

## **CLERK'S REPORT - Full Council meeting - 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

### **Bus Shelter Damage (report from Administrative Officer)**

The parish office received an email on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September from a local resident reporting damage to our bus shelter located at the junction of Glenfall Way and Ryeworth Road. A lower panel of glass was smashed in what appears to have been an act of vandalism. The incident was reported to the police. Although the glass was mostly removed by the local resident, CBC Street Cleansing department were contacted to ensure all debris had been cleared away.

We contacted BC Shelters who have supplied a number of bus shelters for us over the last few years, and they have quoted £410 +VAT to replace and install the panel.

By waiting until their engineers are next in the Gloucestershire area as opposed to asking them to make a one-off immediate trip, we have saved over £600. However, as a consequence, the date of repair cannot be guaranteed. Given the shelter does not pose any danger to passers-by, it was felt that this was the sensible approach.

The cost of repair has been covered by the insurance, minus an excess of £125.

### **Attendance by staff at virtual meetings and conferences (report from Clerk)**

#### Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils (GAPTC) "large Councils" group

GAPTC co-ordinates a networking group for Clerks of the town councils and largest Parish Councils (by population) in Gloucestershire. Meetings have been on hold due to COVID-19 but are now being held virtually. The agenda for the meetings is driven by Clerks and is an opportunity to discuss issues of common interest and explore ways of co-operation, collaboration and support.

The Clerk attended the most recent meeting of the "large Council's" group on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Key issues discussed were:

- the current consultation taking place regarding the proposed changes to the planning system by central government;
- the possible reorganisation of local government in Gloucestershire which could result in the six district councils and county council being replaced by one or two unitary authorities;
- ways in which GAPTC might support larger councils to share services and expertise;
- face-to-face, virtual and "hybrid" models of meeting in a post-COVID world.

#### Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)

The week-long Annual Conference of the SLCC will take place virtually this year from 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020. The cost is a minimal £25 for the whole week and a range of talks, seminars and networking events will be held. The Clerk will be attending a number of these events during the week.