

	Meeting (No)	<b>Community &amp; Environment (1)</b>
	Date	<b>10 June 2026</b>
	Document	Ref No
	<b>Restoration of Little Neston Telephone Kiosks</b>	<b>CE1/8b</b>

As this restoration project has developed over a period of time, it might prove useful for everyone, but especially for new members, to have a summary of the project to date and a schedule for remaining tasks.

## **TIMELINE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS**

On 09.04.24 (minute 138) C&E agreed to:

- recommend to Council that NTC should apply to take ownership of the telephone kiosk opposite The Royal Oak, and
- ask Council to consider whether NTC might also apply to take ownership of the Landseer/Raeburn Avenue telephone kiosk.

On 24.04.24 (minute 97) Council resolved to apply to take ownership of both telephone kiosks.

On 01.07.24 an agreement for the transfer of assets was signed by NTC and BT.

On 08.08.24 BT confirmed that decommissioning had been completed.

On 08.10.24 (minute 47b) it was resolved to remove electricity supplies from both kiosks in order to allow for off-site restoration.

On 08.10.24 (minute 47c) C&E appointed a contractor to install new concrete bases for both kiosks, including a new slab in front of the door of the Landseer kiosk.

On 08.10.24 (minute 53) C&E considered quotations for restoration of both telephone kiosks and appointed a contractor, subject to Council ratification. C&E also suggested potential sources of funding within various existing budgets/earmarked reserves.

On 10.10.24 disconnection of electricity to both kiosks was requested and BT advised that this could take up to 16 weeks.

On 22.10.24 (minute 53) Council resolved to ratify the appointment of the contractor selected by C&E to undertake off-site kiosk restoration and Council also approved the funding sources suggested by C&E.

On 19.11.24 BT confirmed disconnection of the electricity supply to the kiosk opposite The Royal Oak.

On 09.04.25 BT advised that disconnection of electricity supply to the Landseer Avenue kiosk had been delayed and could take up to six months to complete (disconnection had been requested in October 2024 and numerous communications have been sent to BT by NTC in the intervening period asking for the disconnection to be prioritised).

*Current position: waiting for Landseer electricity disconnection to be confirmed by BT following which off-site restoration work will commence and community consultation will be undertaken.*

## COSTS

### Restoration

Workshop restoration for two kiosks*	£11,920 (£5,960 per kiosk)
Fitting of locks to two kiosks	£290 (£145 per set)
Estimate for haulage**	£1,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£13,410</b>

\*Any additional unforeseen damage, such as crucial structural repairs that require welding or reinforcing plates to be fabricated/installed would be subject to a supplementary estimate with any necessary additional work being advised/approved prior to commencement. Cosmetic welding repairs such as fractures in glazing bars will be repaired within the agreed cost providing the overall length of weld does not extend beyond 30cm.

\*\*the haulage cost was an estimate provided by the haulage company at the time of quotation and may therefore be subject to increase.

### Additional Costs

Construct two concrete bases and an additional slab for the front of the Landseer Avenue kiosk	£1,260
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## APPROVED FUNDING SOURCES

<b>Restoration Costs</b>	
<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Budget 4360 Grants	£6,715
EMR 333 New Homes Bonus	£2,256
EMR 337 CIL	£1,640
EMR 329 Grants	£2,799
<b>TOTAL ALLOCATION</b>	<b>£13,410</b>

<b>Additional Costs (Concrete Bases)</b>	
<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Budget 4208 Environmental Improvements	£1,260

## SUMMARY OF PAYMENTS TO DATE

Restoration – placement holding deposit	£2,000
Restoration – 50% deposit	£5,105

## SCHEDULE FOR COMPLETION

We cannot progress any further until BT completes the electricity disconnection. Once we have confirmation of this, we will make arrangements with the restoration

contractor. NB: we have now lost our original place in the queue due to the delay in having the kiosks ready for collection and so we are not currently able to give a confirmed timeframe for restoration work – it will be dependent on the contractor's schedule.

Once the kiosks have been taken off-site, we will arrange for the new concrete bases to be installed. We will also then undertake consultations with residents and property owners in the immediate vicinity of each of the kiosks to seek feedback on various options. The aim is for C&E to approve potential options at the next scheduled meeting.

The restoration contractor will provide a photographic record of restoration and officers will oversee local publicity.

Audrey Duncan  
Community & Environment Manager

## **APPENDIX 1: COUNCIL/COMMITTEE MINUTES REFERENCED IN THE REPORT**

### Community & Environment Committee 09.04.24

#### **138 Telephone Boxes**

- a It was agreed to recommend to Council that Neston Town Council should apply to take ownership of the telephone box opposite the Royal Oak in Little Neston if BT decided to decommission the box.

It was noted that the telephone box at the junction of Landseer Avenue/Raeburn Avenue might be decommissioned and it was agreed that Council should be asked to consider whether the Town Council might also apply to take ownership of this box.

It was noted that a response needed to be submitted before 3 May and the Chair confirmed that she would make a request to the Mayor to call an extraordinary Council meeting prior to this date so that the matter could be decided before the deadline.

- b It was decided that engagement with the local community about potential uses for these phone boxes should be considered if and when the phone boxes became Town Council assets.

### Council 24.04.24

#### **97 Recommendations from Community & Environment Committee 09/04/24**

- a) Members discussed the viability of taking ownership of the phone box in Little Neston, at the Royal Oak, should it be decommissioned by BT. Members noted that the phone box was an important asset to the village.

A recorded vote was requested:

For: 7 Against: 1 (Cllr Edwards)

**It was RESOLVED:** To apply to take ownership of the phone box at the Royal Oak, Little Neston.

The application is to be submitted ahead of the May 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline.

Members discussed the viability of taking ownership of the phone box on Landseer Avenue and Raeburn Avenue, should it be decommissioned by BT. It was suggested that the phone box could be used to house a defibrillator.

- b) A named vote was requested:

For: 4, Cllrs: Davies, Hudspeth, Jones, Wastell.

Against: 3, Cllrs: Braithwaite, Edwards, Marple

Abstention: 1, Cllr Griffiths

**It was RESOLVED:** To apply to take ownership of the phone box on Landseer Avenue/Raeburn Avenue.

The application is to be submitted ahead of the May 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline.

## **47 Telephone Boxes**

- a The Committee considered an update (CE4/47a) on the two adopted telephone boxes (opposite The Royal Oak and on the corner of Landseer Avenue/Raeburn Avenue) along with a list of accessible defibrillator locations in the area.

It was decided that a consultation about options for community use for each of the boxes would involve residents living in close proximity and would be undertaken once a restoration timeframe was known. It was also decided that, if there was local consensus that the Landseer Avenue box should be used for a defibrillator, and if this should prove not to be a feasible option, the Committee would investigate the possibility of installing a defibrillator at an alternative location nearby.

- b **RESOLVED** to send a request to BT to remove the electricity supply from both boxes. It was agreed to investigate options for installing solar-powered lights to the refurbished boxes.
- c **RESOLVED** to appoint the Town Council's current groundworks contractor to construct and install new concrete bases for the two telephone boxes at a cost of £1,260+VAT from budget 4208 (environmental improvements).

## **53 Restoration of Telephone Boxes**

It was noted that quotations had been sought from five companies and that two quotations had been received.

The Committee considered two quotations and:

**RESOLVED** to appoint Remember When UK to restore the Mk1 GRV K6B telephone box opposite The Royal Oak in Little Neston at a cost of £5,960+haulage;

**RESOLVED** to appoint Remember When UK to restore the GRV K6D telephone box located on the corner of Landseer Avenue/Raeburn Avenue at a cost of £5,960 + haulage.

It was decided for reasons of economy (reduced haulage costs) that both restorations should be undertaken simultaneously. **RESOLVED** to approve haulage costs of £1,200+VAT. It was noted that this was an estimate and could be subject to increase (it was not possible to give a confirmed quotation at this stage because removal would not be until 2025). Any haulage cost increase to be reported to Committee.

**RESOLVED** to fit locks to both boxes at a cost of £140 per box.

Restoration and haulage costs to be assigned to budget 4360, EMR 333 (provisional), EMR 337 (provisional) and EMR 329.

As per Financial Regulations, minute 53 subject to ratification by Council as overall combined cost exceeds £10,000.

**53 Recommendation (2) from Community & Environment Committee**

- a) **It was RESOLVED:** To appoint Remember When UK to restore two telephone boxes located opposite The Royal Oak and on the corner of Landseer Avenue/Raeburn Avenue at a cost of £13,410 (including haulage).
- b) **It was RESOLVED:** To approve funding this project from the following reserved funds for the enhancement of assets in town and community benefit:  
Budget 4360 - £6,715.60 Grants & Donations  
EMR 333 - £2,256 (New Homes Bonus)  
EMR 337 £1640 (CiL)  
EMR 329 £2,799 Grants

## APPENDIX 2: THE APPOINTED CONTRACTOR

### PREVIOUS PROJECTS





## HAULAGE



## LOCK WITH POLISHED BRASS ESCUTCHION

