

## Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council, 9 August, 2023

### Agenda item 10, Merger of the Town's websites

1. The Town Council, the Chamber of Trade (CoT) and the Community Interest Company (CIC) have agreed that there should be one Website for the Town and that it should be fully compliant with WCAG (Website Content Accessibility Guidelines) and be compliant with the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities.
2. This means that the Town Council site can be integrated with the other two sites, the site will meet the necessary criteria set out by central government for local councils and it will make the overall site much more accessible.
3. A Brief was issued containing all these requirements (a copy is circulated with this note) and bids were sought. Four expressions of interest were received.
  - A £12,270
  - B. £46,550
  - C. £6,312
  - D. £11,982
4. Whilst comprehensive, the bid from firm **B** is well above what each of the three organisations can afford and it is recommended that this is discounted.
5. The bid from firm **C** lacked any level of detail and did not contain any testimonials as had been requested – it is recommended that this bid be discounted.
6. Firms **A** and **D** are both local and their bids are similar.
7. It is recommended that the Chair of the Town Council, together with the Joint Chairs of the CIC and the Chair of the CoT meet with both companies (together with IT experts that each organisation might wish to involve) and make a decision as to which company should be appointed. It has previously been agreed that the cost would be split between the three organisations, the cost for the Town Council would be in the order of £4,100. There is a possibility that advertising on the website will reduce the cost to all parties.

Mike Burchnall, Chair, Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council