

## Christmas Tree Lights

We have a proposal from Sparkx 3-Aug-22 to provide lights for the tree on the village green. Sparkx are the company that provide the Christmas tree and lights for Aylesbury Market Square. They are also the company we were dealing with regarding power for the green and they look after street lights in the parish.

Their proposal is as follows:

- Take power from the lamp post next to the tree and run over head from the column to the top of the tree. This consists of a socket, digital timer and an RCBO. The timer would be inside the column and they would set the timer to come on and go off each evening. The cost would be £450 (ex VAT).
- For the tree we identified they propose 400 metres of festoon harness and 400 bulbs. It's a big tree so we are using the heavy duty option. The best thing about a festoon harness is when bulbs start to go then you can just replace them individually unlike string lighting which you then have to replace all from scratch. The cost would be £5,400 (ex VAT).
- We can choose the bulb colour but they suggest a warm white and cool white mix.
- Dressing would be £1500 (ex VAT) and removal would be £800 (ex VAT) although they recommend leaving the lights in place.
- Storage per year would be £200.

If we leave the lights on the tree, the initial cost will be as follows:

|               |                                    |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| £450          | installation of socket, timer etc. |
| £5,400        | purchase of lights                 |
| £1,500        | initial dressing of tree           |
| <u>£7,350</u> |                                    |

Future cost will just be to replace bulbs as required although the LED bulbs are long lasting and the lights will still work if a few bulbs blow so that will be a long way off.

If we took the lights off each year there would be an additional annual cost as follows:

|               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| £800          | removing lights |
| £200          | storage         |
| £1,500        | dressing tree   |
| <u>£2,500</u> |                 |

### Notes

- We will need to get any pruning done before the lights are put on and if pruning was needed in the future we may need the lights removed and replaced.
- The proposal does not provide any additional power sockets for the green since the feed is from the top of the lamp post.
- Somebody from the communities committee should be there on the day the tree is dressed to ensure we get the lights positioned as we want.
- We could source the lights harness from elsewhere to save money but the bulbs would then come separate and need fitting and the harness may not be heavy duty enough to leave permanently on the tree.