

ITEM 7 - Motion to delegate to the clerk to carry out DPIA (Data Protection Impact Assessment), obtain quotes for CCTV and to install CCTV and new lighting on the outside of the council building 49/51 High Street to cover the public toilets & garden areas, car park areas and Country Bikes as a minimum. To be funded from general reserves. To enter an annual maintenance contract with Healthmatic for £1836 for 2022/23 from general reserves and from 2023/24 to add to the budget.

Summary: Following a number of acts of vandalism on the toilets at the high street the town council contacted the police to determine the best course of action. The police are undertaking a number of interventions, but have recommended that we install CCTV ¹to cover the toilet/garden area, car park and the area where country bikes will be installing their bikes. The lighting also needs upgrading, whilst this does not require a resolution, the budget has been exhausted and therefore it is recommended that the costs for the lighting and the defib electrics (already resolved) come from general reserves.

Anti-social behavior & vandalism at High Street Polegate public toilet

WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING?

The toilet in the High Street had been subjected to vandalism for a few months now. The severity of this has increased more recently and has included small fires in the toilet on the baby change unit and vandalism to the door of the toilet which has resulted in the facility being closed to the public until it can be repaired by an engineer.

The frequency of the anti-social behaviour and vandalism has increased, and they are becoming more serious resulting in the public toilets being closed until the issue have been fixed by Healthmatic.

Most recently the allotments at Gosford where subjected to vandalism on the same day as the toilet door was damaged. It is thought this was the same group of youths.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

After the most recent spate of vandalism which resulted in the toilets being closed to the public for over 4 days until an engineer could attend, I arranged a meeting with the local PCSO Ritchie Davidson. He has suggested that Council install a CCTV camera on the side of the Town Hall which would be a deterrent to the anti-social behaviour and enable Council to have high quality images of the youths in the Garden which could then be taken to the Police and used for prosecution.

¹ You may be aware that I came down on my last shift on Friday and met with Beverley to discuss the damage toilet outside your offices.

I suggested some target hardening (remove air freshener, hand wash dispenser – replace with cheap soap etc but the priority of the Council was to install a CCTV camera covering the toilet area from your building. This can be done at a small expense and will provide evidence for us to follow up on with anyone involved.

The Police have stepped up their patrols of Polegate High Street after our feedback and are adding Polegate into the 'Operation blitz' anti-social behaviour patrols on a Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Currently when the damage has happened to the toilet, we have had to call Healthmatic to request an engineer visit. This can take up to 4 days and has taken up staff time chasing them for when the engineer will visit. Due to this we have asked Healthmatic about a maintenance plan the details of which are below. This plan will include one preventative maintenance visit per quarter and 4 reactive maintenance on demand per annum, guaranteed within 72 hours. It also includes all necessary parts up to a value of £250 including parts broken due to vandalism. The total cost per annum is £1836 (net)

Polegate - Maintenance, One Visit Per Quarter,
including 4 Reactive Maintenance within 72 hours and
necessary parts.

£1,836

Total Net Operational Cost

£1,836

Notes:

Invoice - Quarterly in advance, all prices exclude VAT

Contract term - 1 years

See Service Level Agreement for terms and conditions

Services to be provided:

Preventative Maintenance Visits - One Visit Per
Quarter

4 Reactive Maintenance on demand within 72 hours

All necessary parts up to a value of £250 including parts broken due to
vandalism

Council needs to consider adding CCTV on to the Town Hall which would protect the building and the allotments whilst capturing images of the council garden area. The Country bikes are soon to be located at the Council car park and so CCTV covering this area would also be sensible to protect these which maybe another target of vandals. This may need another camera on the back of the Town Hall.

The maintenance contract for the High Street toilet also needs to be considered.

An estimate of the costs are as follows

CCTV approx.	£6000 (max)
Defib and lighting	£900
Annual toilet maintenance Healthmatic	£1836