

SALISBURY CITY COUNCIL

Report

Subject : Pubic Toilet Fees – Fisherton Recreation Ground
Committee : Environment & Climate Committee
Date : 5 July 2022
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1. Introduction:

- 1.1. This report provides information to assist members to make a decision in regards to setting the user fee charged for the proposed refurbished public toilets at of Fisherton Recreation Ground.

2. Background:

- 2.1. Fisherton Recreation Ground public toilets are due to be refurbished this year to coincide with the Environment Agency River Park project.
- 2.2. At Salisbury City Council's (SCC) Services Committee on 2 Dec 2019, it was resolved to set the user fee for all refurbished toilet blocks at 50p. This is the fee currently charged at the Coach Station and Lush House.
- 2.3. A fee of 20p is currently charged at Market Square and Central Car Park (these are both manned) with all other toilets currently free to use.
- 2.4. At Services Committee on 4 Apr 2022, the committee discussed if the 50p charge was appropriate for Fisherton Recreation Ground toilets, and asked for some additional information to be provided, as set out in this paper, before a decision was made

3. Income & Costs:

- 3.1. In Dec 2019, the 50p charge for all newly refurbished toilets was agreed by the Council. The fee was introduced to offset the refurbishment costs and were informed by a community survey conducted by the Council, which showed that residents were prepared to pay for improved facilities.
- 3.2. The intention of the Dec 2019 resolution by the Council was to eventually have standard charges across all sites.
- 3.3. The total income expected to be generated from all sites in 2022/23 is £40,000.
- 3.4. The total cost of providing the toilets on all sites is estimated at £222,500 for 2022/2023 – this includes cleaning costs of approximately £170,000 per annum.
- 3.5. Any income generated by the refurbished Fisherton Recreation Ground toilets will be new income in addition to the estimated £40,000 for 2022/2023.

4. Cash Collection:

- 4.1. The Coach Station & Lush House toilets are a mixture of coin and card cubicles.
- 4.2. The split between use of coin and card is approximately 50/50.
- 4.3. Cash is collected once a week by a city centre based officer of the council and Venture Security. The cash is then counted and reconciled by the Finance Team.

- 4.4. The Coach Station & Lush House toilets are both covered by the Council's CCTV cameras.
- 4.5. Despite this, a number of (unsuccessful) attempts to steal the cash has occurred, causing serious damage to the mechanisms.
- 4.6. Fisherton Recreation Ground is not covered by the Council's CCTV cameras.

5. Options for Consideration:

- 5.1. The Table below sets out 5 options for charging at the Fisherton Recreation Ground Teams for consideration by the committee.

Option	Cost & Payment Method	Considerations
A	50p Coin & Card	Additional officer time required for cash collection, counting etc. Enhanced threat of vandalism to coin operation as no CCTV coverage Cash & card options for public
B	50p Card Only	Ease of operation for Council officers i.e. No cash collection, counting Reduced threat of vandalism as no cash on site No cash option for public
C	20p Coin & Card	Additional officer time required for cash collection, counting etc Enhanced threat of vandalism to coin operation as no CCTV coverage Cash & card options for public
D	20p Card Only	Ease of operation for Council officers i.e. No cash collection, counting Reduced threat of vandalism as no cash on site No cash option for public
E	Free	No cost to public Nil income from refurbished toilets for the Council Enhanced threat of vandalism to new investment as completely open with no CCTV coverage

6. Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 6.1. Note the information contained in the report

6.2. Consider the toilet user fee to be charged at the refurbished Fisherton Recreation Ground toilets, and agree an option as shown in para 5 above if appropriate.

7. Background papers:

DOC 85872 – Fisherton Toilets Refurbishment Report
DOC 76297 – Salisbury Public Toilet Survey Footfall 2017
DOC 68994 – Toilet Provision on line Survey report

8. Implications:

- 8.1. **Financial:** As outlined in the report.
- 8.2. **Legal:** None in relation to this report
- 8.3. **Personnel:** None in relation to this report
- 8.4. **Environmental Impact:** As outlined in this report
- 8.5. **Equality Impact:** As outlined in the report.