

PROPOSAL FOR FUTURE USE OF VAS EQUIPMENT – UPDATED JUNE 2023

Stephen Little has spoken with Jason Scott who confirms that, provided somebody else moves the VAS camera once a month and recharges it, he will read the VAS each month (downloading via Bluetooth) and send the data to the Clerk to be published on the website. He will do this voluntarily and an initial 12-month period has been suggested.

Barbara Bodkin spoke to David Williams, the handyman, who currently has the VAS camera and all the related equipment in storage on behalf of the Parish Council. He is willing to move the equipment between the 2 poles on an agreed schedule (i.e. monthly) and make sure the machine is fully charged. He will invoice the Parish Council at the agreed hourly rate of £20.50 plus the cost of the electricity to charge the Lithium batteries. He is willing to attend Chapter 8 training. DCC have advised that they do not fund training for anyone not a volunteer or directly employed by the Parish Council. We will have to source the course ourselves and the cost is estimated at £250-£300. This does not include travel expenses or any charge for the Handyman's time to attend.

The Handyman is willing to undertake this work for an initial 12-month period.

Following June Council Debbie Bird, the Clerk, obtained some indicative costings from the Handyman for his work, he has costed this out at £35.60 per month (£427.20 per annum), excluding any further requirements/costs required following Chapter 8 training.

If the Council pays for all the Chapter 8 training, the indicative cost of the training would be £470-£520, to include the Handyman's time and milage costs.

The total cost for the 12-month period would be in the region of £900 - £950, taking up the budget of £1,000 with little to allow for contingency.

The Clerk has approached Halberton Parish Council to share the cost of the Chapter 8 training, as they have also approached the Handyman to provide the same service to them. If they agree this would reduce the Chapter 8 costs to the Council to approx. £235 - £260, and the overall cost for the 12-month period to approx. £640 - £690. Their Parish Clerk has advised that this will be put forward to the 11th July Council, and a verbal update will be provided at the meeting if available.

Additional costs may be required for safety equipment following Chapter 8 training, if the Handyman does not already have these. Costs currently unknown.

Once further information is available on costings a decision will need to be made by Council on the way forward.

Debbie Bird
Clerk to Willand Parish Council