

F&A – 17 December 2020

Agenda Item FA1552/20

Vehicle Replacement

Introduction

The Council's Land Rover vehicle has become a costly and relatively unreliable asset. This paper proposes bringing forward its replacement to 2021 from 2022. This Committee have previously discussed replacing the Land Rover at the meeting on September 12 2019. This paper is being presented now so Councillors can be informed during the budget setting cycle.

Discussion

In the past two years the current vehicle has cost over £8000 in repairs, including a full engine replacement. It also suffers from regular faults and issues common with the model of the vehicle.

The Council is due to replace the vehicle, as part of its Asset Replacement Schedule, in 2022. However, I believe that the council would be better served by bringing this forward to 2021. This would be as the vehicle itself still retains good value having only completed less than 50,000 miles and having a new engine fitted in 2019. We have been quoted a part exchange price of £5500-£6000 for the Land Rover. I think that by selling the vehicle independently a higher price can be received.

Options

Having been with the Council since 2016, I understand what is needed from a works vehicle for Croxley Green Parish Council. Although the Land Rover has its benefits, I would recommend that the Council instead opts for a single cab, 4x4 pick-up. The council will require a 4 wheel-drive vehicle to carry out all the tasks required by the Rangers. Although a single cab vehicle only features one row of seating compared with two on the current Land Rover, the rear seating is only used very rarely, and a better option would be more available workspace and carrying capacity. With the purchase of the Council bicycle there are now other options for staff to use to travel around Croxley Green if needed.

There are three single cab pick-ups available in the U.K. market (I have not included the V.W. Amorak due to its high, prohibitive cost):

	Engine	Ad Blue (reduces Nitrous Oxide emissions)	Load capacity (kg)	Tow Capacity (kg)	MPG ~	Price
Toyota Hilux	Euro 6 2.4	yes	1000	3500	28	£22,478 + VAT

Ford Ranger	Euro 6 2.0	yes	1000	3500	34	£22,545 + VAT
Isuzu D max	Euro 6 1.9L	No	1100	3500	40	£22,580 + VAT
Mitsubishi I200						No single cab available
Nissan Navara						No single cab available
Electric / hybrid pickup						Unavailable off the shelf in the U.K.

(all quotes are for single cab, silver pick-up, with towing accessories and a bed liner)

Trade Reviews

	What car	Auto car	parkers	Car buyer	Which car
Toyota Hilux	☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆
Ford Ranger	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆
Isuzu D Max	☆☆	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆

Diesel, Petrol or Electric

Due to the nature of work we carry out and the loads that need to be towed, a diesel option would be best for the council.

There are currently no electric or hybrid options available in the U.K. to purchase at the current time.

My Recommendation

Following my own research and experience, I propose that the Land Rover be replaced with a single cab Toyota Hilux Active (<https://www.toyota.co.uk/new-cars/hilux/index/grade=ad296de8-4519-4ea3-9ab0-31496037361d%7Cbodytype=2dad3954-a6fb-4139-b671-fcc48886ca5f>).

The Toyota is the most dependable vehicle of the 3 and should therefore result in lower maintenance costs over its lifespan and ultimately save the council money in comparison to the Ford & Isuzu. For information, the Council has had the Land Rover since 2008.

The vehicle will be used solely as a works vehicle, not for leisure, and I believe the Toyota outperforms the other options in how it will be used by the Council.

The Toyota has space for Council branding, but this cost is not included in the quote. Once the vehicle has been purchased, we will look to install branding, a hardtop for the exposed carry section, a flashing beacon and reversing alarm.

Recommendations:

That the Committee recommends to Council:

1. To bring forward the replacement of the works vehicle to 2021.
2. That the Council purchases a single cab Toyota Hilux Active Pick-Up at an approximate cost of £22,478. (Note: quoted figures may slightly change but not dramatically and multiple up to date quotes will be obtained prior to the full Council meeting in January).

James Townley
Grounds Maintenance Manager
December 2020