

WHPC meeting 5th December 2023
Agenda item 23/380

WHPC Website homepage changes

Purpose: to consider what actions to take to replace the Twitter live feed on the WHPC website homepage.

Background

The WHPC website homepage is currently programmed to show a live feed from its Twitter (now rebranded as "X") account. As reported during Councillors' Questions at the last WHPC meeting, due to changes at Twitter/X the ability for users to do this has been removed. Therefore the WHPC website live Twitter/X link has not been updated since July. If it does not show up-to-date tweets, it is not useful and takes up valuable real estate on the homepage that could be used for something else.

Please note: a redesign of the WHPC website was not identified as a priority for 2023-34. Therefore this paper sets out interim remedial action only.

Suggestions

I contacted our web designers at Cosmic to ask for suggestions as to what, if anything, we put in that part of the homepage, how much time it would take and the costs.

Cosmic suggestions:

Removing the Twitter feed would take **20 minutes**. Suggestions to replace this:

- Option 1. Widen either the *Community News* or *Council News* columns to fill the gap. With more space, one could show twice the amount of items on the homepage for the widened section. This would take **30 minutes**.
- Option 2. Introduce a new news category – akin to the blog you mentioned (suggested by Andrew at the last WHPC meeting) – that would display as a feed on the homepage – like the existing *Community News* or *Council News* sections – that leads to a new news category page of articles. This would take **1 hour**.
- Option 3. Add a Facebook page embed of your Facebook page. This would take **30 minutes**.
- Option 4. Add a Facebook feed of posts from your Facebook page, styled to be in-keeping aesthetically with the website appearance. This would take **3 hours**.

Costs

Cosmic said that WHPC has **2 hours** remaining on the annual support contract that can be used. Outside of this contract, the cost would be **£100+VAT per hour**.

Proposals

- WHPC does not use Facebook, and has no plans to do so. Therefore options 3 and 4 are not suitable.
- Option 2 would require some thought about the type of content we wanted to put here and who would be responsible for posting it.
- Option 1 is the most straightforward and it would be helpful to be able to show more news items (they never actually disappear but currently as more are added, the older items "drop off" the homepage, although they can still be found by clicking on the "News" tab on the top menu).

Both Option 1 and 2 could be achieved within the time allocated in our current support contract, therefore there would be no additional cost.

For decision

Councillors are asked to decide which of Option 1 or 2 they prefer
If appropriate, agree to instruct Cosmic to carry out the necessary changes

Cllr Alison Carr
5th December 2023