
HULLBRIDGE TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME – LITTER BINS AND TREES

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to give further information in respect of the provision of litter bins and trees as requested at the meeting of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 21 January 2003.
- 1.2 At the subsequent meeting of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 12 February 2003, Members agreed that the report be deferred pending a site visit.

2 LITTER BINS

- 2.1 With regard to litter bins, the Committee was asked to give further consideration to the choice of litter bin to be provided.
- 2.2 Owing to an administrative error, an incorrect photograph and description of the proposed litter bin was given. The correct description is the Gregory GLTC60. This is a metal closed top bin with a 60litre capacity. A photograph of the bin is shown at Appendix 1 of this report.
- 2.3 An option of an open top Swintex model was shown, which is made of plastic, is less expensive and has a capacity of 90litres. A photograph of this bin is also shown at Appendix 1.
- 2.4 One of the concerns expressed in respect of the Gregory model was the tendency for rust stains to occur on the pavement. Further discussion has taken place now that the design has been clarified and it is believed that staining will not now be an issue with this type of bin.
- 2.5 The cost of the Gregory bin is £245 excluding crest. The Swintex bin is currently being purchased at £61. This price would, however, increase as the maroon coloured bin would not be part of our normal bulk purchasing arrangements. Further information will be provided at the meeting in regard to cost. Information is also being obtained with regard to Swintex covered bins.
- 2.6 The plan of works for the scheme shows replacement bins in the following locations:-

Corner Malyons Lane and Ferry Road
Boundary 121/123 Ferry Road
Boundary 129/131 Ferry Road
139/143 Ferry Road.

The plan also showed a potential replacement of the bin at 133 Ferry Road.

In addition, a potential site for a new bin was shown at 127 Ferry Road.

- 2.7. Promises of sponsorship for four bins have been received from four forecourt owners, two of which have already made a financial contribution.

3 TREES

- 3.1. The plan of works for the scheme contains a number of possible tree locations as follows:-

Corner Malyons Lane and Ferry Road
123 Ferry Road
129 Ferry Road
131 Ferry Road x 2
133 Ferry Road
137 Ferry Road x 2

- 3.2. Essex County Council officers advise that there are no problems with the site at the corner of Malyons Lane and Ferry Road. This site is highways land and they could undertake planting immediately.
- 3.3. The site at 123 Ferry Road is no longer feasible, as there are underground services.
- 3.4. With regard to the remaining areas, County officers advise the use of planters, as there is a slope on the forecourts. By utilising planters, it would be possible to utilise the site at 123 Ferry Road.
- 3.5. Estimates for the planting of mature trees have been received from County Highways in that the trees cost around £200 each and grills cost around £1,000 each. At the meeting of 21 January, officers reported that planters range from £300 to £1,000 each.
- 3.6. Use of planters provides ongoing maintenance requirements with regard to the need to put in place a watering regime.
- 3.7. Members have asked officers to consider building small bays for the trees.
- 3.8. Essex County Council officers have advised that the County Council would not be prepared to carry out any other work on the forecourts other than planting trees in grills or planters.
- 3.9. District Council officers have, therefore, obtained costs for carrying out this work. To provide a planting area, with root protection and with a

finish of red brick base and 75cm breedon gravel to prevent weed growth would cost in the region of £900 per bay, excluding the cost of the tree and protection cages. If this method of planting were to be used, tree grilles would not be required.

3.10. At present two promises have been received for tree sponsorship, of which one has already made a financial contribution.

3.11. By utilising bays where the trees could be planted directly into the ground, it would be possible to plant Japanese species. The two suggested are:-

Prunus Pandora – this has bronze leaves and masses of shell pink flowers in the spring

Prunus Miyako – this is round spreading in form and has large double flowers, pink in bud but opening to white.

4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

4.1. Essex County Council advises that the cost of providing litter bins and trees has not been taken into account in the scheme costs previously reported. Any work on these items will, therefore, increase the expenditure and will need to be financed from within the overall available budget for the rest of the works.

5 RECOMMENDATION

5.1 It is proposed that the Sub-Committee **RECOMMENDS**

That the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) be instructed with regard to the issues raised in this report in order for him to exercise his delegated authority to progress the scheme.
(CD(F&ES))

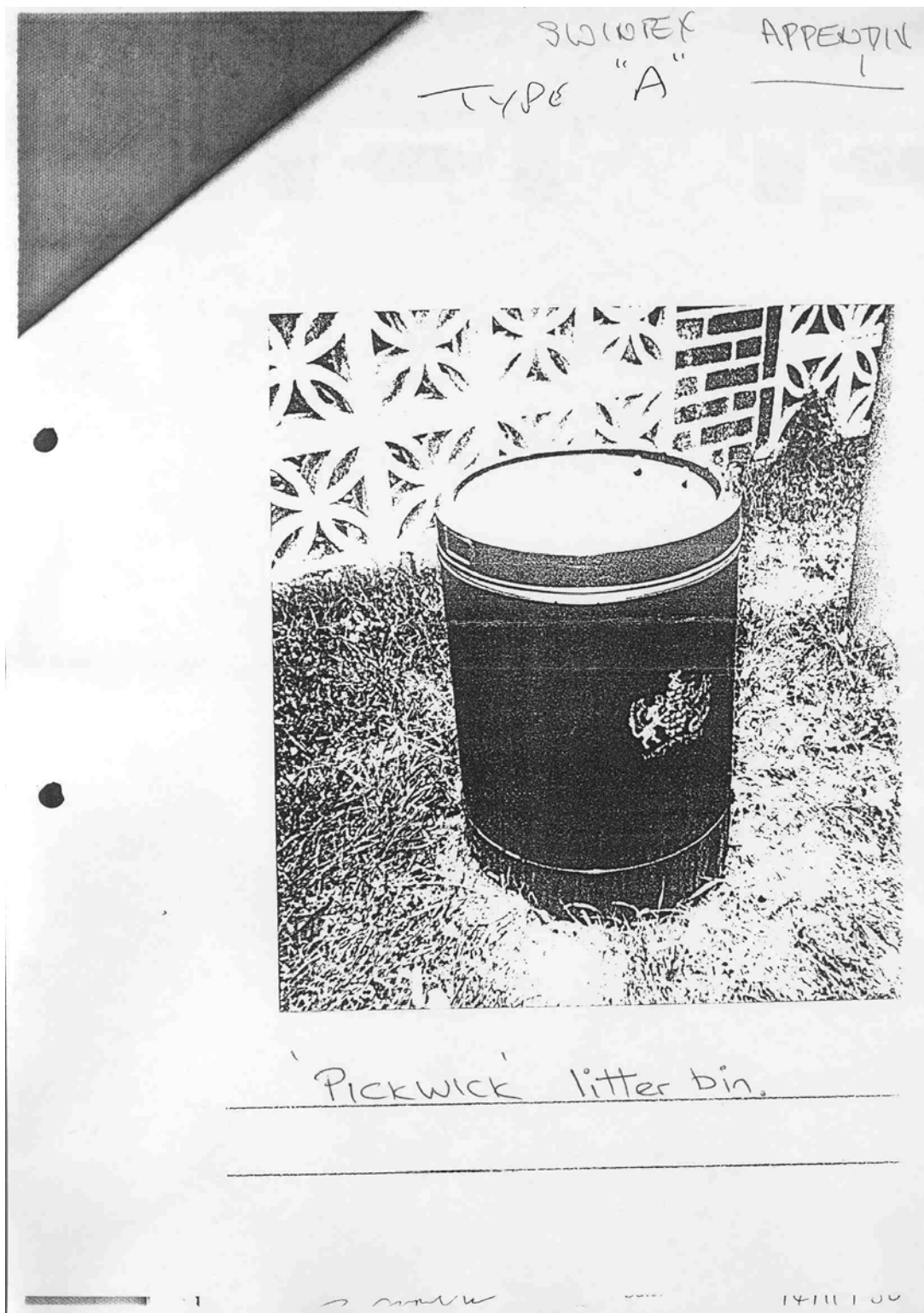
Background Papers:

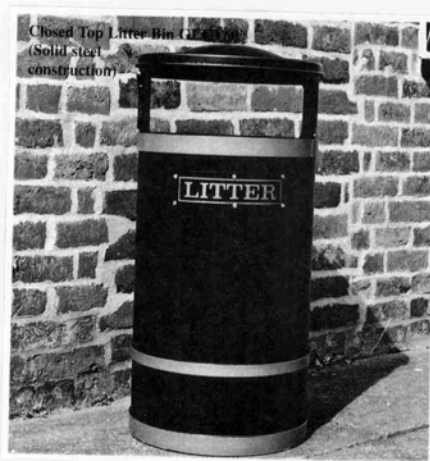
None

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GREGORY GLTC60