

PRUDHOE TOWN COUNCIL
Road Ends Toilets Meeting
Monday 19th June 2017 at 10 am

PRESENT: Cllr Gerry Price (Chair), Cllr Tracy Gilmore, Tony Bradley (SCA), Stephen Wardle (NCC), Cllr Jennifer McGee

Apologies: Cath Frost (SCA), Lee Anderson (NCC), County Cllr Ken Stow, Cllr George McCreedy

1. Stephen Wardle presented an updated quotation based on the higher grade roofing system which amounted to an increase of £1,794 (+ £89.72 as a 5% contingency factor). Cllr Price commented that this was now just slightly over the £15,000 budget but that it was worth it for peace of mind over the roof. Cllr Tracy Gilmore asked for a cast iron guarantee for the lifespan of the roof. **It was AGREED** Stephen would seek this immediately and send it through via email prior to giving the go-ahead for the work.
2. Tony Bradley confirmed that Cath Frost has investigated and confirmed that SCA will provide all toilet roll dispensers, air fresheners and soap dispensers, as well as a regular supply of toilet rolls.
3. Cllr Price reported that in addition to the supply of consumables that Tony Bradley had gained support from the marketing department to a contribution of £5,000 to be off-set against the Town Council's support of the refurbishment project. Cllr Price continued that this was a particularly welcome offer from SCA and in return, they would appreciate as much positive PR as was possible for themselves and the Town. The first suggestion was that any re-painting carried out to the doors could consider the new brand colours of dark blue and pink. Additionally, that there would be a high profile opening event which would include our MP Guy Opperman and also a plaque.
4. Tony Bradley elaborated that the Prudhoe Mill was supporting with the consumables but with a larger more corporate sponsorship there was a need to get some value-added from it. **It was AGREED** that Tony Bradley should liaise with the Administrative Officer in regards the Press Release and wording for the plaque, as well as updating the press.
5. Stephen Wardle agreed that the colour scheme request would be taken back to his superiors as NCC was still the owner of the toilet block. Cllr Jennifer McGee stated that the Town Council should formally agree to request the toilets be transferred as soon as possible; **this was AGREED**.
6. Cllr Jennifer McGee questioned the involvement of our MP in the publicity of a project that he had not been involved in. It was discussed that this was for the purpose of maximum PR, as it would then become a national story.
7. The timescale was discussed as being 4-6 weeks. Stephen Wardle agreed to send a programme of works through but late July, early August was suggested. During the closure, Cllr Gerry Price proposed that the Town Council could publicise other toilets that were available. The Administrative Officer asked for clarification of the 'You're Welcome' Scheme. Stephen Wardle reported that new membership was entirely voluntary but those that had signed up previously were still in receipt of the financial incentive. The Administrative Officer offered that the only toilets the Town Council could promote as an alternative would be The Spetchells Centre and Waterworld but that with respect to the main Front Street, The Spetchells Centre was not open on Saturday afternoons, Sundays or evenings; however, Waterworld was open during the evening.
8. **It was AGREED** that a follow-up meeting was not required and email liaison would suffice.