

# REPORT TO ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

## REPLACEMENT BENCHES AND LITTERBINS

**Report Reference** ET-25-14  
**Meeting Date** 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
**Agenda Item** 7  
**Prepared by** Town Clerk

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### 1.0 BENCH REPLACEMENTS

During the past year, two benches have required removal:

- a) The bench on the green space at Highland Way
- b) The bench at the entrance to Grove Park on Toft Road

The bench on Highland Way had decayed and was not repairable. The bench on Grove Park had been broken and is not practically repairable.

The Town Council has received enquiries from residents asking if these benches can be replaced.

The cost for two replacement benches would be £1,325.

### 2.0 ADDITIONAL LITTER BIN

During a mayoral visit presenting the business recognition awards, Babylon raised the lack of a bin near their premises with the Town Mayor. It was noted that there was previously a bin opposite the premises but that this was removed. The business noted that the team make every effort to keep the area tidy at night and feel that a replacement bin would make a real difference in helping them maintain the area.

From Google StreetView, it is apparent that a bin was located outside M & Co until the building was renovated for Tesla and Anytime Fitness. The bin appears to have been removed as part of those works and was situated where the door to Anytime Fitness now is.

The cost to purchase a new bin (Wybone Compass as per the bins bought for Canute Place, pending installation) would be £330. The bins would be internally ballasted to not require ground fixings. Cheshire East Council has confirmed it would empty an additional bin if installed.

It is suggested the bin could be installed by the bench outside the Lord Eldon.

### 3.0 MEMORIAL BENCH – BRIAN CHAPLIN

Mr Brian Chaplin passed away on 8<sup>th</sup> November. Mr Chaplin led the South Knutsford Residents Group in engaging with planning for over a decade. He regularly attended Planning Committee meetings, both at the Town Council and Cheshire East Council to speak on planning matters. Mr Chaplin was a key player in developing the Knutsford Neighbourhood Plan, and more widely engaging with the other planning-focused resident groups to ensure a consistent clear voice from Knutsford on planning matters during the development of the Local Plan. Mr Chaplin, along with his wife Sylvia Chaplin, was

presented with a Civic Award in the 2017 Town Awards.

After the November full council meeting, members expressed a wish to honour Brian with a suitable public memorial. Cllr Dalzell has spoken with Mrs Chaplin about what would be preferred by the family.

It is suggested that the council installs a bench in memory of Mr Chaplin. This would potentially be situated on Legh Road, close to where he lived and recognising his deep association with the area through his leadership of the South Knutsford Residents Group.

The cost for a bench with a plaque would be £675.

## **4.0 LINK TO STRATEGY**

### **3.1 STRATEGIC PLAN**

The installation of bins supports the council's strategic aim of a strong community, through supporting the cleanliness and maintenance of public areas, the council has specific objectives around this.

The installation of benches along roads supports the council's active travel aims, by providing rest stops for those who need them during walking distances. The installation of benches on green spaces supports the council's objective to enhance green spaces including for relaxation and socialising.

## **5.0 DECISIONS REQUIRED**

The committee should consider:

- a) The installation of a new bin on Tatton Street
- b) The replacement of benches on Grove Park/Toft Road and Highland Way.
- c) The installation of a bench in memory of Brian Chaplin