



Report on the External Repainting of Town Council Offices

Background

In August 2025, the Town Council successfully completed a historic transaction by securing a 999-year leasehold purchase of the council offices located on Summerland Road. This acquisition forms part of the Council's long-term strategy to improve and optimise its working environment. Future plans include a comprehensive review of the internal office layout, with the intention of creating a designated Council Chamber. These changes are likely to involve formal planning processes.

Current Need

The external condition of the Town Council offices has visibly deteriorated. The masonry paint is peeling, and the glossed windows and doors appear worn and tired. Now that ownership has been secured, it is timely to carry out a cosmetic refresh of the building's exterior. This is intended as a holding measure to improve the building's appearance and maintain a clean, tidy and welcoming frontage during the interim period while more substantial internal redesign plans are being developed.

Taking advantage of the milder autumn weather (subject to rainfall), this repainting work will enhance public perception and ensure the premises look cared for in the short term. The work can be carried out promptly, weather permitting. Three quotations have been received from local tradespeople for the repainting work:

Quote A – **£1,350**

Quote B – **£1,600**

Quote C – **£2,340**

Finance and Legal Considerations

Budget: Sufficient funds are available within the Offices General Maintenance budget, which requires expenditure allocation this financial year.

Legal Authority: The Council is empowered to undertake this work under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, as it is considered conducive to the proper discharge of its functions.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council approve **Quote A** and instruct the Clerk to proceed with arranging the external repainting of the Town Council offices without delay, subject to suitable weather conditions.

Ben Parker

Town Clerk, October 2025