

COMMITTEE: ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE

DATE: 14TH FEBRUARY 2011

PURPOSE: TO CONSIDER THE TOWN COUNCIL'S POLICY ON
LIFEBUOYS

1. BACKGROUND

A request has been received from the Common Pond Warden to permanently remove the lifebuoys at the Common Pond.

The Common Pond Warden has advised that the lifebuoys are frequently thrown into the Pond. Although the Pond Warden, the Litter Warden and the PCSO's endeavour to place the lifebuoys back at the stations immediately, retrieving the lifebuoys from the water can sometimes be difficult and can also present a danger to the person when trying to retrieve them. The Pond Warden has stated that it is very difficult to keep the lifebuoys at their stations as they are sometimes thrown into the Pond on a daily basis.

The Town Council is not legally obliged to provide lifebuoys but if it chooses to provide them, there is an obligation to have them placed back at the station immediately.

2. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications which need to be considered are the cost in staff time of retrieving the lifebuoys and the cost in replacing damaged lifebuoys. The lifebuoys cost approximately £110.00 each

3. CONCLUSION

Due to the problem of lifebuoys being thrown into the Pond on a regular basis, it is proving difficult to maintain the Town Council's legal commitment with the lifebuoys. Members need to consider whether they wish to continue to have a policy of holding lifebuoys at the Common Pond or whether to remove all lifebuoys and stations.

Karen Moralee
2nd February 2011