

# St Paul Malmesbury Without Parish Council

## Report #10.6

### Damaged Bus Shelter on Charlton Road, Milbourne

#### 1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To invite the council to consider the options to address the damaged bus shelter on the Charlton Road, Milbourne.

#### 2. Background

- 2.1 Earlier in the year this bus shelter suffered considerable damage, presumably following a road traffic incident of some description. The vehicle or vehicles involved left the scene without informing the council or police. The council also, upon being made aware of the damage, reported the fact to Wiltshire Council (WC) on the MyWilts app in addition to immediately visiting the shelter to ensure that it was not an immediate danger to pedestrians.
- 2.2 The shelter, like a number similar structures in the parish, is owned and maintained by WC. Following a request to WC to identify the options to restore the shelter to its previous serviceable condition, the Cabinet Member for Highways, Streetscene and Flooding reported 'there is currently no WC earmarked budget for repairs/replacement to bus shelters. If a particular shelter is deemed to be unsafe, then it can be made good. WC is working towards a budget for bus shelter replacement and the capital bid route is being considered. In the meantime, there is always the option of the LHFIG funding a repair, but the parish council would need to take responsibility for its maintenance thereafter. As far as I can tell, this approach has always been the case and certainly in my area the bus shelters are maintained by either Melksham Town Council or Melksham Without Parish Council.'
- 2.3 Given the above, it would appear that the only options available to the council are to request WC to make it safe/remove it, submit a Minor Highway Improvement Request (MHIR) to the Local Highway & Footpath Improvement Group (LHFIG) but with no certainty that this would be supported as it might be considered maintenance and not improvement, or replace the shelter with similar and take on the ownership and ongoing maintenance of the structure. Initial investigation has identified that a replacement shelter, including installation, **could be achieved for up to £6,000 excluding VAT.**

#### 3. Options

- 3.1 To consider it unnecessary to replace the bus shelter and require WC to remove it
- 3.2 To submit a MHIR to LHFIG in the anticipation that it would be supported and at some point in the future (unlikely to be assessed immediately as a Priority 1 task) be repaired; the council would be liable for a 30% contribution of the final cost of the restoration and thereafter would be responsible for the ongoing maintenance
- 3.3 To replace the shelter using council funds at which point the shelter would become a council asset and would be added to the three other bus shelters on the council's asset register

#### 4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The council could fund the cost of either option 3.2 or 3.3 from its CIL contributions.

#### 5. Recommendation

- 5.1 The council is asked to consider the options outlined in 3 above and to reach a decision on how to proceed.

