

Agenda Item: 7 c

Report to: Amenities Committee

Date: 1st October 2025

Subject: Public Toilets

Summary: The Committee is asked to note and agree what public toilets to remain open for the winter season.

1. Background and objective

1.1 The Council resolved to open 7 public toilets at Full Council meeting 26th March 2025, following a recommendation from the Amenities Committee of 5th March 2025.

It was agreed to open 2 permanently pending further market offer information from Rother District Council. The remaining 5 toilets to be opened for the summer season 1st April 2025 to 30th September 2025, with a review at the end of the summer season for further decision.

This report does not include Devonshire Square toilets as this facility is to be opened 12 months of the year, and relevant budget has been agreed.

2. Purpose of the report

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to show the costings for each public toilet year to date.
- 2.2 Rother District Council has provided updates on the current market offers on the toilets as of 17th September 2025.
- 2.3 The committee should note that with devolution pending in the near future this may change the market offers/ownership of the asset.

3. Detailed Costings.

- 3.1 The information is displayed in the table as follows.

Public Toilet – Potentially Permanent	Cost detail	Actual Costs YTD -	Notes – Updates from RDC
Little Common Roundabout	Water/Sewerage Contract Cleaning Safety Repair – Ivy removal Long term improvements TOTAL COST YTD	£714.10 £2167.62 £400.00 £3,644.96	Potential Occupier 'gone quiet' KEEP OPEN
Cooden Sea Road	Deep Clean Electric Water/Sewerage Contract Cleaning Safety Repair Sanitary bin Long term improvements	N/A	TO REMAIN CLOSED DUE TO CONDITION OF THE TOILET
Channel View East	Water/Sewerage Contract Cleaning Safety Repair – lock repair Long term improvements TOTAL COST YTD	£0.00 £11,835.66 £90.00 £12,289.30	The Town council is in the process of acquiring. KEEP OPEN
Public Toilet - Temporary			
East Parade	Water/Sewerage Contract Cleaning Safety Repair – Drain/Repairs TOTAL COST YTD	£0.00 £5134.08 £751.14 £5,885.22	Opened 1.4.2025-30.9.2025 Market Offer estimate to complete February 2026 TO CLOSE 1st October 2025
West Parade	Water/Sewerage Contract Cleaning TOTAL COST YTD	£0.00 £5,660.35 £5,660.35	Opened 1.4.2025-30.9.2025 Market Offer estimate to complete February 2026 TO CLOSE 1st October 2025
Sidley	Water/Sewerage Contract Cleaning Safety Repair – Strim Work, Locks and cistern TOTAL COST YTD	£0.00 £2,798.58 £575.74 £3,374.32	Market Offer withdrawn. KEEP OPEN

Little Common Recreation Ground	Water/Sewerage Contract Cleaning	£1,369.40 £1,989.84	Opened 1.4.2025-30.9.2025 Potential occupier 'gone quiet'
	TOTAL COST YTD	<u>£3,359.24</u>	TO CLOSE 1st October 2025
Normans Bay	Water/Sewerage Contract Cleaning Safety Repair – Lock repair and general repairs	£0.00 £10,726.00 £768.74	Opened 1.4.2025-30.9.2025 Potential occupier 'gone quiet'
	TOTAL COST YTD	<u>£11,494.74</u>	TO CLOSE 1st October 2025
Manor Barn	Deep Clean Electric Water Contract Cleaning Safety Repair	N/A	TO REMAIN CLOSED DUE TO CURRENT CONDITION

Total Costs YTD **£45,708.33**

Total Budget **£100,000.00**

Remaining Budget until 31st March 2025 **£54,291.67**

The contract cleaning costs covers open, 2 x cleans per day and closing of facility. This requires 2 full time contractors in a van servicing all toilet sites 7 days per week. The figure includes hygiene material (toilet rolls, hand towels), it includes all cleaning products required to fulfil the duties required daily.

The licenses have arrived from RDC pending agreement of the Amenities Committee. The Lease for Channel View East is currently with RDC and Surrey Hills, awaiting update.

The council has sufficient funds remaining in the public toilet ear marked reserve to run the following public toilets – Little Common Roundabout, Channel View East, and Sidley for the rest of the financial year (until 31st March 2026).

It could be reviewed as part of the budget setting in December 2025, as to what services are provided in 2026-2027.

The rationale for closing the remaining toilets as detailed below;

East Parade – vandalism is high in this public toilet and low numbers in winter months, in addition to offers being completed within the financial year.

West Parade – low numbers in the winter months, in addition to offers being completed within the financial year.

Normans Bay – Very low numbers in winter months, information provided by the cleaning contractor.

4. Recommendations

4.1 To agree to the 3 public toilets remaining open for the winter season and look to review further in the budget setting process in December 2025 for the service options in 2026-2027.