

STRONGER COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, 24 January 2022

Title: World War 2 Pillbox

Contact Officer: Project Officer - Nicky Cayley

Background

Further to discussion at the Stronger Communities Committee of 15th November and the rejection of the proposal to plant the WW2 Langel Common Pillbox by Historic England, Officers have been working to find an alternative solution. The Town Clerk advised at that meeting that signage could still be erected if the Council so wished.

Current Situation

The Project Officer has worked with the Communications and Community Engagement Officer on this and done a good deal of research on affordable signage.

A company has been found that can offer a recycled plastic noticeboard with an A4 portrait interpretation board. The cost is reasonable at £149.00. Other metal options have been looked into, but these are priced much higher from £900 +. If this option is chosen the Works Team would need to install it but as the Maintenance and Environmental Officer has previously advised that the team could install simple play equipment, this should not be an issue. Attached is a copy of the wording and picture for the display board. A QR code has not been included as Officers did not feel that it would add anything to the information already on the plinth.

If the Council wishes to go ahead then permission would be required from Rev'd Kirby of St. Mary's Church and also Historic England.

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. The proposed signage is recycled plastic.

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. There is no risk associated with this project.

Financial implications

- The cost of the proposed board is £149.00 as stated in the report
- There is no budget for this project, but it could be requested from the Community Infrastructure-Property maintenance budget line (4036/402)

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and consider if they would like to proceed with the Officers' suggestion or propose another idea for further investigation.