

STRONGER COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Date: 25th January 2021

Title: Operational Report - Progress on improvements and repairs since last meeting

Contact Officer: Operations and Estates Officer – John Hickman

Background

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the progress of improvements and repairs since the last meeting.

Current Situation

Memorial Benches

A Memorial Bench to Tobias Marnier has been installed on King Georges Field by the works team.

A Memorial Bench to Ross Shakles has been installed on Church Green by the works team.

A replacement bench for the one that was vandalised at the Lake has been installed and also a Copper Beech memorial tree planted by the works team for the family.

Christmas Lights

This years Christmas Lights display was turned off on 7th January and lights removed on 8th January.

The works team removed the two Christmas Trees on Monday 11th January, the trees will be chipped, and the chippings used within the cemeteries.

Two issues were encountered this year, A new RCBO timer and cabinet had to be installed on the LP connection at Waterstones, also a weak RCBO had to be replaced in MP4 on the Market Square.

Other than these issues the Christmas lights installations, maintenance and Un-installed has gone with no issues.

The two Christmas Trees supplied by Real Christmas Trees were very good and lots of positive comments were received regarding these trees. The Operations and Estates Officer would wish to see if a contract to provide these two trees for the same length of time as the

Christmas Lights tender, hopefully this may result in a reduced cost of provision over the tenure period.

The Operations will be drawing up the new Christmas Lights Tender documentation and will hopefully be complete and ready to tender by end of week commencing 1st February 21.

Environmental impact

Having declared a Climate Change Emergency at its Council meeting on 26 June 2019 – with this in mind Councillors should have due regard to the environmental impact of any decisions they make with regard to its facilities and services it operates.

Risk

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

Financial implications

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. All works have been undertaken in line with existing budgets.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and agree that the provision of the Christmas Trees supplied by Real Christmas Trees are included for the term of the new Christmas Lights Display Tender.