



Grounds & Environmental Committee

Date: 6 December 2021

Title: 1937 Coronation Shelter and bench replacement

Purpose of the Report:

To consider the replacement of the publicly funded structure and benches

Contact Officer:

Ian Haynes, Head of Grounds and Environmental Services

| Corporate Objective/s | | |
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| Implications: | | |
| Financial | Yes | £17,323 from reserves and benches to be purchased from the revenue budget. |
| Human Resources | No | None |
| Operational/Service delivery | No | None |
| Procedural/Legal | No | None |
| Risk/Health and Safety | No | None |
| Environmental Aims | Yes | Only FSC® certified hardwood will be used. |

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

Should members be minded, the proposals are:

- 1.1 To consider the funding of a wooden replacement structure for £17,323 (to be taken from 9024/950) with available funds of £28,197 to fund the delivery and installation.
- 1.2 To purchase wooden benches to be financed from the revenue budget 4503/230.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The coronation of George VI and his wife Elizabeth as King and Queen of the United Kingdom and the Dominions of the British Commonwealth, and as Emperor and Empress of India took place at Westminster Abbey, London, on

12th May 1937.

- 2.2 On Thursday 30th September 1937, an old people's shelter and several new wooden benches were opened. The structure was erected mainly by school children's subscriptions and was presented to the town. The programme, press cutting, photographs and list of subscribers is attached for information.
- 2.3 The structure and benches have now long been removed from Parson's Close Recreation Ground. It is believed that the original purpose of the Coronation Shelter and benches was lost over time. However, the Platinum Jubilee provides a fitting opportunity to re-introduce the shelter and benches to the park.
- 2.4 The proposed design echoes the original structure. Should Members be minded to support the recommendation, the proposed structure would be traditionally built from FSC® certified hardwood. Officers consider that it would be in keeping with the park and the original design.

End.