

Report on Drawwell Walk Lights

Purpose: To consider options to reconnect lights on Drawwell Walk

Recommendation: That the Town Council approve the quote to connect the lights to Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre subject to conditions request by the centre's directors.

Background

There are currently 7 lights on the walk itself and 4 on the spur path to the swimming pool.

The lights on Drawwell Walk have been working intermittently over the past year which has resulted in several call outs. It is suspected the fault is possibly coming from the cable running under the entrance to Wem Business Park. One theory is that water was seeping onto the cable from a crack in the road surface causing it to cut the electric supply to the lights, in the past contractors have been able to get the lights to work again. However the lights were reported out again last week. The contractors have been able to get the two lights at the South end of the path, below the business park entrance working, as the feeder pillar is located here. They have been unable to get the rest of the lights along Drawwell working again and it has been assumed that the cable in this location is so damaged so it can no longer be deemed viable.

Repair options;

- **Replace damaged section** - To replace the damaged section of cable is a large job as we are not sure exactly where the cable runs and at what point under the road it is broken. Therefore, contractors could end up having to dig up the entire entrance area to replace the length of cable that spans the road. This is a busy location and would be complicated to excavate due to the need to keep access to the park open
- **Take an electrical feed via Pyms Road.** An electrical feed for the lights could be taken from the feeder pillar on Pyms Road. However this would require over 50m of trenches being dug in the footway which would be very expensive and time consuming. In addition to this Scottish Power would have to carry out the actual connection.
- **Take the electrical feed from Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre.** This is the preferred option as it would involve a short 2m trench being dug across the footpath from the existing streetlight on the swimming pool spur path to the pool. The Directors of WSLC have given permission for the Town Council to take an electrical feed for the streetlights from the swimming pool to resolve the situation with the lights down Drawwell. This work could be carried out by the Town Council's contractors with no involvement from Scottish Power. The directors of the pool have requested a contribution of £100 per year towards the electric costs, which would also take into account the electric from the CCTV unit as well. Directors have asked to reserve the right to come back to the Town Council if they find that the cost is much higher than advised. This contribution to be invoiced separately from the annual contribution.

Budget Implications

This work would need to be funded from the repair and maintenance budget and streetlighting energy budget. A quote is awaited from the Town Council's Street Lighting Contractor for the work which will be presented at the meeting.