

## **Festive Christmas Lighting**

### **1. Purpose of the report**

1.1 To consider action required to ensure a suitable good seasonal light display in the town centre during December 2019 into January 2020.

### **2. Background**

This follows on from the report by The Town Clerk to this committee in September 2018.

Due to legislation that the previous method of stringing lights across the High Street did not comply as the lights must be 5.8 metres above the crown of the road.

It was accepted that for 2018 the way forward would be to seek attachment of decorative lighting to lamp posts within the central area of the town, subject to the consent of the Highway Authority and the alteration of lamp posts to accommodate an electricity supply and timers.

2018 lights consisted of lamppost fixed lights around the centre of town. Business owners and residential property owners also had Christmas Trees attached to the front of buildings which were bought and lit at their own expense. The Market Cross was also lit.

The Town Clerk is currently working on establishing who is the legal owner of the buildings identified that are suitable for new brackets and will seek their permission to have new brackets fitted. He will also seek advice as to whether planning permission is needed to replace those brackets that failed the safety test in 2017. This is an ongoing project.

### **3. Proposal**

In 2018 we used City Illuminations Ltd again to install and remove the lights in town. Jeff Penfold and I met the MD in September and agreed to look at extra lampposts for lighting subject to the posts being suitable for the lights and adapting to take the light fittings.

The cost of adapting a lamppost is in the region of £300 per post.

The lights cost £200 for a single or £300 for a double light off a post (2018 costs)

City Illuminations would be able to supply lights across the road if suitable brackets could be fitted to the buildings. 2 power sources were identified and would need to be adapted.

For 2019 should the lights start lower down the High Street at St Johns Bridge and should we extend lighting past The Old Bell to the Triangle.

#### **4. Financial implications and risks**

The budget currently is £3500.

Adapting lampposts to supply power is about £300 each.

Cost of cross street lighting is not known.

#### **5. Recommendations**

Committee Members are requested to note the report and to ask The Town Clerk to contact City Illuminations for a quote for extra lighting so a proposal should be put to Policy & Resources for additional funding for this year's lights.

Paul Smith  
Chair Community & Town Promotions  
3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019