

**SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – HOUSING, HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

3 February 2020

To: Chairman & Members of the Swavesey Byeways Advisory Committee

**1. Review of Maintenance 2019/20 and Anticipated Expenditure for 2020/21**

- 1.1 Councillor Ellington, Michael Parsons (Waste Operations Manager) and the Council's Drainage Officer have arranged to inspect the Byeways on Tuesday 28 January 2020 in order to assess their current state of repair and the likely level of maintenance required in the coming year, 2020/21.
- 1.2 It is expected the Byeways will show signs of deterioration over the past year. However, the surfaces of the most frequently used sections of Byeway, particularly Middle Fen, Hale Road, Cow Fen, Mow Fen, Uttons Drove and Tipplers Drove are likely to require additional maintenance in 2020. Suitable materials will need to be sourced and spread on these particular sections in Spring or early Summer 2020.
- 1.3 Attached as Appendix 1 is a breakdown of the last five year's annual expenditure per Byeway.
- 1.4 As can be seen from the report of the Executive Director (Interim) – Corporate Services (1.3) it is estimated that on 31st March 2020, there will be a balance of £1,557 on the Chargepayer's account. An estimated balance of £8,823 will also be available in the contingency account at the end of 2019/20 for any emergency or special works.
- 1.5 The balance of £1557 when added to the £1,640 generated from the levy provides 50% of the total estimate spend budget (or £6,394). It is estimated to cost £430 to administer the collection of the charge, leaving a sum of £5,964 to spend on materials and/or contingency appropriation. Any expenditure in excess of this will need to be met from the contingency fund.
- 1.6 It is recommended that the Committee advise the District Council to maintain the present level of maintenance and, in view of the Finance report, to levy a charge of £1.20 for the financial year 2020/2021.

For Discussion and Recommendation

## **2. Voluntary Maintenance Arrangements**

- 2.1 Under the current arrangements the District Council manages the maintenance programme and budget, ordering materials, collecting the rate etc, whilst Chargepayers voluntarily provide labour and plant to spread materials.
- 2.2 At the meeting of the Advisory Committee in January 2019, it was decided to continue with this voluntary arrangement, which has worked reasonably well in the past but is becoming increasingly difficult due to limited chargepayer labour.
- 3.2 It is recommended that the voluntary arrangements are applied for the coming year but that alternative, longer term arrangements, including potentially the use of external contractors and the financial consequences on the charge per hectare, are investigated and reported back to the Committee.

For Discussion and Recommendation

**Mike Hill**  
**Director – Housing, Health & Environmental Services**

## SWAVESEY BYEWAYS

### Appendix 1

#### Five Year Expenditure Summary 2015 - 2020

Byeway	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	5-year Average
Cow Fen	700	0	0	780	0	296
Hale/Mow	840	145	0	2653	1239	975
Scotland/Boxworth	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utton/Tiplers	980	145	0	1950	1236	862
Middle Fen/River Fen	140	145	0	390	0	135
Brick Kiln	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lairstall	0	0	0	0	0	0
Turnbridge	0	0	0	0	0	0