Christmas Lights Displays 2023/24

Town Council Stock

The Council has x50 children's designed lighting features that were installed in pairs as part of the 2022 scheme.

These features were installed outward from the end of news displays in the town centre off Station Road.

Eight lighting features have malfunctions. These could be repaired, but the cost of repair and installation equates to £1,708 which could be better spent on displays that allow LED lights, and are in keeping with our new, more modern scheme.

Those children's designed features that have passed safety inspections and are without faults will be included in 2023 displays.

Budget

Outside of our year 2 contract costs, we have £4,185 showing as available in the budget for Christmas Lights. The Council agreed an additional £2,500 for additional lights, in addition we have costs for the live Christmas tree (£800 in 2022), and any callouts.

Options

Both designs shown below are 3m by 1m. The 4-stars design is named Janyce, and the stars and rounds is Collier.



Both options would complement the current scheme and they would be placed outward from Station Road at Grand Corner. These are replacing where the children's designed motifs were, they are not an extension of the 2022 scheme.

Costs

As we are going into the 2nd year of a 3-year contract, it is advised that we hire the additional features for 2-years, to coincide with the remaining term. It is less expensive to hire for longer, however the Council may choose an entirely different scheme in 2025, which is the benefit of having hired in the first place. In 2025, the Council may wish to choose the cost benefit of a 5-year scheme, significantly reducing the costs.

Costs per year for Collier £3,510 on 2-year hire (at April prices, cost to be updated at meeting)

Costs per year for Janyce £3,259 on 2-year hire (at April prices, cost to be updated at meeting)

To pursue either of the above on a 2-year hire the Council may need to pay for the Christmas Tree from an alternative budget, i.e. Events. Although we would only expect a call-out for our own lights, rather than a failure, this would come from contingency.

The cost would be reduced if taken over a longer hire period, but that restricts the decisionmaking and schemes in the future (see below).

Costs per year for Collier £2,457 on 3-year hire (at April prices, cost to be updated at meeting)

Costs per year for Janyce £2,289 on 3-year hire (at April prices, cost to be updated at meeting)

The Council is asked to agree the design it wishes to proceed with, and to delegate to the Clerk to place an order based on new costs given.