

Agenda Item 134

Christmas Trees 2022 in the Town Centre - May 2022

The main Christmas Tree in the Market Square was reviewed in 2021. It was agreed that a tree of taller and wider stature would be purchased by the STC and new lighting installed. This was supported by a majority of those who reported back to the Council. Trees and lights were erected by the staff across the town centre in advance of the late-night shopping event in mid-November.

The current Christmas Trees for King and Queen Sts are owned by the Town Council. The supplying company of the plastic trees claim that they recycle them if returned to them. It was agreed to use the existing plastic trees and ensure full coverage with additional trees in 2021. The trees were taken down in January and, after inspection, all but one are in a good condition to reuse in 2022.

The lighting loom is leased from Christmas Plus on a three year lease. The lease for the loom ended earlier in 2021. It was agreed to extend the lease for the wiring loom by one year to Jan 2022, with options for 2022 to be presented to the Committee in March 2022. Lighting by battery is significantly less bright and, therefore, it is proposed to extend the daisy chain to the other trees as no additional trees without an extension can be added as the daisy chain only has capacity for the existing trees and extend the lease on the daisy chain for another year.

It is proposed

- to purchase a tree for the Market Square and erect it as in 2021
- to purchase a number of replacement trees for King and Queen Sts
- to extend the daisy chain to the other Christmas trees in King and Queen St and extend the lease on the daisy chain for another year.
- and to extend the lighting in the town in two additional ways with
 - the illumination of the Burgage with low voltage 12v 30w 6000k 90lumens per watt LEDs. Power, on a timed switch, to be supplied at 12v from the Old Court House at 5.5m above datum, and then from tree to tree suspended at >3m above datum. Power will be dropped to each of the ten tree bases LED lights to be secured to light upwards into the trees. Cost for equipment [each low voltage floodlight = £9.00 + 100m of 12v cable] £3,000 plus electrician costs for the initial 12v installation at the upper floor of the old Court House and staff time for the stringing of the low power cable and lighting [c 10 hours]
 - to light the tree in Market Square tree with a permanently installed programmable coloured led lighting system which can be remotely controlled. This can be used for different events i.e. green for Bramley Festival, red for Remembrance Day, pink for Valentine's Day, white for Christmas, warm white for summer evenings and lighting using the colour palette other events depending on requirements. Cost - £3,595 including installation and set up - with a life expectancy of a minimum of three years

Proposed

Peter Harris Chair of the Town Environment Committee