



LEIGHTON-LINSLADE TOWN COUNCIL

Planning and Transport Committee

Date: 21st October 2020

Title: The Provision of Temporary Bus Shelters

Purpose of the Report: To seek Member endorsement to use Earmarked Reserve 920/9056 – Highway Schemes for the purposes of providing 2 no. temporary bus shelters for West Street as a consequence of High Street pedestrianisation (temporary).

Contact Officer: Mark Saccoccio – Town Clerk

Corporate Objective/s		
Implications:		
Financial	√	The proposal would have an impact upon Earmarked Reserves with a total of £12,000 being drawn down from Highway Scheme's budget
Human Resources		
Operational/Service delivery	√	The said purchase would be become town council assets meaning that at any time, the town council could move them to elsewhere within the parish or indeed be used for other uses.
Procedural/Legal	√	The Local Government Misc. Provisions Act 1953, s.4; Parish Councils Act 1957, s.1
Risk/Health & Safety		

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

Should Members be minded:-

- 1.1 To recommend to Policy and Finance Committee that a total of £12,000 be drawn down from Earmarked Reserve 920/9056 – Highway Schemes (£29,080) for the supply and installation of 2 number “Bay Standard Shelters with quarter end panels” to be used in West Street as occasioned by the TRO for the High Street;
- 1.2 As Town Council assets, the shelters be moved thereafter to suitable parish location(s) for the direct benefit of the parish.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting held 24th August 2020, Council resolved that it “welcomes the announcement made by Central Bedfordshire Council on Monday 17th August that temporary shelters and additional seating are being investigated at the bus stops in West Street (occasioned by the TRO on the High Street pedestrianisation) and would ask that this Council be kept informed of the timescales for completion and progress”.
- 2.2 Since Council resolution, it is understood that additional seating has been installed. As set out in the resolution, the Town Council is keen to do whatever it reasonably can to seek the speedy installation of shelters to the benefit of bus users. Although the Town Council is not responsible for highways or indeed public transport provision, the Local Government Misc. Provisions Act 1953, s4; Parish Councils Act 1957, s1 allows for parish councils to provide roadside shelters and seats should it deem it appropriate and necessary to do so. Should Members be minded to support the purchase, the said bus shelters would become town council assets over which the council would have control. For example, at its discretion or cessation of the High Street pedestrianisation trial, the town council may decide that in the common interests of the parish, to relocate the said assets elsewhere. By doing this, the parishioners would continue to enjoy the benefits.

3 NEXT STEPS

- 3.1 Should Members be minded to support the proposal, a recommendation would thereafter be made to the Policy and Finance Committee over which budgetary control rests. That is, funding would be drawn down from the said Highways Schemes Earmarked Reserve.
- 3.2 As part of its deliberations, the Planning and Transport Committee may well wish to consider expediting this matter by requesting a single item extraordinary meeting of the Policy and Finance Committee be held. The rationale being that time is of the essence and given the anticipated lead-in time between ordering and installation, an argument could be made that it is in the common interests of bus users to do so as soon as practicable.