



HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

Lion Green Public Toilets – Recommendation for Council

Background:

In September 2021 Council approved in principle the installation of public toilets at Lion Green. In March it agreed that the Amenities Committee could run a tender process to find a supplier to do the toilet installation. Accordingly tender documentation was sent to companies who had previously shown an interest in the project (Cleveland, Danfoe and Healthmatic) and the contract was advertised on the Government's Contract Finder database.

Initial interest was shown by six companies, however only two actually returned tender submissions: Healthmatic and SKW Construction. These were opened in the presence of two Councillors (Dear and Nicholson) and the Town Clerk. The submissions were considered and at the Amenities Committee meeting in June 2022 it was agreed that more information was needed and that the Clerk, Cllrs Dear and Nicholson were delegated to go back to the suppliers and ask the relevant questions before bringing a recommendation to Full Council in July.

More information was obtained from both suppliers and the Clerk, Cllrs Dear and Nicholson met to complete the tender assessment document (provided in Council papers).

Funding

During the conversations regarding funding of the project it was noted that the Council is going to be receiving an additional £60k in CIL funding in this financial year. Around £78k has already been set aside from CIL funding that has already been agreed and released Earmarked Reserves. If the £60k that is going to be received was also to be used to fund the project it would just about cover the whole amount. There are benefits to this approach:

- Using the Council's CIL allocation on a community project rather than sitting on it waiting for another project to come along.
- No need to take out a Public Works Loan Board Loan that would be more costly to the tax payer in the long run and potentially delay the start of the project.

Design

The Amenities Committee has asked for a quality design for the public toilets building. Two designs have been supplied by the preferred supplier:

1. The common brick design, as seen in the public toilets in the Town Centre car park:



2. A more modern design:



RECOMMENDED:

- I. That Healthmatic are awarded the contract for the Lion Green public toilets at a cost of £138,416. As previously agreed, Cllrs Dear, Nicholson and the Clerk are authorised to make small changes and incur additional costs, not to exceed £5k.
- II. Funding of the project will be from money already held in CIL, released from EMRs and the £60k due to be paid in CIL in this financial year. Any overspend to come from council reserves or, if required, added to next year's budget as agreed by Full Council. The Clerk is delegated to make other reasonable costs associated with the administration of the project, for instance Planning application costs.
- III. That the more modern, cleaner looking design (2 above) is selected. It is felt that this design is far more appropriate in the context of the surrounding area and buildings.