

**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL  
FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE  
5 February 2024**

**Officer:** Stuart Farmer – Acting Operations Manager

**Tender Work**

**Purpose of Report**

To receive an update on current tendering works and recently awarded contracts.

**Update on Christmas Lighting Tender**

Tender documents for the Christmas Lighting displays for Shrewsbury Town Centre for the 2024/2025/and 2026 were published on 4<sup>th</sup> October with a closing date of the 19<sup>th</sup> of January 2024, this was planned to coincide with the current displays being available for contractors to see and to assist with fixing points and electrical connection locations.

Tenderers were asked to visit the sites before a face to face with Project Manager, this not only gave the tenderers a chance to see in real time the current displays but also allowed them to speak to residents and businesses regarding the displays.

Following the closing date five tenderers submitted proposals, these are currently under review.

**Update on current works.**

**Upton Lane Play Area.**

Works to complete the install of this play area were completed and the site was opened the week before Christmas, this has been welcomed by residents and the site was being very well used however, an issue of vandalism on the site began to occur on a regular basis. The incidents left sharp shards of plastic on surfaces meaning we had little option to close the site temporarily until a solution for it can be sourced. A site meeting with the installer has been arranged and the Operations Manager will keep the ward member up to date with progress.

**Radbrook Recreation Ground Pavilion**

Further options for the drainage from the changing rooms have been provided by an interested tenderer however, these have not been progressed to date, further site meetings will be arranged in the near future.

**Kynaston Road Projects**

- **Play Area**

The play has now been completed, following a snagging visit from the contractor the site was opened in the first week of January. The new facility has been welcomed by residents and continues to be very well used.

- **Drainage**

The contractor has completed the necessary drainage piping works and has vacated the site, they will return in the spring to complete the final ground preparation works that have not been possible due the weather conditions experienced during the project. This will also allow the ground to settle naturally and reduce any further compaction. Whilst the heavy rains during the project caused a delay in completion it did mean the contractor was able to prove the drainage is running and that any blockages further along the existing drainage have been removed.

**Old Riverbed Project**

The contractor has not yet returned site since the previous update, this is due to a delay in the production of the trash screen, the Operations Manager is in constant contact with the contractor and will update the relevant parties once a return date has been confirmed.

**Production and Lead Times**

Lead times are asked for in tender submissions, but these can only be used for the week or even day of the submittance as they are ever changing, firm dates are often not available until the point of order and even then, they may slip due to production line issues.

The project manager will continue to pursue prompt supply and install dates during projects and will keep ward members up to date when appropriate.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- (i) **The report be noted.**