

Car Park Update

Update

The Council worked with Waterman Group, on the recommendation of Newark and Sherwood District Council, to progress initial reports into the feasibility of using the contaminated allotment site as a long stay car park.

The reports were commissioned in August 2021 and the final report was received in February 2022. These consisted of:

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal
Phase 1 – Desk Study for Planning
Interpretative Report
Utility Assessment C2 enquiries

On 24 March 2022, Waterman Group met with the Town Council to summarise their reports and to look at the next steps they would recommend. The Council asked for a quote for the next stages to be prepared and this was to include a cost for financial modelling and feasibility.

On 27 May 2022, a quote was received for the following items:

1. Arboriculture
2. Archaeology
3. Ecological Services (BNG & Bat Surveys)
4. Flood Risk & Drainage
5. Highways
6. Landscape
7. Noise
8. Transport

And fees covering third party support which included:

1. Planning Consultancy
2. Lighting Assessment

Waterman Group advised that they would be unable to offer the additional quotes requested and suggested that Newark and Sherwood District Council would be best placed to offer those services.

On 21 June 2022, the Council met with two officers of Newark and Sherwood District Council (NSDC) to discuss how they could assist in taking the project forward.

It was agreed that a quote would be prepared by NSDC for consideration in a months' time. The quote would confirm costs for them to be the project team to move forward with the next stages including procurement of the reports required, planning and managing the build of the car park. Management of the car park after completion would not be included, but this service could potentially be discussed if required.

On 26 June 2022, the Council resolved to further explore the methods of provision with other interested agencies, including Rushcliffe Borough Council, and to report back on progress at the next meeting of Full Council.

On 29 June, the Clerk emailed Rushcliffe Borough Council requesting a meeting regarding the provision of a long stay car park.

On 04 July 2022, the Mayor and Clerk met with the Chief Executive and Leader of Rushcliffe Borough Council on Teams to have an initial discussion. Rushcliffe confirmed that they would be supportive of progressing the project and an officers meeting was to be arranged to discuss what stage in the process the project had reached and how they could potentially assist.

An email was received on 01 July 2022, from Newark and Sherwood District Council confirming that they would not be quoting for the car park project as their team was currently at capacity.

Rushcliffe Borough Council Update

The Clerk attended a meeting at Rushcliffe Arena with Kath Marriott and three officers. RBC are aware that the Town Council have a budgeted amount of £50,000 to progress the next stages and they have confirmed that they wish to assist in progression of the project.

RBC have offered:

- Project support officer from late Sept to be a direct contact to work with the Town Clerk on progression of the next stages and assist with procurement.
- Confirmation of £25,000 funding from the Growth Board. Rushcliffe would procure the next stages required and 70% of the invoices would be funded by the Growth Board allocation and 30% by the Town Council until the funding allocation of £25,000 is reached.
- Town Council to agree each stage with the Clerk and the Clerk and RBC officers will work to progress the work agreed

Both Officers will keep the Growth Board updated of progress and the Clerk will report progress to the Car Park Committee. Each stage will; be discussed and agreed by the Car Park Committee.

Integrated Transport Planning

Whilst the Growth Board decision was awaited, a meeting was arranged with Integrated Transport Planning Ltd (ITP) on 11 July 22, who the Borough Council have worked with on other projects. The meeting was to gain advice on how the feasibility of the project could be progressed and to understand if they could assist.

Three stages were considered in progressing the feasibility of the site:

1. Access Strategy
2. Parking Study
3. Transport and Feasibility Study

A quote was received for three stages and it is considered that stage one should be progressed at a cost of £4000. This piece of work is critical to understand any access issues which may limit/prohibit of this site for this purpose. This work is therefore required ahead of progressing with any other studies at further expense to both the Town and Borough Councils. Further stages will need a procurement route to be followed and this could be progressed in late September when the officer allocated to assist would be available.

Quote

Task 1 – Access strategy

The first task considers options for accessing the site. At this early stage, we propose to use OS Mastermapping (we assume that this could be made available free of charge from Rushcliffe Borough Council) to track the passage of vehicles and check visibility splays at:

- *Chapel Lane / Moorbridge Road junction*
- *Moorbridge Road / Bridleway junction*
- *Bridleway from Moorbridge Road – can two vehicles pass or will a one way system be required using Parsons Hill Court as well as the bridleway?*

This will identify any areas of concern, which a future topographical survey may be required to examine in more detail. We will also examine the pedestrian and cycle access to the proposed location from both sides of the railway and note any potential concerns / areas for improvement in respect of footway widths, accessibility to the platform and crossing junctions. During this stage we will also undertake a site visit to observe and photograph conditions.

Timescales: Subject to timely receipt of the OS Mastermap data we anticipate this activity taking 4 weeks to complete.

Cost: £4000

Considerations

There are many reports and steps required to ascertain the feasibility of the site and parking strategy for the Town. Initially the Council is asked to consider working with RBC on progressing the next stages.

The committee is asked to confirm acceptance of the Growth Board offer of £25,000 funding to progress the feasibility of the site and the offer of officer project assistance.

The committee is further asked to confirm acceptance of the quote for task 1 from ITP to start progression.

If accepted, the results of task 1 will be reported to committee once completed and procurement options for a parking study and transport and feasibility study will be progressed.