



Report

Officer: Barry Ince – Outdoors & Property Manager
 Date: 09 May 2023
 Meeting: Finance Committee - Wednesday 24th May 2023

Replacement Trailer

Aim

To highlight to members the current state and poor condition of our oldest vehicle trailer so that a decision can be made as to whether to replace or repair.

Background

The Town Council currently own two 14ft Rigid Trailers one of which is now over 30-years old and recent inspections have highlighted it to need considerable work to get it back to a decent roadworthy condition. The newest trailer is used to transport the two ride-on mowers, whilst the older one transports the third ride-on carries out other tasks such as transporting the hanging basket poles, fencing materials and Xmas trees etc.

Three independent repair quotes; one from MOTIV Trailers at Church Stretton, one from Severn Valley Tractors at Shrewsbury and a third from Farm and Garden Machinery Limited here in Bridgnorth have all estimated that to return the older 14ft trailer back to a satisfactory roadworthy condition to be well in excess of £1,000.

Discussion/Comment

The older 14ft trailer is no longer considered fit for purpose as a second trailer of that length and width is no longer required. It is not fitted with drop-down legs like modern trailers that prevent dipping when loading the digger or the third mower and is a potential safety hazard. Neither does it have fixed ramps and the demountable ramps are cumbersome and slippery when wet which is also a potential safety hazard. This current configuration increases the on/off-loading time and can be very unstable on uneven ground. It is also on the maximum load weight restriction when carrying the mini digger and does not allow for additional carriage of equipment. In view of the age and condition much better and all-round more useful solution would be to replace it with 9ft plant trailer capable of doing all the tasks comfortably.

Financials

Trailer Type	Company	Cost	Part Ex	Total Cost
Plant Trailer	MOTIV Trailers Craven Arms	£4,355 + VAT	No	£5,226
Plant Trailer	Phoenix Trailers Bridgnorth	£3,845 + VAT	No	£4,614
Plant Trailer Ifor Williams	Farm Garden Machinery Bridgnorth	£3,600 + VAT	No	£4,320

Recommendation(s)

There is currently £36,919 in EMR 325 therefore recommended that the Council purchases a new 9ft Plant Trailer that is fit for purpose and capable of transporting the mini digger plus associated equipment or a single mower and the requisite road signs and barriers and be far more manoeuvrable in confined spaces around the Cemetery. Allowing the DLF to get on with other tasks while the 14ft is engaged in non-stop grass cutting activities throughout the spring and summer. It should also be noted that although none of the company's above were willing to part exchange I feel fairly confident the old trailer could raise as much as £500 on the second-hand market.