

 <b>Executive 13<sup>th</sup> February 2013</b>		<b>Agenda Item No.</b>  <b>9</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Rural Footway Lighting</b>	
<b>For further information about this report please contact</b>	Monica Brown – Tel. 01926 456328 <a href="mailto:Monica.brown@warwickdc.gov.uk">Monica.brown@warwickdc.gov.uk</a>  <a href="mailto:Andrew.jones@warwickdc.gov.uk">Andrew.jones@warwickdc.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Wards of the District directly affected</b>	All Wards	
<b>Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?</b>	No	
<b>Date and meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number</b>	N/A	
<b>Background Papers</b>	N/A	

<b>Contrary to the policy framework:</b>	Yes/No
<b>Contrary to the budgetary framework:</b>	Yes/No
<b>Key Decision?</b>	Yes/No
<b>Included within the Forward Plan? (If yes include reference number)</b>	Yes/No
<b>Equality &amp; Sustainability Impact Assessment Undertaken</b>	Yes/No
N/A	

<b>Officer/Councillor Approval</b>		
<b>Officer Approval</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>
Deputy Chief Executive & Monitoring Officer	24 <sup>th</sup> January 2013	Andrew Jones
Head of Service	23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2013	Jameel Malik
CMT	23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2013	Chris Elliott, Bill Hunt, Andrew Jones
Section 151 Officer	29 <sup>th</sup> January 2013	Mike Snow
Portfolio Holder(s)	29 <sup>th</sup> January 2013	Norman Vincett
<b>Consultation &amp; Community Engagement</b>		
Insert details of any consultation undertaken or proposed to be undertaken with regard to this report.		
<b>Final Decision?</b>		Yes/No
<b>Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)</b>		

## **1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to make recommendations for the financing of the replacement of 187 concrete columns and 372 lanterns (luminaires) for lighting rural footways which are at the end of their lifespan.

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Executive agrees that officers commence a tender process for the replacement of 187 concrete columns and 372 lanterns (luminaires) for footway lighting situated in the parish areas (see appendix 1) at a cost of up to £241,000 and that this project is added to the General Fund Capital Programme.
- 2.2 Executive notes that funding of £31,900 is available from savings made on the 2012/13 Rural Footway Lighting & Improvements budget, and an additional £48,400 has been identified from other sources (HRA - £26,400; Conservation Grant £14,000; Barford Parish Council £3,000 from Community Forum fund; Bishops Tachbrook £5,000) and agrees to officers contacting other Parish Councils to determine whether they would be prepared to contribute funding given that the proposed programme is being brought forward earlier than would otherwise be necessary.
- 2.3 Executive approves the savings realised on this year's Revenue Budget be transferred to the Capital Investment Reserve upon closure of the 2012-13 Accounts to contribute towards the costs of these works.
- 2.4 Executive agrees to fund the remaining costs after these contributions (£31,900 and £48,400) from the Capital Investment Reserve, which currently are estimated to be a maximum of £162,000 depending on the success achieved in raising further external contributions.
- 2.5 Executive approves that should there be further savings during 2013-14 on the Revenue Rural Footway Lighting & Improvements budget, that these are also transferred to this scheme to reduce the sum being funded by the Capital Improvement Budget.
- 2.6 Members approve that the £23,200 on-going saving realised by this scheme be factored into the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

## **3. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 187 concrete columns for street lighting in rural areas are at the end of their lifespan, demonstrating clear evidence of physical deterioration with increasing danger of actual mechanical failure, with the attendant health and safety risks. Therefore these need to be replaced in the very near future. It will be more cost effective to replace all affected columns in a planned programme than waiting until they fail and replacing them individually.
- 3.2 372 lanterns (luminaires) for rural footway lighting have come to the end of their working life and are no longer waterproof, affecting the efficiency and amount of light produced and increasing the frequency of maintenance. Therefore these need to be replaced in the very near future, to improve the quality of lighting and reduce maintenance costs.

- 3.3 The anticipated lifespan for new steel columns is between 35 to 40 years, and for luminaries between 15 to 30 years dependent upon the type. (The "Topaz Opalo" luminaries used for non-conservation areas have a lifespan of between 15 to 20 years and the "Windsor Iffley" used in conservation areas of between 25 to 30 years). Therefore these replacements will provide service for a significant lifespan, subject to normal routine maintenance i.e. bulb changes & cleansing on a 3 year cycle.
- 3.4 Since provision of rural footway lighting benefits parishes, it is appropriate to approach parish councils for contributions towards replacing the lighting within their parish area, enhancing their local street scene. Similarly it is appropriate that the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) makes a contribution towards replacing rural footway lighting associated with the council's housing stock.
- 3.5 Some columns being replaced are situated within conservation areas, and therefore need to be replaced with conservation type columns and luminaries. It is therefore appropriate to receive a conservation grant towards the additional cost of meeting this standard.
4. **POLICY FRAMEWORK**
- 4.1 **Policy Framework** – the report complies with the Code of Contract Practice and the Code of Financial Practice.
5. **BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK**
- 5.1 The cost of this programme to replace rural footway lighting concrete columns and lanterns is estimated at £241,000, subject to tender.
- 5.2 Funding of £48,400 has been identified from other sources (HRA - £26,400; Conservation Grant £14,000; Barford Parish Council £3,000 from community forum fund; Bishops Tachbrook £5,000) and permission to contact other Parish Councils for contributions is sought in this report.
- 5.3 It is projected that there will be a £31,900 saving on this year's Rural Footway Lighting & Improvements budget. It is recommended that upon closure of the 2012-13 Accounts, this saving be transferred to the Capital Investment Reserve to contribute towards this scheme. Should any further savings be identified within next year's Revenue Budget, Members are asked to approve that these will also be used to fund this work.
- 5.4 Members are also asked to approve that the residual costs after taking into account the £48,400 (paragraph 5.2) and £31,900 (paragraph 5.3), plus any further Parish Councils contributions and revenue savings, be funded from the Capital Investment Reserve.
- 5.5 Members are asked to note the on-going saving that will be achieved when the lights are installed is £23,200, and approve that this on-going saving be factored into the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

**Forecast Annual Maintenance 2013/14 onwards once new lighting in place:**

Dayburners/Outages	£8,000
Replacement of PLCs (Accidents etc)	£6,000
Replacement Bulk bulb changes 1/3 <sup>rd</sup> of Lighting Stock	£8,700
<b>Total Annual Maintenance</b>	<b>£22,700</b>
<b>Current Annual Maintenance Budget</b>	<b>£45,900</b>
<b>Annual Saving</b>	<b>£23,200</b>

**6. ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S) CONSIDERED**

- 6.1 If luminaires incur faults, e.g. "outages", "dayburn", the Council could choose not to carry out repairs.
- 6.2 Please note: due to all Rural Footway Lighting being an "unmetered electricity supply" this Council remains responsible for the rated electricity consumption as all lamp columns and luminaires are on the "Electricity Inventories Lists" until such time the light sources are removed and the electricity supply is disconnected, which would incur costs. However, unless the entire lighting structure is also removed, this Council remains responsible/liable for the lighting structure remaining on the highway.
- 6.3 If street lighting lamp columns get damaged etc, they will need to be made "safe", electricity supply disconnected and column removed, but the Council could choose not to replace them.
- 6.4 The annual saving of £23,200 could be re-paid to the Capital Investment Reserve, however, as Members will see from the Budget Report which is also on this agenda, £1,340 million of on-going savings need to be achieved by 2017-18.