

Consideration of the request by the SBC Wichelstowe JV Team to take on responsibility for emptying & maintaining the litter bins in Wichelstowe which are sited within Wroughton Parish.

Context

Wroughton Parish Council (WPC) currently empties 4 bins in Wichelstowe: 3 via the contractor and 1 by the Grounds Team.

These bins are at the following locations:

- 1 on the bus lane where it crosses the road to go on into East Wichel installed and owned by WPC.
- 1 in the lakes car park in Mid-Wichel
- 2 above The Deanery on the road out towards Red Posts.

The SBC Wichelstowe Project Team (Emma Leake & Rob Powe) have received complaints from residents that bins in Mid-Wichel have not been emptied. It transpires that there are a further 5 litter bins in Wichelstowe Central Square (*see Appendix A*) which SBC used to empty and which the Wichelstowe Project Team assumed were being emptied by WPC. However, WPC has never been asked, so no-one was emptying the bins.

Responses to information requested from the Wichelstowe Project Team:

- **Why aren't the costs of emptying the bins covered by the management costs paid by residents?**
There is unfortunately no S106 money available to be transferred for this purpose. As the majority of maintenance tasks (open space grass cutting, landscape management within housing parcels, footpaths, trees, most play areas etc) are covered by the management company we feel it would be reasonable for the Parish to cover the bin collection from the precept which is being collected from the 550+ homes already occupied within Middle and West Wichel.
- **Would you transfer ownership of these bins to WPC?**
We would be happy to give you ownership of the bins themselves, could this just be done via exchange of e-mails?
- **Why aren't the costs of emptying the bins covered in the contract with the management company?**
*There is no fixed contract with the management company, with areas of land and responsibilities being handed over to them in phases in order to ensure they can be afforded and that the management cost doesn't increase substantially for residents. Back in 2023 we had a discussion with the Parish about how the precept could be used to benefit Wichelstowe with two options considered, contributing financially to the ManCo or the Parish providing services. Our understanding was that the former was not preferred as the Parish lost control of what was being funded by the precept funds so we have been working on the assumption that the Parish would deliver services with the precept instead. In 2023 it was identified that the services the Parish were providing at Wichelstowe were the cutting of main highway verges and the provision** and collecting of bins. We have therefore identified bins as a potential Parish cost rather than ManCo, which has the added benefit of providing clarity over the responsibility as all bins will be with the same party. As I stated previously we had incorrectly assumed you already had the 5 existing bins as we knew you were collecting those elsewhere in Wichelstowe, and as no other new bins had yet been installed we hadn't revisited the discussion to formalise the position.*

****** Since this was received, the Wichelstowe Project Team has confirmed that the JV/ Project Team will purchase & install the bins.

Requests from the Wichelstowe Project Team

1. Would WPC take on responsibility with immediate effect for emptying and maintaining the 5 bins in Wichelstowe Central Square which were installed by the Wichelstowe Project Team and which no-one is emptying?

All of the 5 bins are the same type ([Citysquared Street Furniture UK | Products | Litter Bins | Basic Litter Bin](#)) (see Appendix B). NB: This company has recently entered into voluntary liquidation.

Both the Clerk and the Grounds Team Manager would be happy for these 5 bins to be added onto the existing contract, subject to the committee's agreement. Under the contract the costs to empty a bin are £3 per bin. Bins are emptied once or twice a week, depending on how quickly they fill up. For the purposes of this request and WPC's draft budget for 2025/26, we have assumed that as Wichelstowe continues to be built out, and as these bins are in the central square, they are likely to need emptying twice a week:

5 bins x 52 weeks x twice a week x £3 per bin = £1,560pa + VAT.

2. In terms of additional bins in the next year, the Wichelstowe Project Team has indicated that they are considering installing 4 additional bins as follows and they would like WPC to take on the responsibility for emptying these. They have indicated that they would be happy to agree the exact locations with WPC:

- 1 in Wichel Wood - bin requested by residents
- 1 in the central play area - Planning consent requires a bin on the entrance path to the play area
- 1 on The Orchards boardwalk
- 1 on The Orchards northern pond - There is poor coverage in the Orchards so they are considering a bin near the new footpaths.

Please see Appendix C for a map showing these locations.

Assuming 1 collection per week: 4 x 52 x £3 per bin = £624pa +VAT.

3. Would WPC take on the ownership of bins once installed?

Appendix A: Map showing the 5 bins in Wichelstowe Central Square which were installed by the Wichelstowe Project Team and which are currently not being emptied.



Appendix B: showing the Citysquared bins which have been installed by the Wichelstowe Project Team in the Central Square and which are not being emptied.

citysquared

public realm furniture

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BASIC LITTER BIN

Products // Litter Bins

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Product Code:4100 / 4101

Dimensions (mm):485 W x 495 D x 1115 H

Frame Material:Stainless Steel, Brushed Finish

Side Panel Material:Marine Laminate With Iroko Hardwood Veneer, Oil Finish

Fixing Options:Surface-Mounted

Accessories:Ashtray (4101)

PRODUCT PDF

PRODUCT CAD

The Basic litter bin is a smart contemporary bin suitable for a wide variety of public realm applications, and is available with or without a cigarette extinguisher and ashtray to the hood. The Basic litter bin is tough, attractive and easy to install, consisting of a stainless steel frame and cover with heavy duty hardwood panels and a galvanised steel liner.

Basic Planter



Basic Seat With Backrest



Backless Basic Bench



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UK bespoke street furniture supplier of contemporary street furniture, benches, planters and litter bins.

Appendix C: showing the sites where the Wichelstowe Project Team intend to install a further 4 bins during the next year.



Recommendations:

- 1. Note that no money will be transferred to WPC to cover the cost of emptying, maintaining or replacing the bins for the reasons as set out in the explanation from the Wichelstowe Project Team, namely that their understanding was that the services which WPC would be providing at Wichelstowe were the cutting of highway verges and the emptying of bins, and this would be funded through the Parish precept.**
- 2. Agree to take on the ownership of the 5 bins installed in the Central Square, as well as ownership of the existing 4 bins which WPC already empties but does not own, and any future bins which the Wichelstowe Project Team installs within the parish. Any bins transferred to WPC would be added to WPC's Asset Register.**
- 3. Agree that in addition to the 4 bins which Wroughton Parish Council (WPC) already empties, WPC takes on the responsibility for emptying the 5 bins which the Wichelstowe Project Team has installed in the Central Square and to add them to the existing contract. This would ensure consistency of approach throughout WPC's area in Wichelstowe.**
- 4. When the existing Citysquared litter bins need replacing, WPC would look to reduce the number and replace them with Gladstone Jubilee 1,100 litre bins to ensure consistency across the parish.**
- 5. Agree that WPC takes on responsibility to empty the 4 bins which the Wichelstowe Project Team intends to install during the next year, and any additional bins not yet installed on the following basis:**
 - The Wichelstowe Project Team agree to pay for the purchase and installation of any litter bins not yet installed, and that these would be Gladstone Jubilee 1,100 litre bins in black with gold, and would be for both litter and dog waste, to ensure consistency of approach across the parish.**
 - The site of any new bins must be agreed by the Wichelstowe Project Team with WPC before installation: bins must be sited close to roads so as to minimise the distance over which the rubbish needs to be carried for H&S reasons.**
 - The Wichelstowe Project Team confirm they will give reasonable notice to WPC before new bins are installed to enable WPC to give reasonable notice to our contractor for those bins to be added onto the existing contract.**

The Wichelstowe Project Team has indicated this would be acceptable to them.