

REPORT TO KING'S LYNN AREA CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Committee: King's Lynn Area Consultative Committee
Date: 15 December 2016
Subject: King's Lynn Special Expenses 2017/2018 and Future Arrangements

Background

1. At the King's Lynn Area Consultative Committee (KLACC) on 5 October 2016 to was agreed to hold a special meeting in December 2016 to consider the King's Lynn special expenses charge for 2017/2018. Members of KLAC have received background information on all elements of the King's Lynn special expenses prior to the meeting.
2. KLACC also agreed at that meeting that the Council enter discussions with the current owners of the bus shelters within King's Lynn with a view to taking these on when the current contract expires on 6 January 2017.
3. The Environment and Community Panel have also received the following reports which should be considered as background information to setting the King's Lynn special expenses charges:

Meeting 23 November 2016	Public Toilets Review
Meeting 12 October 2016	Grass Cutting Review

2017/2018 Special Expenses Charge

4. The negotiations with the current owners of the bus shelters within King's Lynn have been concluded and it has been agreed to purchase all 29 shelters when the current agreement expires on 6 January 2017. A list of the locations of the bus shelters is attached for information. A notional budget has been included for repairs, electricity, inspection costs offset by income from advertising. This budget will need to be refined in future years as the full net operating costs become known.

5. The table below details the special expenses charge 2017/2018 for King's Lynn.

	Estimate 2017/2018
	£
Footway Lighting	24,120
Play Areas	30,820
Community Centres	51,060
Closed Churchyards	9,740
Allotments	19,980
Pavilions	32,570
Dog bins	9,950
Open Spaces	288,600
Bus Shelters	13,000
Total	479,840
Less Council Tax Support Grant	(24,000)
Net Total Charged as Special Expenses	455,840
Taxbase 2017/2018	9,783.7
Band D Charge 2017/2018	46.59
Band D Charge 2016/2017	43.30

6. KLACC are requested to consider the current services provided within special expenses as detailed in the background information and any reductions and/or additions they wish to recommend to Cabinet for 2017/2018.

Recommendation 1

KLACC endorse the continued level of service and the special expenses charge for 2017/2018.

Future Arrangements:

7. The Environment and Community Panel at their meeting on 23 November recommended that KLACC consider the suggestions of the informal working party in respect of public conveniences located in the unparished area of King's Lynn. Specifically they asked for KLACC's comments on the public conveniences in the Walks, namely the Broadwalk and Management Building public conveniences. It was recommended separately that separate trials take place on closing both the Ferry Street and Gaywood public toilets. Given the need to consult and carry out these trials, any changes are unlikely to be implemented until 1 April 2018. In event that the public conveniences in the Walks (Broadwalk) and Walks (Management Building) are charged to King's Lynn special expenses the Band D charge would be increased by £1.72 based on 2017/2018 costs.

Recommendation 2

The operating costs of the public conveniences in the Walks to be included in King's Lynn special expenses from 1 April 2018.

8. Going forward KLACC will need to consider any further service additions or reductions to be included in special expenses for future years, and agree a work programme for KLACC in 2017/2018 to consider these items which will ultimately lead to recommendations to Cabinet to be included in King's Lynn special expenses for future years.

Recommendation 3

At the KLACC meeting on 5 January 2017 the Committee will determine the items to be considered and the work programme for these, to tie in with the budget timetable.