BRIDGNORTH TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2019

LJ/2019

5th December 2019

REPORT TO TOWN COUNCILLORS

AGENDA ITEM 11 – IT Operating System Upgrade

AIM

1. To approve funding for an upgrade of the Town Council's computer operating system.

BACKGROUND

2. The Town Council computers currently on operate on Windows 7. However Microsoft has recently made this obsolete (no further updates).

DISCUSSION/ COMMENT

3. The Town Council relies on its IT system to engage with a number of commercial packages such as our accounts package.

4. These commercial package providers have advised that they will not guarantee functionality if clients do not upgrade to an operating system that is supported/ updated.

5. The Town Council has an ongoing contract with an IT support provider and they have been asked to provide a quote to update the Council's IT operating system.

6. Failure to upgrade to a supported Operating Systems (OS) such as windows 10 will create some risk to the Town Council with regards to functionality and more importantly ongoing security updates

FINANCIALS

7. There is a budget for IT however that currently only includes for the current contracted cost of mainlining the system. An upgrade of the OS will require additional unbudgeted funding.

8. It considered unnecessary to amend the budget as there are other budget lines within the same cost centre that will likely see underspends. Should the council agree to upgrading the OS it is suggested that the expenditure be allocated against the IT budget. The overspend will then appear relatively obviously in the accounts and be more obvious to see when reviewing the expenditure at the end of the year

RECOMMENDATION(s)

9. It is recommended that the Town Council RESOLVES:

"To delegate to the RFO to negotiate (with the Council's current IT provider) to upgrade the Town Council's It system to an appropriate Operating System".

Lee Jakeman
Town Clerk