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| **Council Meeting** | A black and white drawing of a building with a tower  Description automatically generated with low confidence  Market Drayton  Town Council |
| **Agenda Item: 7.C Towers Lawn Toilets** |
| **Date: 18 April 2024** |
| **Appendix : CO170** |

**BACKGROUND**

The Towers lawn toilet facility has become a significant issue for Market Drayton Town Council, over the past few years both the male and female toilets have become the subject of significant episodes of wanton vandalism on an almost weekly basis.

Instances of this vandalism includes toilet roll holders smashed from their fixings, doors being ripped off their hinges, wet paper being thrown onto the facilities ceilings, toilet seats being ripped off & stolen and all manner of items such as tea towels, nappies, and bags of other items being put down the toilet pans causing significant blockages to the drains.

The current situation is creating significant issues and cost for the Town Council, it is also causing significant inconvenience to the residents of Market Drayton where the toilets are having to be closed on a regular basis whilst repairs are carried out to get the toilets back into a usable manner.

The Town Council does not see the issue going away and has therefore discussed internally and consulted with professionals to try to understand solutions to overcome the present problem and to future proof the Towers Lawn toilet facility in Market Drayton.

**OPTIONS**

Having consulted with two companies specialising in the design installation and implementation of public toilet facilities the overwhelming response was the current toilet facilities are not fit for purpose.

They are both too large, they are dated and they are mostly fitted out with domestic sanitary wear fixtures and fittings and they are a haven for antisocial behaviour.

A number of solutions have been discussed with providers;

**Option 1**

The installation of new external doors with timed access, total number of doors to replace is x 3 (1 x DDA, 1 x Gents, 1 x Ladies)

Approximate Cost - £9,972.

This of course does not resolve continual issues of ASB within the toilet facilities and does not provide future proofing of the facility.

**Option 2**

To refurbish internally both the male and female toilet blocks, to include;

The supply and Installation of new & up-to-date toilets pans and cisterns (Wallgate Toilet Pans and Cisterns) x9 in total, and the supply & install x9 cubicles and cubicle doors.

Approximate Cost - £23,868.

This of course does not resolve continual issues of ASB within the toilet facilities and does not provide future proofing of the facility.

**Option 3**

To convert one of the existing toilet blocks (or both subject to design preference) into four separate toilet facilities each (akin to the single facility here at the Town Hall), these four individual facilities would be to commercial public toilet specification and have fixtures, fittings and fitments that would prevent the current level of vandalism the toilets are experiencing.

This was the overwhelming solution suggested by the providers to resolve the ongoing issues we currently have.

Approx Cost - £91,560.

This option, in essence, would become less onerous to the Town Council, avoid the current cost implications of repairing the facilities and future proof the toilet facilities at Towers Lawn for the foreseeable future. It would of course mean the facilities can remain open for those that need them on a daily basis rather than the sporadic situation we have currently.

This is a significant proposal, to create the individual facilities would involve significant building works to the current facility together with significant groundwork to upgrade the drainage, it would however future proof the Towers Lawn toilet facility and provide some vacant space which could be considered for alternative use.

**FOR CONSIDERATION**

To consider progressing with one or more of the above options to improve the Towers Lawn toilet facilities.