

Chief Officer Report 12th June 2023

The purpose of this report is to provide the new councillors with a brief overview of the open projects within the council, that can be distributed into the relevant committees and working parties as deemed necessary.

STATION HOUSE

Committee members Cllr Norman, Cllr Stratton, Cllr Clegg

The lease to the station house is due to cease in 2025 (10 years). The lease itself refers to being full repairing with the responsibility of the tenant to put right any defects prior to handing back to the landlord, negotiations were started to return the station house and as such a dilapidation report was carried out by Abellio's partners in August 2022 (copy circulated to members), with proposed costs of £37.5k to exit the lease early and return the building to Greater Anglia. The cost for the actual work is estimated to be in the region of £13k.

The station house has been closed since June 2020.

The new committee and working party would need to consider the existing lease, repairs required, renegotiation of a new lease if proposed and possible uses for the building.

There have been several expressed interests from community groups and previous occupiers who are interested in utilising the building.

PROVIDENCE CAR PARK

Highways Co Ordinator Cllr Doug Bown

A works package was drawn up in May 2022 and was issued out for quotations to be received, however this work has not progressed and considering the quotations now being over a year old and potential new addition to the work such as installing EV charging stations and CCTV, it is proposed that the original package be revised and re sent out for quotation/tender.

ROAD MARKINGS/QUAY REPAIRS/POTHOLES

Highways Co Ordinator Cllr Doug Bown

A walk round took place with Cllr Lee Scott in December to discuss the repairs required to the Quay. Temporary repairs have been carried out and are now due to be repaired permanently. It would be advisable for Cllr Bown to touch base with Cllr Scott to understand the process and any programmed works so we can schedule them in around Quay Day/Burnham week etc.

13 requests have been sent into ECC to cover all the necessary road marking requirements, including parking bays, zebra crossings and yellow lines.

TOWN SIGNS

Highways Co Ordinator Cllr Doug Bown

The council purchased 2 new town signs last year, to replace the worn and faded signs which are currently sited on Maldon Road and Southminster Road. The Maldon Road sign has now been removed due to the road works being completed by the Burnham Waters site, it has been suggested that we look to site the sign further along the Maldon Road where the boundary of Burnham begins.

The chief officer is currently in negotiations with Essex Highways to establish if the signs are compliant with the necessary design for boundary signs. This is

dependant on the size of the lettering for the speed of the road. Once this has been confirmed the application for placement needs to be completed. Should the signs not meet with the necessary design requirements it may mean that we need to purchase additional signs with a view to siting the others as decorative signs within the town. There is an ongoing project now which may be able to provide funding for the installation of new signs which form part of a uniform design for all villages within the Dengie peninsula.

CCTV

General purposes Co Ordinator's Cllr Rawlinson Cllr Clegg

We are in receipt of a quotation to install CCTV in areas of the town such as the Quay and high street, this is an ongoing project to install and link the CCTV with the already existing CCTV for Maldon District Council at Riverside Park, this will be managed at the control centre in Chelmsford. A meeting is being arranged to review the project, costs, and any additional requirements. Once a date has been confirmed all necessary parties will be invited to discuss the plan in more detail.

TOURISM

Cllr Clegg, Cllr English, Cllr Skeens, Cllr Stanbury

The council was awarded funding to the value of £15,000 to go towards the town tourism provision following the closure of the office. This project has not progressed, and the working party/committee would need to consider the options available in order to move forward.

BENCH REPAIRS

General purposes Co Ordinator's Cllr Rawlinson Cllr Clegg

A condition survey of all the benches in town was carried out by the Town Warden, this is in the process of being compiled into a full report with a view to repairing/replacing the failed benches via a programme to be agreed.

DEMENTIA GARDEN UPDATES

General purposes Co Ordinator's Cllr Rawlinson Cllr Clegg

2 quotations have been received for the relaying of the patio for the dementia garden at the front of the council offices, this is to include the removal of the existing concrete benches, to be replaced with the newly purchased commemorative benches for the King and Queen as well as providing a much-needed disabled access.