

Date: 3 January 2020

Bus Shelters

Executive Summary

To consider the future of the Parish Council's six bus shelters.

Recommendation to Council (13 January 2020)

That Members agree to explore the option of combining the management of Ash Parish Council's bus shelters with a Guildford Borough Council contract and reporting back to the Council on the outcome of those discussions.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 Members are asked to consider the future of the six bus shelters within Ash that are owned by Ash Parish Council. A number of bus shelters in Ash are also owned by Guildford Borough Council.

2. Background

- 2.1 Ash Parish Council owns six bus shelters in Ash two of which were managed by Adshell (now Clear Channel) under a 15 year agreement from 1 January 1999. This agreement expired six years ago and has not been renewed since. Due to the income Adshell made from advertising there was no cost to the ongoing maintenance of these shelters.
- 2.2 In August 2019 the bus shelter at Shawfield Road (outside number 26) was hit by a vehicle. A police report was made at the time (ICAD P19185074). Surrey County Council were notified at the time and Clear Channel removed the bus shelter as it was no longer safe. Ash parish Council subsequently became aware of this incident and have since tried to investigate the circumstances. A quote for a new bus shelter has been provided (£7345.65 excluding VAT) and an insurance claim has also been logged with Zurich.

3. Future Options

- 3.1 The Council is asked to consider the options for the future management of the bus shelters and there appear to be three options going forward:

Option1 – The shelters are gifted by Clear Channel to Ash Council. The service and maintenance can then be done by another contractor or by Clear Channel at a cost to the Council.

Option 2 – Shelters are removed by Clear Channel at no cost to the Council.

Option 3 – Ash Council to speak to Guildford Council and see if they can form part of the Guildford Contract which is currently under review. Shelters would then remain as Clear Channel assets but would be service and maintained under a new Guildford agreement.

3.2 The Clerk has tried to contact Guildford Borough Council to discuss possible options but has not received a response.

4. Options

4.1 Members may decide to:

- a) Agree with the Clerk's recommendation; or
- b) Agree an alternative course of action.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 An indication of the financial implication are set out in Paragraph 3.1 but would need to be explored more fully once any consultation has taken place with Guildford Borough Council.

6. Implications on Crime and Disorder

6.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (Section 17) requires a parish council to consider the crime and disorder implications of any decision. There are no significant implications arising from this report.

7. Implications on Biodiversity

7.1 The Natural Environment and Communications Act 2006 (Section 40) requires parish councils to consider the impact any decisions will have on biodiversity. There are no significant implications arising from this report.

8. Background Papers

8.1 1999 Agreement between Ash Parish Council and Adshell.

9. Appendices

None.