

## Kirkbymoorside Town Council

### Information for meeting of Finance Committee on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019

#### 8. Revenue Budget

- a) To create an initial draft budget for the financial year 2020/21 to include consideration of:
- I. allocation of funds to contribute to the costs associated with the 2020/21 project to upgrade the Kirkbymoorside Tennis Club house
  - II. allocation of funds to contribute to the costs associated with annual planting, installation and watering of the flowering baskets by Kirkbymoorside In Bloom

Information received from Kirkbymoorside In Bloom in respect of the costs associated with annual planting, installation and watering of the flowering baskets

We fully support the ethos of "in house" sourcing, but the reality of this is difficult.

In the past the group have supported the town market for a number of years by acquiring some requisites from a plant stall holder there; unfortunately they no longer attend the market, so that source has dried up.

Despite being a garden centre, as opposed to a nursery, I have approached Daisy's a number of times for quotes on various items but they have never been in a position to provide the quantities required. The nearest we can get has been to purchase the plants for the War Memorial from them; expensive, but did offer a chance to give them some business. Those in the group with larger gardens do support that business on an individual basis.

Nevertheless, I have gone back this week to request a quote for the hanging baskets. Gill has confirmed again that they could not even begin to consider this work; they do not have the time, the facilities or operation of scale to provide us with a competitive price. We are tub sponsored by some 40 businesses within the town (of which Daisy's, regrettably is not one!) and feel we have a responsibility to seek out the best value we can get.

There is, quite simply, no other option in town. This year we have taken the opportunity to switch from a Pickering based watering arrangement to one based in Kirkbymoorside, which has been working well, and should we go ahead with the baskets in the future would hope to continue. We also purchase all our compost requirements from the local BATA.

You will be in a position to compare the Pickering Town Council costs (£100.00 per lamp standard I believe) and Malton, which will be considerably more as everything is outsourced to an external horticultural contractor, paid directly by the Town Council as I understand it.

Just to clarify, the invoice for watering that we are budgeted to settle is for 2019, that will be paid this October covering this past year's watering. If we proceed with the baskets next year the next invoice would be due in October 2020, which has not yet been budgeted for by ourselves.

I do hope this provides sufficient detail to provide a more informed decision making basis.

Gaynor De Barr