

To receive a report on mental health organisation plaques and consider any actions and associated expenditure.

(Pursuant to Services held on 08.06.23 Minute Nr. 38/23/24)

38/23/24 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON PENTREATH MENTAL HEALTH CHARITY QR PLAQUES FOR PUBLIC PLACES AND CONSIDER AND ACTIONS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENDITURE.

It was proposed by Councillor B Samuels, seconded by Councillor Miller and **RESOLVED:**

2. The Assistant Town Clerk further reviews alternative options for mental health organisations to provide signage reporting at the next scheduled Services Committee meeting to be held on 12th October 2023.

Overview

From the resolution at the Services Committee meeting held 08.06.2023 local and national organisations have been contacted regarding alternative options. The signage is known as 'crisis signs'. Crisis signs are designed to signpost vulnerable people to help and support. The organisations contacted were Samaritans, Cornwall Mind and Papyrus. None of these organisations offer any form of crisis signage.

The Plymouth branch of Samaritans expressed caution at installing signs as it can have the opposite affect and draw people to the area, making it a high frequency area.

Bude Town Council have installed signage on four benches in the area and called them 'chatty benches'. These are places people can go and sit when they wish to chat to someone with the aim to help tackle loneliness and support positive mental health within the community. In addition, they have a QR code on leading to a Bude Town Council webpage linking to relevant organisations that can offer support on mental health. The webpage is managed by Bude Town Council and the links are checked regularly. The link the QR code directs to is <https://www.bude-stratton.gov.uk/your-health-wellbeing/mental-health/>



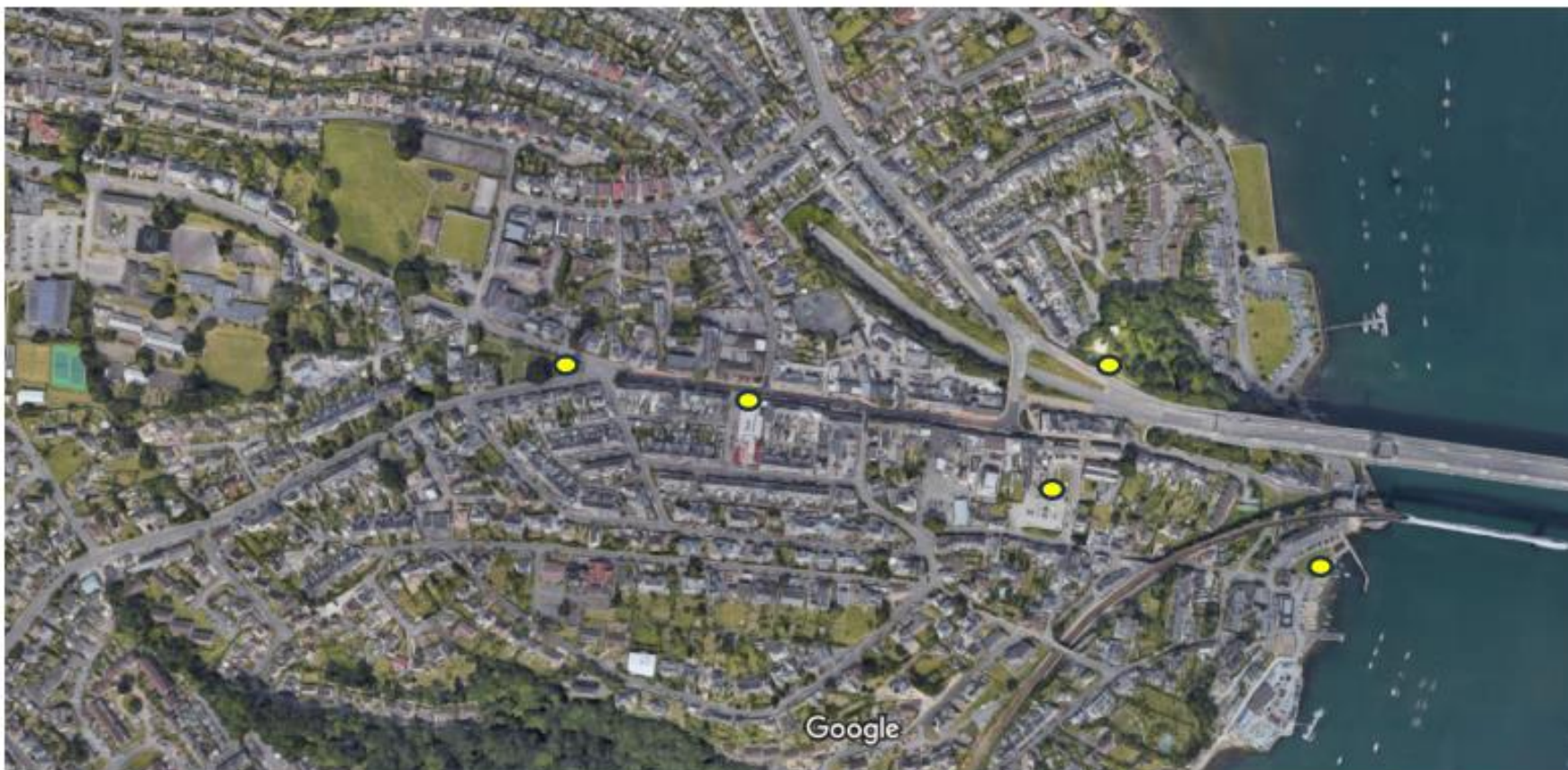
Ards and North Down Borough Council have similar chatty benches and have worked in partnership with a private counselling practice to develop an app called Here2Help which links to the Public Health Agency Minding your Head campaign <https://www.mindingyourhead.info/>

Proposal

To install the below Saltash Town Council Happy to Chat plaque to benches located in and around the Town Centre, at the following proposed locations pending permission being obtained. Proposed locations being Saltash Waterside, Victoria Gardens, Fore Street Memorial bench (located outside of the post office), the Cornish Cross and the Memorial Peace Gardens.

Google Maps

Bench Locations



Imagery ©2023 Google, Map data ©2023 100 m

Five plaques are required to be ordered as this is the minimum a supplier will produce, at a price of £47.50 + Vat for all five plaques. Plaques would be the following size 150x60mm and would be finished in the perspex material.



To follow the plaque, it is also suggested for members review and consideration to create a new Town Council webpage for the plaque QR code to link to, this would be under the community webpage of the Town Council website. This webpage would be created by the Administration department to include the location of the benches, images, support contact information and websites for charities and organisations, that could offer support to resident's health and wellbeing.

Following feedback and review on performance of these benches, to receive a future report on information relating to the potential of installing further plaques.

Recommendation

1. To approve expenditure of £47.50 + VAT to obtain five Happy to Chat plaques, allocated to budget code 6504 SE Street Furniture (Maintenance) current available budget £1,747.
2. To approve expenditure of £90 + VAT and creation of the Health and Wellbeing webpage on the Town Council website under the community section, allocated to budget code 6211 PF Website Maintenance current available budget £1,011.
3. To provide delegated authority to the Assistant Town Clerk to obtain permissions where required for the installation of plaques on benches located at agreed locations.

End of Report

Receptionist/Mayor's Secretary