

Date: 07 May 2020

Title: Report Item 11 – New dog bin

By: K Larkin (Parish Clerk)

Purpose: To report on the feasibility and cost of installing one extra bin

Recommendations: To approve the purchase of an additional bin from Wealden District Council at a cost of £500 plus VAT

The council has requested advice from Wealden District Council on the cost and feasibility of installing a new dog bin at or near the junction of the Twitten (Footpath 25) and Upper Street.

There are two options for installing a dog bin:

Option 1 The parish council provides and installs a suitable dog bin (maximum capacity of 40 litres). The bin would remain within PC ownership and the PC would be required to maintain/replace the bin as appropriate. Before installation, WDC would just need to get confirmation of the type of bin to be used, along with a map showing the proposed location. If it had to be placed on the Highway, there might be a requirement to apply to East Sussex for a licence. The form can be found at <https://www.eastsussexhighways.com/files/Application%20Forms/Licence-application-for-Bench-noticeboard-planter-waste-bin.pdf>. However, Footpath 25 does feature on the East Sussex Rights of Way Map which generally means that they are responsible for maintaining the right of way and should simply be consulted about the installation. For practical purposes WDC advise that the dog bin should be located with 25m of the road to aid emptying.

Option 2 The PC instructs Wealden to install a bin at a cost of £500. This cost includes the cost of the bin/fixings and employing a contractor to install the bin. This option also means that if the bin becomes damaged it is Wealden's responsibility to repair/replace the bin. However, if the bin is to be installed in the highway the PC would need to apply for the licence (as detailed above).

For both options once the bin is installed and in use WDC would add this to the quarterly charge £62.50 per quarter (annual cost of £250 per year), plus VAT.

Financial implications

The parish council currently has three litter bins and three dog bins which are paid for at an annual charge of £250. At present, the budget for bin emptying in 2020/21 is £1,000. The budget was set before Wealden demanded that the two additional Leafield bins at the East Dean bus stops be added to the payments schedule. The council has already agreed that the budget therefore needs to be increased by £500 whether or not a new dog bin is installed [Minute C.193 – March 2020].

If the council wishes to purchase an extra dog bin through Wealden (which is recommended) the budget needs to be increased by a further £500 for purchase and installation and £250 annual emptying charge, total £750 plus VAT.