

Finance & Administration – 14 December 2023

Agenda Item FA1719/23

Adoption of Red Telephone Box

Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to recommend the adoption of Croxley Green's red telephone box under the BT Adoption Scheme (<https://business.bt.com/public-sector/street-hubs/adopt-a-kiosk-scheme/>). This initiative provides communities with the opportunity to take ownership of disused or underused telephone boxes, preserving them as heritage landmarks. The telephone box is situated by the parade of shops opposite All Saint's Church.

Discussion

The BT Adoption Scheme was launched to repurpose and maintain red telephone boxes that are no longer economically viable as payphones. Instead of removing these iconic structures, communities are encouraged to adopt them, giving them a new lease on life while maintaining their historical significance. The telephone in Croxley Green has been used only 9 times in the last 12 months. 1 call was to the emergency services.

Benefits of Adoption:

Preservation of Heritage

Red telephone boxes are iconic symbols of British heritage, and their preservation contributes to the cultural identity of Croxley Green.

Community Engagement

Residents could be invited to provide suggestions on how the box can be utilised in the future. Other boxes have been repurposed for various community uses, such as a mini-library, information centre, or art installation.

Community Beautification

A well-maintained red telephone box can contribute to the beautification of the wider public space, enhancing the visual appeal of Croxley Green and creating a positive impression for residents and visitors.

Recommendations

- That the Council adopts Croxley Green's red telephone box for a total cost of £1.

Ryan Bennett
Clerk to the Council
December 2023