BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 13th JUNE 2024

Item 10 – Revenue Savings Projects

<u>Purpose</u>

To consider public feedback on options for both one-off savings in 2024/2025 and ongoing savings, to ensure the Council focusses its activity and spending on its key priorities and objectives given the current financial constraints and future financial uncertainties.

Background

Policy & Resources Committee on 25th April 2024 considered options for reducing expenditure in future years, to ensure the Council focusses its activity and spending on its key priorities and objectives given the current financial constraints and future financial uncertainties. The Committee approved the proposals for consultation (Minute 116 2023/2024).

One-off Revenue Savings for 2024/2025

The following have been identified as one-off revenue savings for 2024/2025 and the associated budget has been vired to the Contingency fund. The funds exist in the budget base for delivery in 2025/2026, although there is a risk that costs will increase and therefore, additional funding may need to be found.

TABLE 1 - One-off Revenue Savings for 2024/2025							
Description of one-off	Details and Delivery	Saving					
saving							
Salary Savings: fixed	Approved until March 2025.	£16,500					
term reduction in	Permanent Contract: employee could return to						
contracted hours	establishment hours.						
Biodiversity Study and	Strategy does not provide a timeline for delivery;	£5,200					
Management Plan	therefore, Policy & Resources can postpone to						
U U	2025.						
Carbon Audit – First	Scheduled 2024. Strategy due to be reviewed June	£4,000					
Review	- September 2024. Merits in postponing to 2025 to						
	provide full year data on solar panels and on battery						
	storage due to be installed later this year.						
Vehicle Costs	Contract renewal and costs have risen. Delivery not	£3,290					
	until September 2024 but budgeted for whole						
	financial year.						
Notice Board Renewal	Year 3 of a 5 year programme; either Capital Plan	£2,000					
	updated to add another year or remaining 3 year	,					
	programme delivered over 2 years form 2025/26.						
TOTAL		£30,990					

Ongoing Revenue Savings for Future Years

Some future and ongoing revenue savings are likely to have an initial cost. Given the current financial constraints, the savings generated will need to exceed any significant cost within the financial year.

The following ongoing savings have been identified:

TABLE 2 – Ongoing Annual Revenue Savings								
Description of one-off saving	Details and Delivery	Set up Cost	Annual Saving					
Business Waste Collections	Previous contractor increased their price. Other contractors approached to quote. Quotes assessed to ensure the service was comparable. Cheapest comparable quote at £4,524 p.a. was accepted given it is within delegated spending amounts.	£0	£3,741					
Sanitary Waste Collections	Alternative contractors approached and a cheaper contractor was found and accepted given it was within delegated spending amounts.	£0	£847					
Car Park Lighting	Turning off half the car park lights at Shakespeare Park (Appendix 1) and Thorpe Astley Community Centre (Appendix 2). There would still be more lighting than at the Civic Centre Main Car Park. There are no plans to change footpath lighting at Franklin Park, Mossdale Meadows or Thorpe Astley Park.	£226	Approx. £800 to £1,000.					
Installation of PIR sensors in corridors	Installation of PIR sensors in corridors at Braunstone Civic Centre. Initial cost; quotes being obtained.	£547	Approx. £450 to £600.					
Splitting off Lighting Circuits	Splitting off lighting circuits in the Council's buildings, to enable lighting to be turned off in unused areas or for less lighting to be used where the circumstances allow. Initial cost; quotes being obtained.	£200	Approx. £200 to £250					
TOTAL		£973	£6,038 to £6,438					

Plans showing the car park lights proposed to remain on and those proposed to be turned off are attached at Appendix 1 for Shakespeare Park and at Appendix 2 for Thorpe Astley Community Centre.

Public Engagement

A consultation was held between Monday 13th May and 9am on Monday 3rd June 2024 inviting residents, stakeholders, and the Citizens' Advisory Panel to have their say on the proposals and to identify other areas for consideration.

Key stakeholders at Shakespeare Park and Thorpe Astley Community Centre were contacted to advise of the proposals, particularly in respect of the car park lighting, and inviting them to comment.

The one-off and ongoing annual revenue savings detailed in Tables 1 and 2 respectively were published on the Council's website with details of how residents and customers could make comments and/or further suggestions. A link to the information about the savings and the ability to comment will also be shared on the Council's social media.

Citizens' Advisory Panel on 23rd May 2024 received the proposals for comment and were invited to make any further suggestions for savings.

The Panel agreed:

- 1. with the one-off savings identified in Table 1 and that the projects identified will be postponed for one year; and
- 2. agreed with the ongoing revenue savings identified in Table 2, with the initial one-off cost and the savings identified being delivered annually.

The Panel did not have any other suggestions for either one-off or ongoing savings the Town Council could consider.

Three members of the public responded to the consultation in writing and a summary of the responses, along with commentary/advise on how to proceed, is set out in Table 3 below:

TABLE 3 – Consultation Responses								
Project	Consultation Response	Comment						
Shakespeare	Raised the lights as a	Conclude that the respondent						
Park Car Park	concern when replying to the	supports the proposals to turn off half						
Lights	planning application.	the Shakespeare Car Park Lights.						

TABLE 3 – Consultation Responses							
Project	Consultation Response	Comment					
Shakespeare Park Car Park Lights and a New Suggestion	Lights on the Shakespeare Park Sports Pavilion should be considered for turning off altogether; due to the lights being bright and have encouraged youth onto the park later in the evening and the night leading to anti- social behaviour. (<i>Two responses</i>)	It could reasonably be concluded that the two respondents are happy with the proposals to turn off half the Shakespeare Car Park Lights. Some of the Lighting on the building provides light for the CCTV coverage. However, it may be the lights could be dimmed of directed. Equally there may be a potential to turn off some of these lights. Any decision will need to be made with the approval of the Shakespeare Park Sports Pavilion Management Association.					
New Suggestion	No need to cut the entire field of grass on Shakespeare Park. Suggest just the football playing area, leaving some to become wild flower areas to encourage wildlife like bees.	Generally, when grass cutting is behind this results in complaints to Customer Services, Councillors and directly to Grounds Staff. The Council has a Biodiversity Strategy and consideration should be given to the principle. However, it will not save money but allow for staff resources to be deployed elsewhere.					

Recommendations

- 1. That the One-off Revenue Savings for 2024/2025, as detailed in Table 1, be confirmed;
- 2. that the proposed Ongoing Revenue Savings for Future Years, as detailed in Table 2, and at Appendices 1 and 2, be approved and implemented; and
- 3. that delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive & Town Clerk to determine timescales for implementation of 1 and 2 above; and to consider and implement further measures to reduce expenditure as suggested in the consultation responses in Table 3.

<u>Reasons</u>

- 1. To manage cash flow during 2024/2025 to ensure the Council's financial position and resilience would be improved in the short term.
- 2. To ensure the Council focusses its activity and spending on its key priorities and objectives given the current financial constraints and future financial uncertainties.
- 3. To implement the proposed projects as resources and priorities permit. To ensure that any other potential areas for savings could be considered and implemented where practical and viable.



Compliance St	atus:
---------------	-------

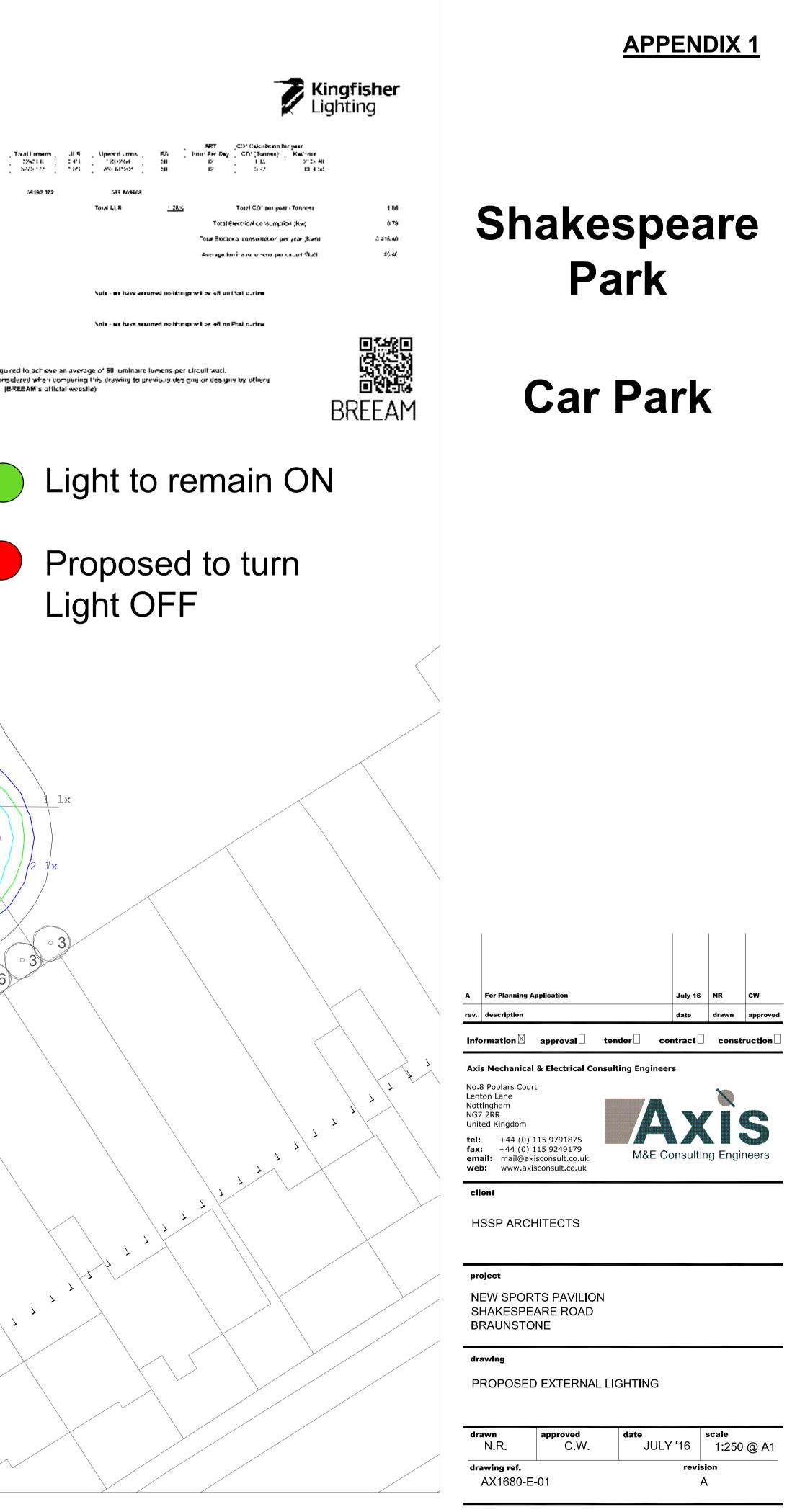
Pol 04 Bedueten of Algheurine light realized	Pase
His D3 Facility effector estance hybling	Ewi
Hos ST verses and extrant lighting levels	Pass

BREEAM

P28389 - New Sports Pavilion, Shakespeare Road, Braunstone

	ατγ 12	Renge Aunge Allersen Hers	Lamp type Store 1 to 1517 75 of 11	LAMP (- Uttens - 5700 - 2211	Walls DCC	1 709 - 67-55 - 77-55		Total Limens 72401 6 8700 777	.01 9 2 493 2 343	Upward Jimus 120-264 200-60222	RA (NI NI	ART Pour Per Day 12 12	.co . c
			Total Instalation Longes					36182 172		145 R04604			
										TOIN LLF	<u>- 28%</u>		TO
Tab	e 1 cond	lwico	Enviro imontarizone	:	•							Total E	ect.
			Target	4	Ch Cwad		18.5					Total Broch	ca o
Sky	úkow		90.		1.08		-772					Average to	ı i' a
άu.	rue lutions	nty (cardolacy											
Pre	cuilies:		N 2		1967		100						
l'uni	Lurine		1	06	9		دهر.			Note - an lave amon	will no likenig	awi sa siliuni	See
Lai	г Гланрах	a allo windows (Luzi											
	:unterv			14	7		'ao 5						
Pne	curlew.			2	9	'	'ws			Note - we have assure	vel no hitang	a wil se eñ oni	Priel
n .1	uru ipa h	nance (cd/m ²)											

The oriteria for a design to achieve the ENE 03 credit have now changed. Designs are now required to achieve an average of 60 luminaire lumens per circuit wati. This affects the type of fitting and light source that can be used. Please ensure that this is considered when comparing this drawing to previous designs or designs by others. For more information contact our lighting design desariment or goldel, http://god.gl/VGOJNy_(BREEAM's atticial websile)



© axis m&e consulting engineers

Dimensions are not to be scaled from this drawing.

