

Toilet Working Group Meeting – Wednesday 9 August 2023

In Attendance: Cllrs Wendy Brooks, John Pitts and Elise Youngman

The proposals had been reviewed and there was interest in the products provided by Resan as an alternative material to stainless steel due to materials being designed for the hardest of wear, however it was agreed that the current case-by-case approach to the toilets was preferential.

The next toilet refurbishments were Kensington Gardens, Kirkley Cliff Road, Lowestoft Cemetery and Normanston Park (which could include the changing rooms).

The gender neutral/unisex toilets for Sparrows Nest were discussed and there was support for the Town Council's stance on installing unisex toilets, however it was suggested that Sparrows Nest might require further consideration due to the park being frequented by family groups and different generations, particularly as the site is popular for events. One suggestion was to consider the site having both unisex and single sex toilets. It was queried whether the radar key would be reinstalled or removed from the current disabled toilet once it has been refurbished.

Cllr Brooks suggested the Normanston Parks toilets be recommended to the Assets, Inclusion and Development Committee (AID) as the next toilets to be refurbished. Cllr E Youngman noted this may be time urgent as the Armed Forces Day event may be hosted at Normanston Park.

Cllr Pitts suggested the Sparrows Nest toilets be sorted before Normanston Park, however Sparrows Nest is part of an ongoing five-year preventative repair work plan therefore the budget may not be able to cover toilet refurbishment this year.

An item was requested for the September AID meeting to consider nominating Normanston Park toilets and changing rooms as the next refurbishment, with Lowestoft Cemetery toilets to also be considered if feasible.

The Project and Committee Clerk clarified these suggested refurbishments would be considered under next year's budget 2024-2025 and the Budget & Loan Sub-Committee would need initial quotes for indicative costs to assess the budget and contingency required.

The Facilities Maintenance Officer was asked to review the suggested company Resan from Cllr Coleby's proposal.

Cllr Brooks suggested Kensington Gardens toilet also be considered for 2024-2025 as it is a small toilets block, however the Project and Committee Clerk suggested Kensington Gardens and Kirkely Cliff Road be refurbished together to match.