

Policy & Resources Committee Meeting – 5th October 2022

Agenda Item 13

BUILDING ACCESS CONTROL

Following discussions with the Staffing Committee about the safety of caretakers when lone working at the community centres, officers proposed the installation of building access control systems at Maiden Place Community Centre and Radstock Lane Community Centre, the two main centres where there are hirers. There are building improvement budgets for both centres which would cover the cost of such a project. The Staffing Committee supported the proposal.

An Access Control system will ensure the security of the centres at all times. Currently, the main doors at the centres are open whilst hirers are in, meaning that other people can gain access to the building. Should caretakers not be in a position to lock the building as a hirer leaves then there are times when the buildings are open and unoccupied. An Access Control system would mean that hirers gain access via a code which is inputted on a keypad and the doors to the centres automatically lock behind anyone entering/leaving the building, ensuring the safety of the centres, hirers and caretakers. There is an exit button which provides easy and instant egress from the building.

Officers have received a demonstration of the system and have investigated how the system would work with the different types of hirers at the centres. One quotation has been obtained and officers have approached other companies for quotes but no responses have been received. The quotation received is from the company who installed and maintain the new fire alarm systems so officers are familiar with their work. A new Access Control system will need to be connected to the fire alarm system to automatically disarm the doors in the event of a fire, therefore, the knowledge this company has of the fire alarms and the centres will prove useful.

Members to receive verbally the recommendation of the Amenities & Leisure Committee as discussed at its meeting on 28th September 2022.

Emma Carroll, Deputy Town Clerk