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Meeting: Recreation, Amenities and Environment Committee, Item RAE4.9

Date: 19th October 2021

Author: Marketing, Communications and Community Engagement Officer (MCCEO)

Subject: Charlton Road and Commercial Road Telephone Kiosks

1.0 Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the committee on progress toward the refurbishment and repurposing of the Charlton Road and Commercial Road Telephone Kiosks respectively.

2.0 Background information

2.1 At the Recreation, Amenities and Environment Committee Meeting of August 2020, the committee agreed for progress to be made on improving these two assets.

2.2 **Commercial Road Kiosk**

This kiosk is not currently owned by the Town Council, it is yet to be transferred from BT to Shepton Mallet Town Council for the price of £1. Mendip District Council are happy for us to receive the phone boxes. Once this transfer has taken place, the Town Council will repaint the kiosk and then SMart will operate the box under a memorandum of understanding. The box will be used to promote local events and festivals. Once we take over the kiosk and BT have removed the phone hardware, the Town Council will need to meet with SMart at the kiosk to undertake a condition appraisal, discuss their intentions for the kiosk formally and come up with a scheme of works for the kiosk.

2.3 **Charlton Road Kiosk**

Councillors agreed to repaint this kiosk and replace the broken TELEPHONE signs with Town Council branded signs. The MCCEO has sought a quote from AS Print for the branded Town Council signs. Three replacement signs have been quoted at £58+VAT (to face the road and long the pavements).

To repaint this kiosk the MCCEO has spoken with the Clerk of Peasedown St. John Parish Council who have just renovated a kiosk. It will require rubbing/sanding down, pink primer and then red paint. The primer, paint, wire brushes, paint brushes and incidentals are available from BT's own parts provider, X2 Connect at £127+VAT+delivery. Add to this a day's labour to be sourced from either idverde or an external contractor to condition and prime/paint the kiosk.

- 2.4 It was suggested at the last meeting to affix some signs to the kiosk to promote local information, the heritage trails, tourism and walkers are welcome initiatives. To maintain the integrity of the kiosk and the flexibility of what we display, that we use strong PVC banners made to the area of windows on each side, secured with cable ties to the empty window frames. The cost of these banners can be met through project or marketing budget lines. This ensures that we can keep the information displayed up-to-date at reasonable cost and the kiosk becomes a strategic location for promotion of local projects, events or initiatives.

3.0 Financial Information

- 3.1 The costs of refurbishing the Charlton Road kiosk and replacing the TELEPHONE signs comes to £185+VAT+delivery. Add to this a day's labour at circa £100 and any further incidentals. The total budget should come under £350.

4.0 Environmental Implications

- 4.1 The delivery of materials and the usage of paint has a negligible negative effect on the environment.

5.0 Town Plan Reference

Priority One: People	Details
Support and promote clubs and societies, to encourage participation and growth	Develop strategies to work with and support groups that are representative of the community, to encourage participation and to combat social deprivation and loneliness.
Priority Two: Place Making	Details
Ensure the town centre is attractive and welcoming	Invest in improvements in the Market Place, in partnerships with others Support the retention of the Library in the centre of town and its development into a wider Community Hub Improve the signage, information boards and street furniture to make the town more welcoming
Heritage	Ensure that heritage is promoted and protected through maintenance schemes (Cenotaph, Market Cross and Shambles)

6.0 **Recommendations**

- 6.1 For Councillors to agree to refurbish the Charlton Road Telephone Kiosk with new signs and repainting up to a value of £350.

- 6.2 For Councillors to note that progress has been made on the Commercial Road kiosk and detailed proposals and costs for this kiosk will come to a future meeting once the transfer from BT has taken place.