

## ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019

### REDESIGN OF PLANTED AREAS

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

1.1 To recommend approval of funding for the engagement of landscape advice to redesign specified planters areas in the town centre

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

2.1 In July 2019, Projects Committee agreed to seek quotations for landscape advice to produce a planting design for the following sites which are looking tired and uninspiring.

- Two raised beds at the bus station
- Area next to the cinema
- Beds on A40 by Tesco (on part of the beds will be removed to create a bus lay-by)
- Planting on A40/ corner of Penypound

2.2 The Town Clerk drafted a specification with some external input from those involved in the public realm group. The scope of the work covering:

- To carry out a survey of the existing sites and note which plants should be retained.
- Following the survey to meet with the Town Clerk and other interested parties to discuss potential options.
- To propose new planting schemes for the spaces to include a breakdown of costs identifying the costs of clearing the beds, cost of new plants and labour separately. It may be appropriate to provide different options based on cost, durability of planting etc.
- To prepare visuals and plans of appropriate clarity and quality for public consultation.
- To prepare a maintenance schedule for first 12 months and then an annual schedule thereafter
- Planting should be low maintenance, perennial, colourful (for long season) with preference for pollinator friendly species.

- Planting scheme should consider benefits of cover for birds and other wildlife

2.3 Three landscape gardeners/ architects with experience of public planting schemes were invited to submit a quotation.

2.4 Funding would be from the Projects budget. However, during this transition phase, the Environment Committee has not been given delegated authority to allocate the Projects budget, the recommendation would require approval from Policy & Resources.

### **3. RESULTS**

3.1 Two quotations have been received. Both companies have experience of public planting schemes and both companies are committed to pollinator friendly planting.

3.2 The proposed fees are:

Company A proposed fee is £4875.00 inclusive of all expenses

Company B proposed fee is £3510.00 inclusive of all expenses

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.1 To recommend to Policy & Resources that Company B is engaged.