Penny's Pantry Food Services at the Rhymes Pavilion

July 2021

1. Introduction

Cllr McCarthy and the Clerk reviewed the list submitted on behalf of Penny's Pantry in detail and have the following observations and recommendations:

1. We are indebted to Ms. Cory for presenting this comprehensive list, which is based on her substantial use of the Rhymes Pavilion over the past year to provide support to the community through the pandemic.
2. By way of background, we note that legislation is only very recently allowing the Rhymes to return to its "normal use" (before March 2020), hosting community meetings, etc. Bookings for these are slowly increasing.
3. There has also been the welcome return of the football club, who are now making regular use of the pitch. It is expected that they will start to use the changing rooms, which are in the process of being prepared for use after a period of some years of neglect.
4. There are undoubtedly a number of items that need addressing, which this document helpfully summarises. We present these below, in the "must-do" section, 2.
5. Any decision to enhance or extend the facilities should in our view be seen as a strategic choice by Council, perhaps taking into account the other facilities in the village.
6. No budget was allocated for the upgrade of the facility, but the Council does possess reserves of ca. £45,000, and could reasonably allocate some of these funds to this project.

We present below options for consideration, in decreasing order of priority.

2. Must-do Items, to ensure current services continue safely

Items 2a and 2b: **Small Electric Boiler and Wall Boiler (plumbed into pipework)**

Both are out of service, possibly need repair and both need PAT testing.

Recommendation: Arrange for engineer visit to establish required actions and present options to Council for approval. This will include the option of keeping only one of the two appliances.

Item 2d) Electric Cooker

Currently isolated as it trips the system.

Recommendation: Arrange for engineer visit to establish problem, and fix if less than £100. If not, present options to Council for approval.

Other items from Cllr McCarthy and the Clerk

To update Electrical safety certificate, including services to basement (repairing as necessary).
Recommendation: Arrange for 3 quotations, and present to Council for approval to proceed.

Securing the access to the basement, and space beyond Rhymes, by providing a lockable gate at top of steps.
Recommendation: Arrange for contractor visits to establish options. Present to Council for approval to proceed to seek quotations.

Repair and fully secure the basement toilet.
Recommendation: Arrange for 3 quotations, and present to Council for approval to proceed.

Plumbing for changing rooms, service and repair as necessary
Recommendation: Arrange for 3 quotations, and present to Council for approval to proceed.

3. Highly recommended

The following items, 2c, 2d and 2f, would allow for a full range of cooked food to be provided for events, and sports activities:

New Buffalo Coffee Percolator Machine (CN295)

Recommendation: Approve the purchase of coffee machine as recommended, or similar, to a value of up to £200.

Microwave

Recommendation: Approve the purchase of Microwave (with Oven Grill) as recommended, or similar, to a value of up to £200.

Lockable Fridge Freezer and Cupboards

Recommendation: Explore options for purchase of fridge-freezer & storage cupboards, also the location, for presentation to Council at a subsequent meeting.

4. "Should-do's"

External Health & Safety

Items 1a and 1b - **Handrails around the Building** and **Grass Matting Around the Pavilion. Also the road crossing, and positioning of gate to road.**
Recommendation: there are a number of problems with the access to the Rhymes. As well as those that Immi raises, there is the dangerous road corssing, which we believe would be best addressed by creating a new access approx. 10m up the road, with a zebra crossing. The issue of road crossing is referred to in Cllr Sarah Warren's proposal for liveable neighbourhood funding (elsewhere on this agenda)
Proposed Action: liaise with Ward Councillors and BANES Officers to establish options to address the problems, and present to Council.

Rhymes Building Mural
Recommendation: Council asked to approve in principle, with budget of up to £100 to cover paint and other directly associated costs.

Compost Bins for Recycling
Response: Clerk to investigate feasibility and cost

Non-Compost, Black Bins
(As requested in a subsequent email from Immi Cory).
Response: to investigate, possibly using the existing BPC bins, collected from junction of Coalpit Road, opposite Avon Court.

Strimming bindweed and nettles from Coalpit Road boundary (recommended by Cllr McCarthy and the Clerk)
Response: Council to resolve to instruct the Clerk to seek a quotation for the cost from our existing provider of mowing services. To proceed if less than £100.

Clean ceiling lights [and panels] (recommended by Cllr McCarthy and the Clerk)

Response: Council to resolve to instruct the Clerk to seek 3 quotations and present to Council for approval**.**

5. Could-do's and Wishlist

The recommendation is for the following to be considered when the bulk of the above actions are completed, unless a strong and urgent need arising beforehand, or an opportunity:

- Kitchen shelves
- Wifi, printer and photocopier
- External Storage Space
- Permanent Awning for Outdoor Events
- Enabling Outdoor Dining & Activities – Picnic Tables, Benches & BBQ
- Hanging basket to add to Rhymes

6. Proposals that we do not recommend progressing

Reduce number of chairs in the building to 20 ish.
Response: we believe we should maintain the existing number, to allow events that reach the maximum capacity of the hall to be seated

Remove health visitor items e.g. suitcase and box.
Response: only to progress when we are certain that Virgin Care to not intend to resume their weekly clinics.

Consider leaving 7 tables and chairs in situ permanently but especially on a Tuesday evening for the Pantry on Wednesdays.
Response: reject this idea; this will make cleaning the room for difficult.