

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC TOILET WORKING GROUP AT CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL,
44 OLD STREET, CLEVEDON, BS21 6BU ON MONDAY 30TH JANUARY 2017 @ 7.30PM**

PRESENT

Councillor D. Shopland Chairman;
Councillors: J. Geldart, S. Hale, L. Little, G. Watkins J. West
In attendance Paula Heath Town Clerk.

PTWG 17/64 RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr T. Morgan

PTWG 17/65 RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no disclosable or personal interests declared for items on the agenda.

**PTWG 17/66 DISCUSS AND AGREE WORK TO CHALET TOILETS DISABLED UNIT AND
UNISEX TOILET TO FORM A COMPLIANT DISABLED TOILET, FOLLOWING SITE VISIT
ON 24TH JANUARY 2017**

Members discussed the site visit held on 24th January, The Working Group Chairman and Town Clerk had not attended. The Working Group Chairman informed members that he had sought advice from North Somerset Council, but was awaiting written confirmation, that as it was a refurbishment the Council did not have a legal duty to bring the disabled toilet up to standard or make it compliant. Members decided that as there was no legal requirement the Council should only enlarge the door to the disabled toilet to enable access. The Members agreed to decorate the internal units both of the disabled toilet and the other standalone toilet

The Members discussed the footpath outside the toilets which is uneven with a manhole cover making wheelchair access to the toilets difficult, also when it has been raining a large puddle forms outside of the entrance. It was agreed to Contact NSC to request the relaying of the slabs and tarmac outside the toilets to form a better and more wheelchair friendly access.

The size of wheelchairs and mobility scooters were discussed and it was felt that the new opening would enable access for the average sized wheelchair; users of the larger mobility scooters could use the facility leaving the mobility scooter outside the entrance.

The Town Clerk reminded members of the information that had been circulated "Building Regulations document M – access to and use of buildings" and BS8300. Members were informed that The Council had received many complaints from users of the disable toilet in respect of the door being too small for many wheelchairs to access and then when inside the floor space does not allow for easy use nor is it user friendly. Some complainant cites the fact they have difficulty getting wheelchairs alongside the toilet to enable them to use the facilities. Discussions with disabled users and advice from the Equality and Human Rights Commission, obtained by the Town Clerk, states that as the Town Council is aware that the toilets do not meet the regulations they have a duty to undertake the work to resolve the problem [Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty 2010]; failure to comply could lead to the Council being taken to court and fined.

Proposed, seconded and **RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL** by 5 votes to 0 that the Council

- 1) widens the door to the disabled toilet from 750mm to 1000mm.
- 2) does not carry out the internal reorganising of the toilet.
- 3) requests NSC to relay the external path to make it easier to access the toilet and remove the puddle area.
- 4) arranges for the deep clean and decorations/refurbishment of the toilet.
- 5) that the Town Clerk seeks quotations for the work to be done from local builders, decorators and from Healthmatic who operate the toilets and whose contract undertakes for them to repair and maintain the units .

PTWG 17/67 DISCUSS LOCATION AND STYLE OF WAYFINDING SIGNAGE FOR THE CHALET TOILETS

Members discussed the signage and agreed on locations.

Proposed seconded and **RECOMMENDED to COUNCIL** by 5 votes to 0 that the Council purchases the following signs

- 1 on Elton Road to mirror the current “toilet” sign. (Which is only visible when driving south on Elton Road).
- 2) a finger post sign on the promenade indicating the toilets
- 3) a sign underneath the name “the Chalet” on the toilets indicating their purpose along with the recognised logo’s for male and female toilets.
- 4) a sign on the Tennis Courts fence indicating the location of the Toilets.

Subject to Council’s approval the Town Clerk to obtain prices to purchase and install the above signs and obtain the relevant permissions to install the signs

PTWG 17/68 AGREE THE RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL ON ITEMS 3 & 4

Members agreed that the above 2 recommendations should be made to Council at the meeting on 8th February 2017.

PTWG 17/65 AGREE SUBJECT TO COUNCIL’S APPROVAL OF ITEM 5, TO DESIGNATE AUTHORITY TO THE TOWN CLERK, CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN TO SEEK EXTERNAL FUNDING FOR THE ABOVE PROJECTS.

It was agreed that, subject to Council’s approval for the above recommendations the Town Clerk should obtain all quotations and compile a Community Infrastructure Grant request also seek any other suitable external funding to match the allocation made in the Councils budget.

Meeting closed at 10.50 am

Chairman Date