

COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 12th MARCH 2019

ITEM NO: 12 – Copythorne Parish Adopted Telephone Boxes Study of Best Use -Update March 2019

This report was prepared by Cllr Graham Chillcott

This update should be read in conjunction with the “Copythorne Parish Council Adopted Telephone Boxes Preliminary Study of Best Use” report issued in October 2018.

What to include in the telephone boxes

After looking at the contents of similar adopted telephone boxes in other New Forest parishes/villages around us, it became obvious that one of the principle driving factors was (to use a shop metaphor) the footfall at the location. Those in comparatively busy locations tended to contain a greater variety (again to use a shop metaphor) of product, whereas those in more isolated places had less on offer. Sticking my neck out a bit, from what I’ve seen, the telephone box with the most footfall is Winsor Road, followed by Newbridge Road, with Pound Lane having the least.

The telephone box in Newbridge Road is a good example of how a community phone box can look. As mentioned in my first report, it contains a brief local history, a history of Jubilee Kiosks, photographs of Copythorne Parish Church and a local wedding. It is well maintained and cared for by its neighbours. I suggest that (for the time being at least) apart from perhaps considering adding the Parish Map (see below) it does not need much doing to it.

For the other 2 telephone boxes (Winsor Road and Pound Lane) in the first instance, I suggest maybe 4 or 5 waterproof panels are mounted on the back wall. Once these have had a chance to bed in, we can look again at augmenting the contents.

The 4/5 panels to comprise:

1. An A4 panel with a brief history of K6 Jubilee telephone boxes.
2. An A4 panel with a map showing houses by name.
3. An A4 panel with a brief history of Copythorne Parish (see below).
4. An A4 panel giving information about the local community (see below).
5. An A3 panel with a map of the parish showing rights of way (ROW), historic routes through the parish and points of interest (POIs).

Some suggestions for the Information Panel:

1. Locations of Defibrillators.
2. Details of Playgrounds.
3. List of Churches in Parish.
4. List things to do locally in the Parish.
5. Details of Public transport.
6. List of Parish Hall users.
7. List of Royal British Legion Hall users.
8. Details about Stanley’s Own Scout Hut.
9. List of Public Houses, Hotels and Guest Houses in the Parish.

10. Locations of Post Office, Shops, Petrol Station.

11. Useful telephone numbers.

Suggestions for the local Map

1. Showing houses by name and where they can be found.

Some suggestions for the Map of the Parish

1. Rights of Way/footpaths, and bridleways.
2. Local New Forest historic routes.
3. Points of local interest.
4. Locations of defibrillators.

Suggestions for the History of Jubilee Telephone Kiosks panel

1. A few words about the adoption of ex-GPO telephone kiosks by Parish Councils.
2. A brief history of K6 Jubilee Telephone Kiosks.

Suggestions for the History Panel

1. A brief history of the village in which the telephone box is found, prepared by the Copythorne History Society.

Recommendations:

1. Seek out and speak to existing volunteers about their continued support for the care of the telephone boxes and/or ask for volunteers at the APM to help maintain, clean inside and out and repaint all three telephone boxes. I already have spoken to a local resident about repainting the boxes in the spring.
2. Produce a suitably protected A3 size map of Copythorne Parish showing ROW/footpaths/bridleways/historic routes, points of interest etc. across the parish for all 3 boxes.
3. Produce a suitably protected A4 size brief history of K6 Jubilee Telephone Kiosks.
4. Produce a suitably protected A4 size panel having a local map showing house locations (I've spoken to a local resident about producing this).
5. Produce a suitably protected A4 size brief history of the village panel from the Copythorne History Society. (I've spoken to a member of the History Society and she has kindly offered to write something about the history of Copythorne and Winsor villages.)
6. Produce a suitably protected A4 size local information panel. The information contained in it to be approved by councillors.
7. Investigate cost of buying GPO style water and vandal resistant panels for the back walls.