENANCE OF FROGMORE STREET PLANTERS**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To recommend appointment of Sarah Price Landscapes for the supply of plants, planting and maintenance of the planters in Frogmore Street and three planters on Lion Street.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

2.1 In May 2019, the Town Council agreed to take on the responsibility for maintaining the planters on St John's Square and Nevill Street with immediate effect and to assume responsibility for the remaining planters following the expiration of the 12 month maintenance period funded by MCC as part of their contractual arrangements.

2.2 In September 2019, the Environment Committee agreed to award a three year contract to Sarah Price Landscapes Ltd for the planting and maintenance of 8 planters on St. Johns Square; 4 planters on Nevill Street; 5 planters on Lion Street, Abergavenny

#### **3. PROPOSAL**

3.1 A quotation has been received from Sarah Price Landscapes for maintaining the Frogmore Street planters and remaining planters on Lion Street.

3.2 Other quotations have not been requested as the Town Council and the wider public are pleased with the planting from this company who maintain the other permanent planters. Continuing with this contractor would ensure the ongoing quality of these planters and their contribution to the colour and biodiversity of the town and public space. Therefore, should Council agree that this contract should be awarded to Sarah Price Landscapes, Council would have to agree a waiver to financial regulation 11.2 which stipulates that 3 quotations should be sought.

3.3 The proposal is that the Frogmore Street planters are planted and maintained in a more rolling fashion and actually 'gardened' as the presence of the trees and the size of the planters makes this possible. The planting would be continually edited, maintained and replanted as and when necessary, as part of the ongoing maintenance of the scheme rather than being changed twice a year. Plants would only be replaced if damaged or no longer viable. It would also prevent the tree roots from being damaged by twice yearly total replanting and would reduce the lull between plantings.

3.4 This contract would result in all the permanent planters being planted and maintained by the same local company. This offers a consistent approach to the planting and to the maintenance. The gardeners live locally and are regularly in Abergavenny and can see when maintenance is required.

3.5 The annual cost of maintaining these additional planters is **£4403** per year bringing the total cost per year of maintaining all planters to £8548. Budget provision has been made for this work.

#### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.1 That Council agrees a waiver to financial regulations and awards a contract until October 2022 to Sarah Price Landscapes Ltd for the planting and maintenance of additional planters on Lion Street and all the planters on Frogmore Street.