

Amenities and Leisure Committee Meeting – 14th September 2022

Agenda Item 9 - Telephone Kiosks

Earley Town Council has acquired the two red telephone boxes, one located in Silverdale Road and one in Wychwood Crescent.

Councillors should now decide how the kiosks are to be used. Other red telephone boxes have been adopted by various town and parish councils or community groups around the country who have repurposed them into a wide range of things, including book exchanges, defibrillator 'houses' and so on.

Possible uses to consider:

- Defibrillator
- Book exchange
- Toy swap
- Art gallery
- Information kiosk
- Planter

Wychwood Crescent

The kiosk is located on a residential street and is clearly visible to pedestrians and passing traffic. The nearest defibrillator to this location is at Medivet, which is fairly close by. Whilst vandalism is always a concern, this area is residential and is not renowned for such issues. The condition of the box is fair, it could be repainted and repurposed on site.

Silverdale Road

This kiosk is located at the side of the parade of shops and very close to the exit of Maiden Erlegh School, it is somewhat tucked away from the main thoroughfare. Its condition is poor, it has obviously been repeatedly vandalised and there is a concern that this would be a recurring issue. There are 2 defibrillators listed in the area, one at Tesco Express and one at Aldryngton School. Should no suitable use be found for it in situ, Councillors may wish to consider removing the box and relocating it elsewhere although it would then lose its electricity supply so lighting would be difficult. There would be further costs involved in relocating the box.