

URGENCY ITEMS - MINUTE OF DECISION

Delegation arrangements for dealing with matters of urgency

Paragraph 7.2.1 of the Council's Constitution provides that Chief Officers may take urgent decisions if they are of the opinion that circumstances exist which make it necessary for action to be taken by the Council prior to the time when such action could be approved through normal Council Procedures. They shall, where practicable, first consult with the Leader and Chairman (or in their absence the Vice-Chairman) and the Opposition Spokesperson of the appropriate committee.

Given the current emergency in respect of the Covid 19 pandemic and the decision taken to suspend committee meetings while social distancing measures continue, the urgency decision provision under Paragraph 7.2.1 of the Council's Constitution has been widened to extend the consultation to include the Leaders of all the political groups on the Council.

Subject: Removal of BT Payphones Consultation – Council Response

Appropriate Committee: Economic Development Committee

Details of Item (including reason(s) for use of urgency procedure):

BT are currently consulting us on the plan to remove the following payphone kiosks;

- Church Street Bilsthorpe
- Corner of Winthorpe Rd Meering Avenue Newark
- Corner of Clarke Ave Churchill Drive Newark
- Corner of Boundary Rd Bowbridge Road Newark

It proposed that the District Council objects to the removal of all of these payphones. The Bilsthorpe kiosk is the only one remaining in the village and the level of usage of the three kiosks in Newark indicates that these are community facilities that should be maintained.

The Council needs to formally respond by the 1st May and therefore as no committees are meeting an urgent decision is required. The District Council response is attached to this minute.

Members Consulted:

All members of Economic Development Committee via email on the 24th April 2020.

Including the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Opposition Spokesperson of the Committee

Leader of the Council 29th April 2020

Leader of the Opposition 29th April 2020

Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group 29th April 2020

Leader of the Independent Group 29th April 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maul", is positioned in the upper left area of the page.

Signed

Date 7th May 2020

	Telephone Number	Address	Post Code	Number of calls in last 12 months	Posting Completed Date	Agree/Adopt/Reject	Comments/Reasons
1	01623870271	NR JN CROMPTON RD PCO1 CHURCH STREET BILSTHORPE NEWARK	NG22 8QE	25	27/01/2020	Object	Bilsthorpe Parish Council object to the removal of this kiosk and the District Council supports them. It is the only public telephone left in the village and the Parish Council informs us that not all residents have landlines to use if mobile networks fail. The telephone could also be needed for emergency use or if a resident's mobile phone did not work. The 2011 census found that the village had 3375 residents, and there is no alternative payphone within a reasonable walking distance.
2	01636703153	PCO KIOSK 703153 CNR WINTHORPE RD MEERING AVENUE NEWARK	NG24 2BL	50	28/01/2020	Object	This kiosk is in a residential area and potentially serves a large number of houses. The area around this kiosk is characterised by relatively low rates of home ownership so it is likely that some local people will not have land lines.
3	01636703175	PCO KIOSK 703175 CNR CLARKE AVE CHURCHILL DRIVE NEWARK	NG24 4NG	325	28/01/2020	Object	This kiosk is in a residential area and potentially serves a large number of houses. The area around this kiosk is characterised by relatively low rates of home ownership so it is likely that some local people will not have land lines. The Chairman of the Economic Development Committee commented that this kiosk is in a very deprived area and may be a lifeline to those who cannot afford a mobile phone. A Member for Devon Ward pointed out that that is where this kiosk is located and they would like it to be retained because it is a deprived area.

	Telephone Number	Address	Post Code	Number of calls in last 12 months	Posting Completed Date	Agree/Adopt/Reject	Comments/Reasons
4	01636703179	PCO KIOSK 703179 CNR BOUNDARY RD BOWBRIDGE ROAD NEWARK	NG24 4BY	118	28/01/2020	Object	This kiosk is in a residential area and potentially serves a large number of houses. This kiosk is close to Newark Hospital and therefore may be required for emergency use. The Chairman of the Economic Development Committee commented that this kiosk is in a very deprived area and may be a lifeline to those who cannot afford a mobile phone. A Member for Devon Ward pointed out that that is where this kiosk is located and they would like it to be retained because it is a deprived area.