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**Report To:** Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee      **Date:** 10 June 2024

**Contact Officer:** Paula Harrison

**Subject:** Graffiti Murals

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## 1. Paint-fest Mural Artists

- 1.1 At the November 2023 meeting of this Committee, a report on options for graffiti murals was considered. Minute 144 detailed

**RESOLVED** that the Committee notes the option to trial a mural painting in a subway subject to budgets being available and that corporate sponsorship be investigated.

- 1.2 As a reminder, in the previous report, Paintfest responded with the following in reference to costs for mural works:

*An overview for artist's costs:*

- **The size of the wall** (it can be charged per sq feet, or a fixed fee set aside for the artist fairly accordingly factoring on size of wall and workdays, then the other expenses listed that follows)
- **wall condition** (i.e. surface condition, whether needs priming/prepping)
- **materials**, whether it needs any equipment for access i.e. height.

*The usual charge per square feet can vary from 30€/per sq feet to 100€ per sq feet according to artist as well as condition of the wall, and type of artwork design.*

- 1.3 Murals can create a bright statement that impacts on the neighbourhood. The Parish Council could consider a phased approach.

## 2. Costs

- 2.1 West Swindon Parish Council has 17 subways. The average subway is 95 m<sup>2</sup>. Assuming the lower cost range of £30 m<sup>2</sup>, an average subway would cost upwards of a total of £2,850 and 17 subways a minimum total of £48,450. It is likely that these would be the minimum costs and would not take into account any sacrificial coatings or repair work.

- 2.2 Until an artist is identified it is difficult to assess what if any remedial work would need to be undertaken in the first instance and whether this could be covered by the Parish Team or an additional cost covered by the artist's fee.

- 2.3 To progress, it would be helpful to identify preferred subways for murals

so that the size of the subway is established and a commissioning process can be initiated. The Parish Council could consider footfall, condition, prevalence of tags and size.

The highest footfall subways are likely to be

- Westpoint Police point – West Swindon District Centre to Shaw Ridge
- Beaumaris to the Link Centre

The subways with a flat surface wall include

- The Chesters play area to Ridge Green
- The Chesters play area to Rivermead

Both of these have a high prevalence of tags which could make them good candidates for murals.

It is unlikely that Mannington subway could host a mural due to the walls being wet for long periods of time. A list of subways is attached as Appendix A.

### **3. Budget**

- 3.1 The Parish Council has not factored mural costs for public open spaces into its annual budget for 2024, it could be factored into the next year's budget or, an existing budget could be reallocated. There is £5,000 allocated to Seats/Street Furniture that could be used.

### **4. Financial & Other Implications**

- 4.1 Consideration would need to be given as to whether this is an effective response, generally mural art work is respected and tagged at a lower rate than non art work spaces.
- 4.2 Remedial or repair costs would need to be met by the Parish Council.
- 4.3 Work to seek sponsorship has not been initiated to date.

### **5. Recommendations**

- 5.1 That this Committee notes the information in this report in order to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of introducing murals
- 5.2 If the Committee wishes to progress with a mural that it identifies a subway/s and a specification be sent to Paintfest that would allow artists to step forward and a cost to be identified.

Paula Harrison, Parish Manager

<b>APPENDIX A</b>			
<b>Road name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>What3words</b>	<b>Length m</b>
Mead way	Sparcells to Peatmoor Lagoon	actors.herds.slang	18
Mead way	Claypits to Rivermead	tubes.they.reap	15
Mead way	Chesters to Pagoda park	sleepy.boxer.recent	13
Great Western Way	Mannigton lane to Fish Brothers	pots.movie.stay	22
Great Western Way	Bodiam slip road to Mannington footpath	lifts.garage.cups	27
Great Western Way	Toothill park to Mannington footpath, Allotments	comical.print.tidy	27
Whitehill way	Uxbridge to Windmill hill	procured.makeup.whirlwind	23
Whitehill way	Bradenham to Rowton Heath Way	extensive.gifted.sank	15
Whitehill way	Tallis walk to Kiln park	viewing.interests.condensed	16
Whitehill way	Shaw ridge cinema to Link avenue	areas.amber.miss	28
Whitehill way	Eastleaze to the Chesters	dots.cube.animal	16
Tewkesbury way	Link centre to Beaumaris road	covers.librarian.passes	19
Tewkesbury way	Friesian close to Walter close	mixed.convinced.imparting	17
Tewkesbury way	Brookhouse farm pub to Spencer close	dairy.shaped.recap	15
Roughmoor Way	Majestic close to Friesian close	snaps.cyber.telephone	16
Roughmoor Way	Middleleaze to village inn shaw	headache.doubts.trapdoor	14
Roughmoor Way	Standings Close to shaw, Brookfield school	courier.chained.deferring	17
Rivermead drive	Renault to Rivermead Skate/Wheels park	boat.mass.liked	14