Christmas Lighting

Background

The Community, Recreation and Amenities Committee have deferred the consideration of the Christmas Lighting to the meeting of Finance, Policy and Resources as limited information was available prior to the meeting.

The three-year contract for provision of the Christmas Lighting scheme in Bingham ended in December 2022.

The Clerk invited three firms to visit site, including the current contractor to re-quote for a lighting scheme.

The lighting in Eaton Place that hangs in the roof space is owned by Bingham Town Council, so this remains in place. The motifs that sit on the central columns are still operational and are also owned by the Town Council.

<u>Update</u>

Two firms have quoted for the lighting scheme, a third failed to arrange to visit site and provide a quotation. Other than asking for additional ideas, the quotations were based on the current successful display.

Quote 1

Three-year contract:

- Item 1 Buttercross £3350 per annum
- Item 2 Buttercross additional lighting £950 (plus £1620 in year one)
- Item 3 Columns £875 per annum
- Item 3 Co-op Corner Tree Option A £2895 (reducing to £2700 in years 2 and 3)
- Item 3 Co-op Corner Tree Option B £4145 (reducing to £2595 in years 2 and 3)
- Item 4 Christmas Tree Option A £1198 per annum
- Item 4 Christmas Tree Option B £2388 per annum
- Item 5 Eaton Place Curtain £780 per annum
- Item 6 Town Council office £5638 (reducing to £3988 in years 2 and 3)

Item 2 and 6 are additional items that could be considered to enhance the scheme but removing the additional items and costing the lowest options for the Buttercross, Co-op Tree, Christmas Tree and Eaton Place, the cost would total £9098 lowering to £8903 in years 2 and 3.

The cheapest option will involve changing from coloured lights on the main tree to white and cool white and a slightly smaller curtain than in previous years above Eaton Place.

Item 2 is a new idea for lighting in the top of the Buttercross that change to suit events. Item 6 is lighting for the Town Council building that can be changed by control to colours that suit national or local events. Both of these additional projects can be looked at as a new project should the

Committee wish to progress them, as they are in addition to the current lighting scheme parameters.

Quote 2

The current supplier has given several options for lighting.

To keep the costs reduced, the current lighting scheme could be retained. The only item that requires replacing currently would be the tree wrapping on the co-op corner tree, as over time the tree has expanded and has damaged the lights. With all options the co-op tree lights are new replacements.

Option 1 – keep the existing contract on a 1 year rolling term. The scheme could be reviewed each year and if lighting failed during the Christmas period, a replacement or repair would be undertaken. The cost would be £7527 per annum. By taking a one-year contract, they will not guarantee that installation costs won't increase each year.

Option 2 – keep the existing scheme on a 3-year contract. The scheme will not be reviewed each year unless requested by the Council and additional costs for changes will be incurred depending on the changes requested. If lighting failed during the Christmas period, a replacement or repair would be undertaken. The cost would be £7527 per annum. On a three-year contract this guarantees that installation costs remain the same.

Option 3 – keep the existing scheme, but replace with new lights throughout, not just the co-op corner tree. The scheme will not be reviewed each year unless requested by the Council and additional costs for changes will be incurred depending on the changes requested. If lighting failed during the Christmas period, a replacement or repair would be undertaken. The cost would be £8895 per annum. A total new scheme would be offered on a three-year contract only.

The current supplier can also look at projectors for the Old Court House and Buttercross as a separate project if required, like in Quote 1.

Budgets

The previous contract cost £8320 per annum on a three-year term.

The budget set for Christmas Lighting for 2023/24 is £10,500. This includes £1700 for the installation (including electrics) and removal of the small Christmas trees. If transformers or new small lights are required, this budget is also currently accessed.

Recommendation

If the current scheme is still favourable to the Council, then staying with the current supplier would be recommended to meet with the budgets.

If this is agreed, then the committee will need to consider the three options presented.

Option 1 does carry the risk of installation costs being increased in year 2 and 3 as the contract will renew yearly, but this offers flexibility to leave the supplier or create a new scheme for 2024/25.

If the Council wish to secure a three-year contract with the current supplier then option 2 and 3 are to be considered. The benefit of taking all new lights in Option 3 is that there would be a lower chance of lighting failures during the Christmas period as the lights are new. Option 3 would be \pounds 95 over the £10,500 budget set.

Option 3 would be new lights and this would also give the opportunity to make some minor changes. The Clerk was asked to check what changes could be made within the Option 3 budget.

Reply:

I have attached some ideas for them to this email both for the Christmas tree and for the Co-Op tree.

For the Christmas tree, we can do either a white, warm white or multi colour on green cable, all in static. Alternatively, I can do a white or a warm white glitter on green cable (either of these options would tie in best with the rest of the scheme). Attached is a picture of your tree from last year, a picture with a tree with warm white and white lights and the description of the lights from our brochure.

For the Co-Op tree, the suspension options are:

- 1. 0.5m stars and/or snowflakes
- 2. 0.5m droplights / 1m boas (same as previous years)
- 3. 0.8m shapes; baubles, presents, candy canes, gingerbread men, hats, trees.



Current Tree



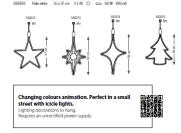
CHROMEX

RGB MINI SUSPENSIONS



Perfect in suspension or trees. Animated: Blast of light or colours. Lighting decorations to hang.





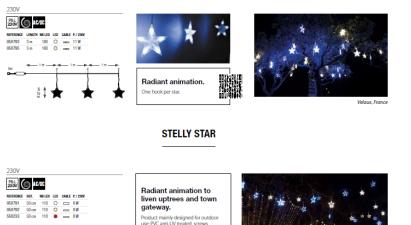




Leblanc Illuminations 2022 267

Snowflakes

White/Warm white option instead of colour.









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Stars



Shapes