

Agenda Item 20.

## Trailer Repair/Replacement

### BACKGROUND

The Town Council own 3 Trailers of various sizes, age and capability. For ease of explanation I will refer to them as 14ft, 12ft and Tipper. The 14ft is used primarily for transporting the two ride-on mowers, the mini excavator and for transporting the hanging basket poles and Xmas trees etc. The 12ft is mostly used for general maintenance tasks i.e. fencing, movement of brush and cuttings etc. It is barely capable of transporting the two mowers and only then with a degree of manoeuvrability and is only used as a back up to the 14ft as a last resort. It is also capable of transporting the mini digger which allows us to get on with other tasks while the 14ft is engaged in non-stop grass cutting activities throughout the spring and summer. The Tipper is our main work horse and also the oldest and most run down. It's constantly in use shifting soil back and forth from graves, and moving top soil and manure the many bedding sites. It is a poorly designed trailer, top heavy and bordering on being dangerous for some of the uneven and sloping areas of the cemetery for where it is mostly used.

Both the 16ft and 14ft trailers have recently been inspected by MOTIV trailers at Church Stretton, one of few local specialist dealers. The estimate to get these trailers back to a safe roadworthy condition is:

- 14ft - **£978.40 + VAT (£1,174.08)**
- 12ft - **£1,093.76 + VAT (£1,312.51)**

If repaired the second hand markets residual price, in good condition, would be:

- 14ft - **£1,500.00**
- 12ft - **£2 to £2,225.00**

The quoted trade in price is in the region of:

- 14ft - **£400.00 + VAT (£480.00)**
- 12ft - **£700.00 + VAT (£840.00)**

The current 12ft trailer is not really fit for purpose as it is restricted in length and width. It has no drop down legs fitted to prevent dipping when loading the digger and is a potential safety hazard, neither does it have fixed ramps and the demountable ramps are cumbersome and slippery when wet, another potential safety hazard. This current configuration increases the on/off-loading time and can be very unstable on uneven ground. It is also on maximum weight restriction when carrying the mini digger and does not allow for additional carriage of equipment. A much better and all-round more useful solution would be to purchase second 14ft trailer capable of doing all the tasks comfortably, such as a Brian James Cargo Connect Trailer with the following specification:

- 14ft 6" Length
- 7ft Width
- Twin Axle

- Long Mesh Tailboard Fixed Ramp – for safer loading/off-loading
- LED Lights
- Kick Down Legs – for greater stability and to prevent dipping when loading/off-loading
- 3500Kg Gross Weight Capacity
- Hitch Lock Security System

On the road list price **£3,191.00 + VAT**

MOTIV discount price **£3050.00 + VAT**

Trade in price of old 12ft **£700.00**

Discounted price plus trade-in comes to **£2350.00 + VAT**

Taking into account the proposed cost of repairs **£1,093.00** the additional outlay equates to just **£1256.24 + VAT** and for this the Council would have a brand new, fit for purpose trailer, much safer and more suited to our needs and unlike our current trailers (apart from an annual service), it is unlikely to incur any additional costs for many seasons to come.

Further investigation for the replacement of the Tipper Trailer has identified that a suitable new replacement based on a 3 – 4 tonne tipping utility trailer between 5ft 6 ins an 6ft wide varies in cost from **£2,500.00 - £6,000.00**. With a decent used trailer costing between **£1200.00 - £3,500.00**.

MOTIV currently have a fully rebuilt (10ft X 6ft body) Tipper for sale at **£1400.00**.

Our research has shown that by dealing with this one company (MOTIV) rather than trying to negotiate a number of separate deals (as no other company can provide the whole package) the Town Council is more likely to get the best deal.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the information provided above it is recommended that in order to return to a safe and fully operational capability, that the following option is considered by Council:

- That the 14ft trailer is repaired back to service and has loading legs fitted at an overall cost of **£1121.40 + VAT**
- That we purchase a new 14ft at the discounted and trade-in price of **£2350.00 + VAT**
- That we try to negotiate the price of the used Tipper down to **£1200.00 + VAT** as part of an all-inclusive deal. Total cost for three fit for purpose trailers, a very reasonable **£4671.40 + VAT**