

Kerry Public Toilets

Consultation Questionnaire

Kerry Community Council (KCC) has operated the toilets under licence since May 2015 when they were threatened with closure due to Powys County Council cuts. KCC has now acquired the freehold at a cost of just £1.00 under PCC's Capital Asset Transfer scheme. They are a very well-used facility – by both locals and visitors alike. They serve the church community, local schoolchildren, walking groups, local workers, delivery drivers, and anyone attending events such as the beer festival, eisteddfod, or fayres. During 2015, footfall counters were installed which revealed that an average of 80 people used the toilets each day.

The toilets currently cost approximately £5,000 to run each year. This cost comes directly from your local rates. This cost breaks down into £3,650 for cleaning and maintenance (the toilets are cleaned twice per day); £300 for consumables (soap, toilet paper, disinfectants etc); and £1,160 for water, heating and lighting.

The original building dates from the 1970's, and its showing its age. Although they are cleaned well, KCC believe that they are seriously in need of renovation and re-equipping - not least to make them more cost efficient to run. And, of course over the years, they will naturally deteriorate further.

KCC would like to apply for grant funding to help us renovate the toilets, from organisations such as the National Lottery, Powys Council and the Welsh Government. But the decision on exactly how to proceed with any major renovation project must rest with the Community and its residents. So we need to get feedback from you.

Having talked with both leading specialists in Public Toilet renovations (Healthmatic and Danfo), as well as local architects, we have concluded that a 'state of the art' renovation of the facility to provide the ultimate, future-proofed, facility that the Community can be proud of, will cost in the region of £80-100,000. This would provide facilities including:

- Hot water!
- A full anti-Covid (and other infections) environment
- Modern energy efficient heating, lighting, and water management
- All access from the front of the building
- Full disabled access facilities
- Baby changing facilities
- Ease of cleaning, maintenance and vandal-proof (as much as possible)

Alternatively, it might be possible to perform a lightweight renovation, perhaps costing in the region of £20-30,000, that would help bring the specification up to a 'nice' level – but would probably not deliver facilities such as disabled facilities or access from the front of the building which needs significant structural work to be performed.

So in order to help us know what the Community wants us to do, could you please answer the following questions, and let us know your thoughts and comments:

Name of Responder_____ Date_____ Kerry Resident? (Y/N)_____

As per the 2015 footfall analysis, 80 people per day typically use the toilets in Kerry.

Do you think Kerry should continue to have public toilets (Y/N), (the alternative would be for them to be closed)? _____

In the questions below, could you please indicate your score (1-5), where 5 is highest/best and 1 is lowest/worst

1. How would you rank the current level of facilities provided by the toilets: _____
2. How would you rank the current level of cleanliness within the toilets: _____

Please comment below with your opinions of the toilets today, compared to other public facilities which you would consider to be 'best in class'.

Again, based on a scoring of 1-5, please rank how important the following facilities would be:

1. An environment that is easy to clean and keep as infection free as possible:_____
2. Running hot water (in addition to the existing cold only facility):_____
3. Access for disabled and wheelchair users:_____
4. Facilities for baby changing:_____
5. The provision of full access to the front of the building for both male and female users:_____
6. Each toilet being a completely separate, individual cubicle that is fully contained:_____
7. Automated, minimal-touch facilities for: toilet flushing; handwashing; cubicle entry/locking:_____
8. Green, energy efficient heating and lighting with sensor controlled on/off to minimise operating cost:_____
9. Improvements to building insulation and use of automated doors to the building access to reduce heat loss:_____
10. Full redecoration of the building internals, with new flooring, tiles etc:_____

Please add comments for any other improvements or innovations that you would like to see to the toilet facilities

Based on the provisional cost of £80-100,000 to provide a state of the art facility that will serve the Community far into the future, and incorporate all of the above points, do you believe that this is a reasonable use of Government / National Lottery type funding? In other words, do you believe that KCC should proceed to apply for this level of funding? (Y/N)_____

Would you prefer the council to 'lower its sights' and apply for funding of a lower scale (eg £20-30,000), accepting the significantly reduced scope of the project? (Y/N)_____

If KCC were able to only acquire funding of £10,000, but were able to make up the shortfall by using money (eg a further £10,000) from its reserves, would you consider this to be an appropriate use of the Community's money? (Y/N)_____

Do you think that the Council should apply for funding for other things rather than for the toilets (Y/N)_____? If so, what other projects would take priority?

Please add any additional comments to elaborate further on what you feel the Council should best do regarding the future of the toilets

Finally – three further questions, if we proceed with renovating the toilets:

1. Should the public toilets be a chargeable facility, minimising costs or even paying for themselves? (Y/N) _____. If so, what would be a reasonable charge for using the toilets?_____
2. On the basis that the full renovation project provides for three separate, individual cubicles from the frontage of the building, (with one being fully disabled), should we move towards
A) providing unisex cubicles in all cases, or
B) have one cubicle male only and the other female only (where the disabled cubicle will be unisex):

3. Should the toilet building be used for any other purpose in addition to its use as a toilet (for example, advertising, or as a public health/information site)? (Y/N) _____.
If so what?

Completed questionnaires can be scanned/photo'd and returned to:

Neil Hayward – neilhayward1@outlook.com

Veronica Wildish – veronicawildish@gmail.com

Carmen Seal – carmen.seal@talk21.com

Or drop the completed questionnaire off at Kerry post office and we will pick them up