

Open Spaces

Date: 1 June 2021

Title: Rural Market Town Group Signs Report

Purpose of Report

To consider allowing officers to go ahead with replacing signs in Ilminster

Consideration:

Members recognise the benefit in Officers establishing what signs require replacement, what designs on existing signs need updating and the opportunity to make use of Market Town Investment Group funds (MTIG) to benefit this. One member to work with officers on this.

Report:

1. Historical documentation indicates that members of the town council are aware that there are a number of signs around Ilminster that are either missing, out of date or do not currently exist.
2. As part of the recent Expressions of Interest Forms submitted by some councillors in respect of "Welcome Back Funding", it was identified that MTIG funding would be helpful to bring about an improvement in the signage in Ilminster.
3. There are four of the "Ilminster – Medieval Market Town" Signs around the town. (appendix 12a) The one that is in Orchard Vale car park has been missing for some time. (appendix 12b). The other boards would appear as if they would benefit from updating.
4. The funding for these boards was originally agreed by MTIG back in 2007. The boards once installed would then be the responsibility for the Town Council to maintain.
5. It would appear on initial inspection that the signs would be able to be updated through the use of vinyl overlays on the existing backing boards. However without closer inspection this cannot be guaranteed. In the event this is not possible new backing boards would need to be purchased.

6. Before any new signs were purchased the design would be brought to Open Spaces for their consideration or an email with the design circulated to members for their thoughts to be incorporated. See how best.
7. Officers will look with appropriate members, MTIG and SSDC to establish what other signs, signposts and infrastructure can purchased using MTIG funding in line with the Expressions of Interest submitted recently.

Suggested way forward

8. Members recognise the benefit in Officers establishing what signs require replacement, what designs on existing signs need updating and the opportunity to make use of Market Town Investment Group funds (MTIG) to benefit this. One member to work with officers on this.

Mark Tredwin
Town clerk
28 June 2021

Appendix 12a



Appendix 12b

