

ABINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

Report to	Finance Governance and Asset Management Committee
Meeting date	5 th March 2024
Report author	Ron Spurs, Governance and Projects Locum
Agenda item	10

To consider a report relating to the maintenance of Roundabouts in Abingdon

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide an update to the Committee regarding the proposed works to roundabouts located on Marcham Road, Abingdon.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The proposal to carry out works on two specific roundabouts, (see photograph below), has been discussed by the Traffic Advisory Committee (see minutes of TAC dated 7th June 2023).



- 2.2 A request was made to officers to obtain a quote to carry out maintenance work on the two roundabouts shown above.
- 2.3 A quote has been received ODS to carry out the maintenance work which is attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

3. Action required

- 3.1 The committee is asked to note the contents of the report and provide officers with clear direction as to how the project should be moved forwards.

4. Link to strategic plan and objectives

- 4.1 To develop a resilient, sustainable town which will provide a home for residents now and in the future.

5. Background

- 5.1 There are a number of matters which need to be considered before the FGAM Committee can make a clear decision regarding this project.
- 5.2 Ownership – the Traffic Advisory Committee Action Points dated 7th June 2023 indicate that the roundabouts are owned by the Vale of White Horse District Council (VOWH), (para 4). An Officer at VOWH was contacted regarding roundabout sponsorship and referred the matter to Oxfordshire County Council (OCC).
- 5.3 Agreements between South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC), and OCC – there is an agreement in place regarding roundabout sponsorship and maintenance between SODC and OCC but not between VOWH and OCC.
- 5.4 In March 2023 a staff member at Miele contacted the Council wishing to discuss how Miele could sponsor the roundabout. It is not clear how this offer progressed.
- 5.5 ODS which is operated through Oxford City Council were asked to quote to repair and maintain the two roundabouts. (See Appendix 1). The cost of maintaining the two roundabouts over 3 year period is £29,315.40. Officers have been unable to obtain other quotes from similar contractors.

6. Key information and options

- 6.1 The TAC Action Points state that the roundabouts are owned by Vale of White Horse District Council. There is a possibility that the roundabouts are part of the Highway and are therefore owned by OCC. This needs to be verified.
- 6.2 The discussion regarding sponsorship needs to be re-visited if the council wishes to take this project forward.
- 6.3 Abingdon Town Council has no duty to maintain roundabouts regardless of which authority owns them. The cost of maintenance is estimated at nearly £30,000 over 3 years. The committee is asked to consider whether this expenditure meet with the Council's strategic vision and provide value for money?
- 6.4 The roundabouts are currently in quite a sorry state. Consideration should be given to asking county councillors for Abingdon to approach Highways at OCC to determine when maintenance will be carried out.

7. Climate change/green implications

- 7.1 None.

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8. **Financial/budget implications**

8.1 Budget line 4798/501 - £20,000 Year 2024/2025.

9. **HR implications**

9.1 None.

10. **Supporting papers and appendices**

1. Quote from ODS to maintain two roundabouts.
2. Copy of Traffic Advisory Committee minutes dated 15th June 2023.