

Update from Cllr Barker on behalf of Kiosk Working Party

Over the past few weeks I have been carefully considering the proposed kiosk project and I have struggled to reach any final conclusion. Despite feeling more certain than ever that we should adapt the building/location into something more positive I cannot dismiss 2 major misgivings which are as follows:-

1. The projected cost of the complete project (to include a paved area) would exceed £10k and possibly nudge towards £15k. If we had the certainty of a tenant at the end of works with at least some sign of return on investment then that would favour progressing the project. However, without any certainty of return I feel expenditure on the project would be too risky on the public purse. Although this decision would rest on full council I cannot, at this stage, be certain I would support the project myself.

2. Following the recent vandalism on the toilet facility next door I am extremely disheartened with the grim prospect that an extremely small minority of our community could cause thousands of pounds of damage to any new facility we create. This proposed project would simply add to the risk of vandalism in the area unless we can find solutions to secure the facility adequately.

Both these misgivings are inter-related and I cannot see past them at the moment. So until we can reduce or mitigate both of those 2 misgivings I feel we should probably shelve current plans and park the concept for now.

However, as part of the working group I greatly value your opinions and welcome any suggestions or solutions you may have to the problems I have identified.