Andover Town Council

To consider additions to the Christmas Lights provision 2025
To approve solutions to rectify issues from the 2024 Christmas Lights.

Item No. **9**

Community and Events Committee	By: Acting Town Clerk	Date of Report: 22 January 2025

Background:

- In 2024 the Christmas Lights provision was updated.
- In 2024 51 Christmas motifs were added to the scheme.
- In 2024 the lights on the Christmas tree were updated and baubles added.

The updates received many compliments and appeared to be very well received by the residents of Andover.

To note the following to be corrected for 2025:

- 4 lights in Waterloo Court were not installed because the commando sockets were not fitted in time but have been since. The motifs will be installed in 2025.
- The lights in the car parks did not survive the two storms that occurred in December of 2024, a resolution is being sort for 2025.
- The new extension to the Christmas Lights provision was controlled by a timer unlike the original columns, this will be rectified for 2025.
- The sheet lighting on the front of the Guildhall is old, needs replacing and no longer fits the lighting scheme. Approval is being sought to replace them.
- The fencing around the Christmas Tree did not survive the two storms in December 2024. Approval is being sought to resolve this.

Approval needed to rectify issues experience in 2024:

- The sheet lighting on the front of the Guildhall is old, needs replacing and no longer fits the lighting scheme. Approval is being sought to replace them. Andover Town Council own the current sheet lighting and will do so the replacements.
  A quote has been obtained from the lighting provider to replace them with bright white lights as per the rest of the lighting scheme, this will cost: £1,304.00 + VAT to be taken out of the Christmas Lights budget for 2025/2026.

- The fencing around the Christmas Tree did not survive the two storms in December 2024. Approval is being sought to resolve this.
  This Committee to approve delegation to Officers to investigate and report back quotes for Andover Town Council to buy its own heavy fencing and suggest storage solutions, or to get quotes to hire alternative fencing that is more fit for purpose.

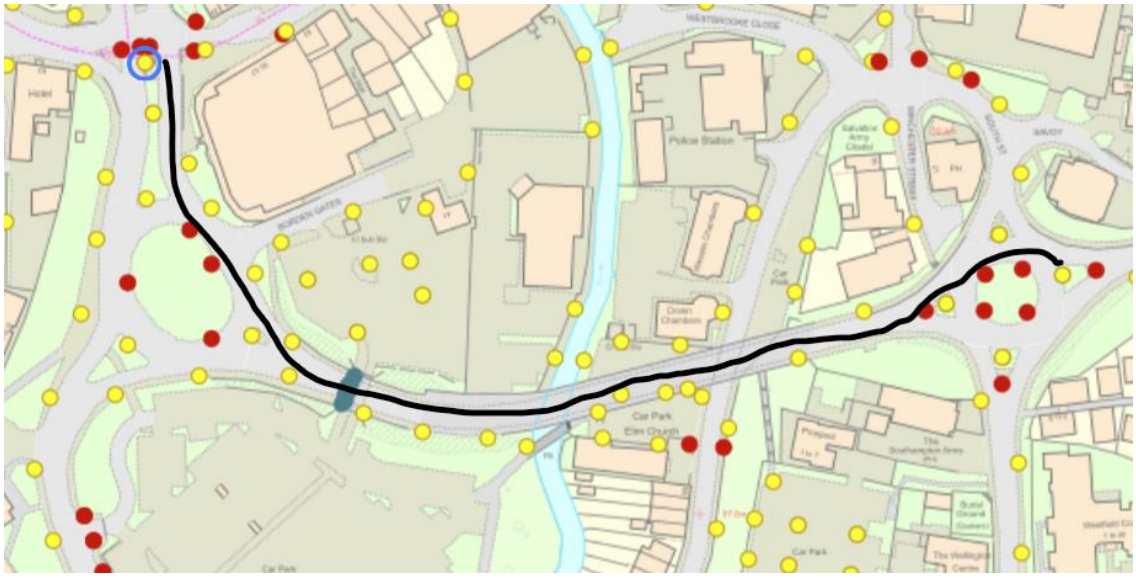
- The lights in the car parks did not survive the two storms that occurred in December of 2024, a resolution is being sort for 2025.
  Officers to work with lighting providers to find a solution and report back to this Committee.

From Draft Business plan:

1. **Help make Andover a welcoming, safe, and well cared for town**		
Actions	**2025-26**	**2026-27**
1.1 Christmas tree and lights	Extend the Christmas lights display Purchase new fencing for the Christmas tree.	Further extend the Christmas lights display

Future suggestions (in line with the draft Business Plan):

To delegate to Officers to research a further extension to the Christmas Lights provision as below:



This would be a total of a further 22 columns and would bring the lights up over the bridge by Asda.

Costings to be brought back to this Committee for recommendation to Full Council.