|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Subject** | Bus Shelter Repairs – Witchampton & Crichel |
| **Meeting** | 6 June 2023 |
| **Author** | Ian Hanstead, Parish Clerk |

**Background**

There are four wooden structure bus shelters – 2 x Manswood, 1 x Crichel and 1 x Witchampton that need of some essential maintenance, following the annual asset inspection.

Each has a wooden flat roof with bitumastic corrugated sheeting on, which has deteriorated in the heat and cold, with large sections broken/fallen off. Being of wooded construction, the outer ship-lap cladding is requiring several coats of wood treatment.

**Options:**

1. Do not replace but remove – not favoured as a local community feature.
2. Replace roof like-for-like in bitumastic corrugated sheeting – not favoured as has a short life and will need replacing again.
3. Replace roof with metal corrugated sheeting – favoured as robust, long lasting.

**Finance:**

Quotations have been sought to replace the roofing sheets and treat the timberwork, but several companies have turned down the opportunity to quote. The Parish Council’s Financial Regulations (paragraph 11.1h) requires three quotations for work of this size. However, as experience has shown, it is difficult to source a contractor, and the committee would need **to agree to vary Financial Regulations (paragraph 15.2)** for this to proceed.

One quotation has been received:

* Path-Life Fencing and Landscaping - £2,830.83 + VAT = £3,397.00
* Crown Property Maintenance – declined to quote (via Check-a-trade)
* Sixpenny Handyman - declined to quote.
* HHHM - declined to quote.
* Registered with Check-a-trade generally – no interest.

The current council budget in Earmarked Funds is:

* Witchampton – £5,439
* Crichel - £771 (can be topped up from the fingerpost budget).

There are adequate funds available.

**Recommendation**

That the Committee approve the:

* The variation in Financial Regulations on this occasion to accept one quotation.
* Path-Life be appointed to repair the four bus shelters.