

Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council, 8 November, 2023

Item 19 Merging of the Town's main websites

1. In August the Council agreed to further examine two bids that had been received for the merging of the Town Council, Community Interest Company (CIC) and Chamber of Trade (CoT) websites. At that time the costs of each of the two bids (net of VAT as this is recoverable) was as follows:
 - **Webny £12,270**
 - **Designworks £ 9,985**
2. Interviews were held with both companies on 14 September attended by representatives of all three organisations, the Town Council was represented by Councillors Burchnall and Bradshaw. At these interviews it became clear that both companies required more information on what was required in order that they could provide, as near as possible, a fixed price. This information was provided to both companies and they were asked to provide a final price by 30 October.
3. Both companies submitted their final figures within the agreed timescale and copies of these are circulated with this report. Whilst both submissions include some options, the comparable costs, net of VAT, are:
 - **Webny £13,820**
 - **Designworks £8,500**
4. At the interviews on 14 September it was considered that Designworks demonstrated their previous work better and had greater resources to deliver this project.
5. The CIC and CoT are both of the view that the contract should be awarded to Designworks and have confirmed their agreement to each paying a third of the costs. Based on a cost of £8,500 each party would pay £2,833. There will be annual maintenance charges after year 1, and possibly some small add on costs – these will need to be shared between the three parties.
6. It is recommended that the Town Council agrees to the estimate from Designworks and that the Clerk advises the company accordingly and that the Council takes overall responsibility for the work on behalf of the three parties.

Councillors Burchnall and Bradshaw