

General Purpose and Highways Committee Meeting 20th February 2023

Agenda item 6 – Seating

Background:

At the General Purpose and Highways committee meeting on 17th October 2022, it was agreed to investigate the possibility of Royston Town Council installing seats towards the end of Melbourn Road and Old North Road as per requests from residents.

Two sites have been agreed as being viable with NHC:

- Entrance to Twigden estate (land owned by NHC – see attached)
- Entrance to Phillips Avenue (land owned by NHC – see attached)

Options:

Recommended by NHC as these seats are very durable and require little maintenance.

Evergreen Seat: made from recycled plastic, 1.8m long.

Cost of 1 bench:	£738.00
Delivery:	£80.00
Total:	£818.00 excl VAT.



Cost of 2 benches:	£1556.00
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Installation costs: £163.64 until April then £186.38 thereafter

Forest Saver Seat: made from recycled plastic, 1.8m long.

Cost of 1 bench:	£468.00
Delivery:	£80.00
Total:	£548.00 excl VAT.



Cost of 2 benches:	£1016.00
With armrests:	£59.00 per pair
Total:	£1134.00

Installation costs: £163.64 per bench until April then £186.38 thereafter

North Herts Council would own the benches and Royston Town Council would pay them for the cost of the benches and their installation. North Herts Council would maintain the benches although there is likely to be little maintenance required with plastic benches.

Officer recommendation:

To purchase two Forest Saver seats without armrests costing £1343.28 including installation.

Members to:

- a) decide on position of seats (which way should they face and which side of the road at Phillips Ave)
- b) resolve to recommend to the Finance Committee the use of reserves to cover the costs.



Agenda item 9

NHC Shared Prosperity Fund:

The North Herts Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) Investment Plan has been approved by Government and the first year's funding will be arriving shortly. The funding is available for town centre regeneration and improvement. The SPF is shared between four towns (Royston, Letchworth, Baldock and Hitchin); Royston's share is set out below:

	Total Town Centre Spend	Minimum Capital Spend
Year 22/3	£18,000	£2,500
Year 23/4	£13,250	£5,000
Year 24/5	£63,750	£25,000

The funding needs to be allocated to specific projects within Royston.

The proposals for spending do not need to be overly detailed but some costings would be ideal along with details of who will undertake the project and a timetable for the works. Actions should focus on increasing footfall in the town and improving the land area. Projects can be worked on in partnership with HCC and NHC.

The money will be made available in the form of grants and will be awarded to an accountable body in the town to undertake the project(s).

There is an extremely tight deadline and the Economic Development Officer, Andrew Figgis, would like outline ideas submitted by Tuesday 21st February 2023, for confirmation and award by late February/early March 2023.

Royston First are also being consulted for ideas.

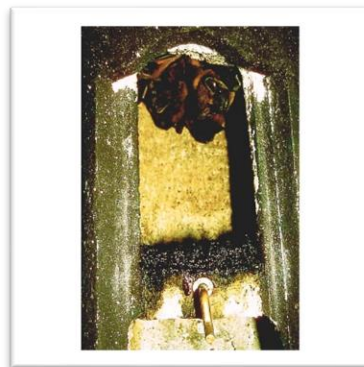
Members are to discuss and agree ideas for projects to be submitted.

Agenda item: 12 – Bird and Bat boxes at the Plantations



Forest Universal Bird Nest box

Cost £19.95 each



Schwegler Bat Box

Cost £64.99 each

Shire Trees have said they would not charge for installation as they would like to give something back to the community.

Members to resolve to approve the installation of new bird and bat boxes in Green Walk and Stile plantations.