

Christmas Lighting – RCD requirements & light switch on option

Background

On receiving the seasonal decorations licence for the 2020 Christmas lighting display, Via East Midlands Ltd referred to the need for RCD protection.

The seasonal decorations licence will not be approved for the 2021 season without RCD protection being added to the three columns on Bingham Market Place and the electrical post on the Co-op corner. The RCD protection was discussed with Gala lights and they have arranged for a quote from Acorn lighting, who are specialist streetlight repairers and who are also the company that install the lighting display for Gala Lights.

Acorn lighting re-visited site on the day of installation in 2020 for the evening filming of the virtual lights switch on. Currently, each item is switched on individually with the Christmas Tree switched on at the Christmas Fair. There is an option whereby all lights, including the tree, could be switch on together at the Christmas Fair.

Costs

The initial quote received for RCD protection for all four outlets is £1,005

The cost for boxes to be fitted to all the lights, and a switch to enable all the Christmas Lights to be lit at the same time, would be £525 per year for the two remaining years of the contract.

Next Steps

Rushcliffe Borough Council, who own three of the four posts, will be contacted regarding the work required. Highways will also be contacted about the post nearest to the Co-op car park. It is not known at this stage if they will require the work to be completed by their own contractors, or if they will accept the Town Council organising the work to be completed. Further information will be reported to the next Community & Environment Committee meeting.

Considerations

The Committee is asked to consider the options below:

- a) To have the Christmas Lights switch on, as in previous years, at install and only the Christmas Tree will remain unlit until the Christmas Fair.
- b) All lights to be switched on at the Christmas Fair and to accept the yearly additional cost of £525, for the two remaining years of the contract with Gala lights.

