

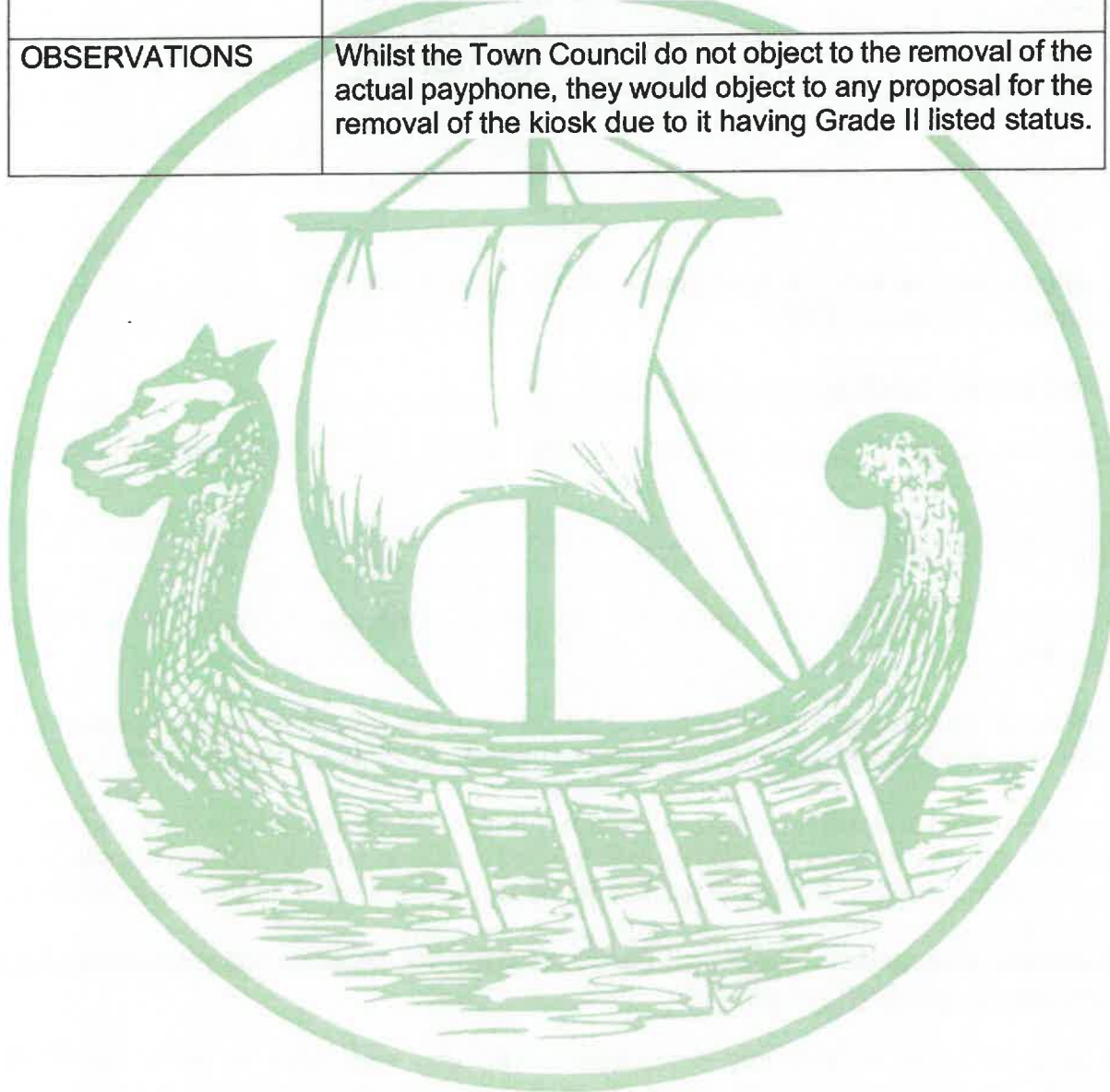
EXTRACT OF MINUTES

AGENDA ITEM

Heritage 10/4/25

6

DA/25/00229	Permanent removal of public payphone under section 49 of the Communications Act 2003. PC01 Pier Road, Greenhithe.
OBSERVATIONS	Whilst the Town Council do not object to the removal of the actual payphone, they would object to any proposal for the removal of the kiosk due to it having Grade II listed status.



DARTFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL PAYPHONE CONSULTATION REQUEST

Agenda 19/3/25
Facebook
Website

05 MAR 2025

Swanscombe & Greenhithe Town Council
The Grove
Swanscombe
Kent
DA10 0GA

Please ask for: Josiah Greenaway
Direct Line: (01322) 343703
Direct Fax: (01322) 343047
E-mail: planning.reps@dartford.gov.uk
DX:

Your Ref:
Our Ref: 25/00229/PCB

Date: 4th March 2025

Dear Sir,

Notification under section 49(4) of the Communications Act 2003
Application No. 25/00229/PCB

PCO1 Pier Road Greenhithe Kent DA9 9NS

Permanent removal of public payphone under section 49 of the Communications Act 2003

GRID REF: E 558790 N 175208

BT is consulting on the removal of the public pay phone at the above site. BT have erected site notices to this effect.

The Council, as relevant public body, has to co-ordinate the responses to the consultation and advise BT and The Secretary of State whether to consent or object to the removal.

There is also an option for a local body to adopt a public call box for another use. A copy of the BT guidance note on adoptions accompanies this letter. If you are considering adoption, please contact the planning officer for further advice as there may be a need for planning permission.

If you have any observations to make on the above proposal, please email your comments to us at : Planning.Reps@dartford.gov.uk

I shall be pleased to receive any observations that you may wish to make by **25 March 2025**. Due to the required response times, it will not be possible to consider any observations made after that time.

Yours faithfully

On behalf of Dartford Borough Council

From: payphones@bt.com <payphones@bt.com>

Sent: 07 March 2025 16:52

To: Graham Blew <graham.blew@swanscombeandgreenhithetowncouncil.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Adopting a Red Kiosk - 01322382332

Hello Graham,

Thank you for your interest in adopting the telephone kiosk.

Please note that the consultation period with Dartford District will end on **27/05/2025**. While we have not yet received any objections or representations from them, we will be unable to send a contract to a suitable adopter until the consultation period concludes. Since this is a listed kiosk, you may need to seek planning approval for any alterations to the kiosk you may wish to make.

If the kiosk is adopted, BT will leave it unlocked, allowing the adopter access. Any locks would be the adopter's responsibility to supply, install, and maintain.

For more information, please refer to the following link: [Adopt a Kiosk Scheme | BT Business](#). You'll find a brochure about halfway down the page, which contains additional useful details.

If it is decided that this kiosk will be put forward for payphone removal with no objections / representation made during the 90 day consultation period, it then becomes available for adoption and we will send a contract to be signed and returned along with the fee of £1.00.

In the meantime, please confirm the full contact details including name, address and telephone number of the person who will handle the adoption process when the consultation period ends. We will register the interest to adopt this kiosk logging the details in our adoption interest database.

To clarify, the proposal sent out is for the removal of the telephony on this box and lock it up to prevent misuse, with the kiosk being listed, it would remain.



Thank you.

Regards,

Casey Kilsby
Service Operations Professional
BT Networks - Payphones



Pier Rd

Q X

← 3 Pier Rd
Greenhithe, England
Google Street View
Oct 2024

Pier Rd
High St



Google

Pier Rd

Q X



3 Pier Rd

Greenhithe, England
Google Street View

Oct 2024



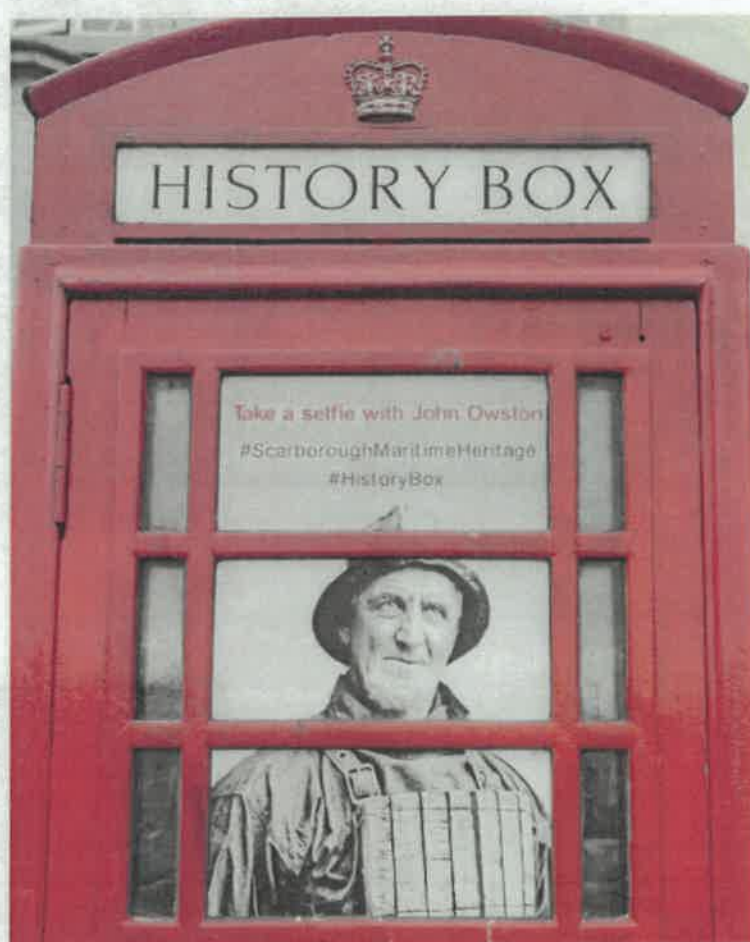


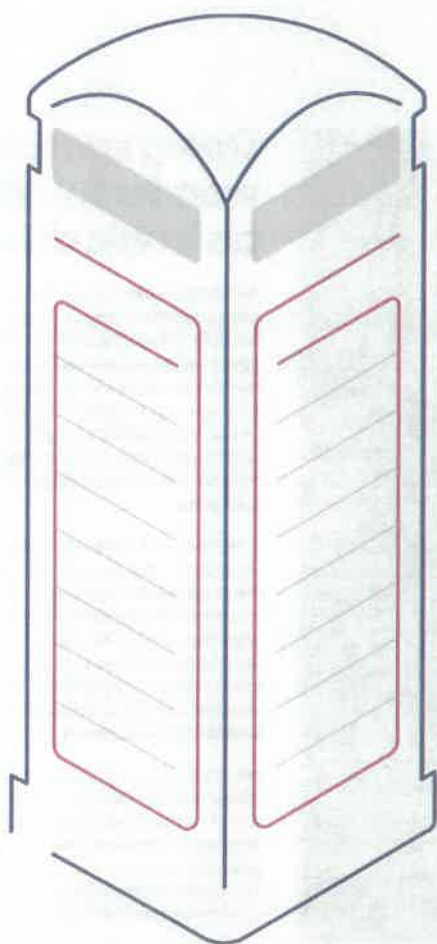
Adopt a Kiosk



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Welcome to the Adopt a Kiosk scheme

Since 2008, almost 4,000 communities and charitable bodies have adopted more than 5,800 iconic red kiosks and around 800 of our more modern glass boxes. People have come up with fantastic ideas on how to repurpose them such as using them to house defibrillators and art exhibitions.

Costing just £1, our adoption scheme is open to:

- Local authority district or borough councils
- Parish, community and town councils or their equivalents
- Registered charities
- People with a kiosk on their land.

It's a way of retaining and rejuvenating an historic part of British culture in your community and making it an eye-catching asset that local people can enjoy.

The Adopt a Kiosk scheme is not available to other individuals, commercial organisations, community interest companies or community groups such as residents' associations.

The Adopt a Kiosk scheme



BT | Adopt a Kiosk

Doing something wonderful with an iconic asset

Red phone kiosks have been part and parcel of British villages, towns and cities for many years. Placed in the heart of our communities, some may be underused but they're certainly not unloved. They no longer have the key role they played in bringing communities together, but with our Adopt a Kiosk scheme they can once more be a fantastic focal point for the local area.

With thousands of kiosks being used for an array of creative and civic-minded ideas, we are delighted to be able to give more communities the chance to develop inspiring uses for this icon of British design and heritage. We're also offering some more modern glass units for the sole purpose of making lifesaving defibrillators available to more people.

We still have around 4,000 red phone kiosks available to adopt for the princely sum of a pound each. This brochure will help you see how they can become practical, cultural, inspiring additions to the community, and allow you to do something wonderful with an iconic asset.

Adopting a kiosk – all you need to know is right here

We've made it as simple as possible for you to adopt your local kiosk. Here's the key information you need to know:

Who can apply?

Any recognised local authority, parish / community / town council or registered charity in the UK can apply to adopt their local kiosk.

How much does it cost?

To comply with legal requirements, authorities need to buy the kiosk from BT for £1.

Which planning regulations apply?

Adopters of boxes should check with their local authority to see if any planning consents are required.

What happens to the power connection?

Option 1:

BT Payphones will continue to be responsible for the electrical supply and any associated payments to electricity companies. We reserve the right to disconnect the electricity supply at any point in the future, however we will contact the kiosk owner should this become necessary. Electrical equipment cannot be connected to the electrical supply unless agreed with BT.

We will only be responsible for the electricity supply up to the fuse box. Any faults beyond this point will be the responsibility of the kiosk owner.

Option 2:

Customers taking responsibility for the electricity supply will need to apply for a Meter Point Administration Number (MPAN) from their electricity company. This is a reference number used to identify the electricity supply point.

When the customer owns the power connection, we will need to know this number to transfer the billing for the kiosk's power supply. Your local power company will be able to give you your MPAN, but please contact us for more information on how to apply for an unmetered MPAN.

What if the power supply has already been disconnected?

If the power to the kiosk has been disconnected, BT will not refund any payments made or reconnect the supply.

What is the annual electricity cost for a kiosk?

Costs to supply power to kiosks will vary depending on your electricity company. We don't have any control over what they may charge.



The next steps to adoption

Below are the steps you will need to take to adopt your kiosk.

There's more information at www.bt.com/adopt and we are happy to answer any questions you have.



BT | Adopt a Kiosk

CONDITIONS OF TRANSFER

The following conditions let you know what to do to when adopting your kiosk. You will also need to carefully review the agreement we send you.

1. The adopting body must apply to the relevant authorities for any of the necessary consents to retain a kiosk. This may involve planning consent, depending on the local authority.
2. The kiosk will be disconnected from our telephone network and we'll remove the payphone equipment.
3. Where the kiosk is powered, the adopters will have the option for us to supply power free of charge or to take ownership of the supply. Please contact us if you want to own the power connection.
4. To comply with legal requirements, adopters need to purchase the kiosk from BT for £1.
5. The kiosk will be purchased with any and all physical defects. No representations, warranties or conditions concerning the quality or fitness for purpose are given or assumed by BT.
6. Adopters will be responsible for all support and maintenance of the kiosk and for any liability resulting from the kiosk or its use following transfer of ownership.

What happens when you apply to adopt?

Once an application has been submitted, BT will handle the rest. It's that simple!

1. It is imperative that all the legal conditions contained within the "agreement for the sale and purchase of telephone kiosk(s)" are met.
Please only submit an online application when the agreement can be signed and returned to BT.
2. Upon receipt of the online application BT will consider whether to approve the adoption. If approved, BT will send an agreement for signature and return.
3. Upon return BT will countersign the agreement and provide a copy. At this stage the transfer process will start automatically.
4. Upon completing the removal of the payphone equipment from the phone box, BT will forward a Notice to Complete to the adopting body.
Ownership of the phone box will be automatically transferred within 5 days.

5. The phone box(es) will then be the property of the adopting body.
6. Some applications will require the permission of the local authority to remove the telephone service.
BT will apply for permission in these cases, but this can take up to 90 days and acceptance cannot be guaranteed.
In the event an application isn't approved BT will contact the interested party directly.



Success stories

Defibrillator – Patrick Brompton Parish Council, Richmondshire

A traditional red BT phone box, situated in the centre of the village, has been converted into housing for a defibrillator unit to help save lives.



"As a council we were really keen to adopt our red phone box and we didn't want to see it go (...) It's a fact that no-one really uses payphones anymore, but they look quite iconic, especially in rural areas like ours, so we wanted to retain it from a heritage perspective... Thankfully, it's never had to be used but it's reassuring to know it's there in case we ever need it in an emergency."

Brian Whitehead
Vice Chairman of the Parish Council



Book Exchange – Church Lawford Parish Council, Warwickshire

A book exchange has been created inside a former BT red phone box opposite a pub in Church Lawford.

"We wanted to add the book exchange element as the mobile library only visits briefly once a month (...) At Christmas we installed lights on the green for the first time, powered from the phone box, and we also installed a sound system with carols and songs written about the village during the Covid lockdown. If another village were considering adopting their phone box, I would say it is very worthwhile."

Jeremy James
Chairman of the Parish Council

Defibrillator – Orkney, Scotland

A red phone kiosk on the remote island of Westray in Orkney has been transformed into housing for a defibrillator, part of Westray Development Trust's ongoing initiative to increase access to first aid in the area.



"The red telephone box on the Westside of Westray was an ideal location to install a public access defibrillator as the telephone box was both memorable and already strategically placed. Thanks to BT's 'Adopt a Kiosk' scheme we were able to expand our defibrillator network and improve access to life-saving equipment in an emergency for our isolated island community."

Isobel Thompson
Operations Manager at the Trust

Defibrillator – Meopham Parish Council, Kent

It's not just our red boxes being given a new lease on life either. We're repurposing our more modern glass boxes exclusively to house defibrillators, providing better access to life-saving gear for more rural communities.

Meopham Parish Council worked with the Community Heartbeat Trust to make better use of an older glass phone box at the local train station.



BT | Adopt a Kiosk

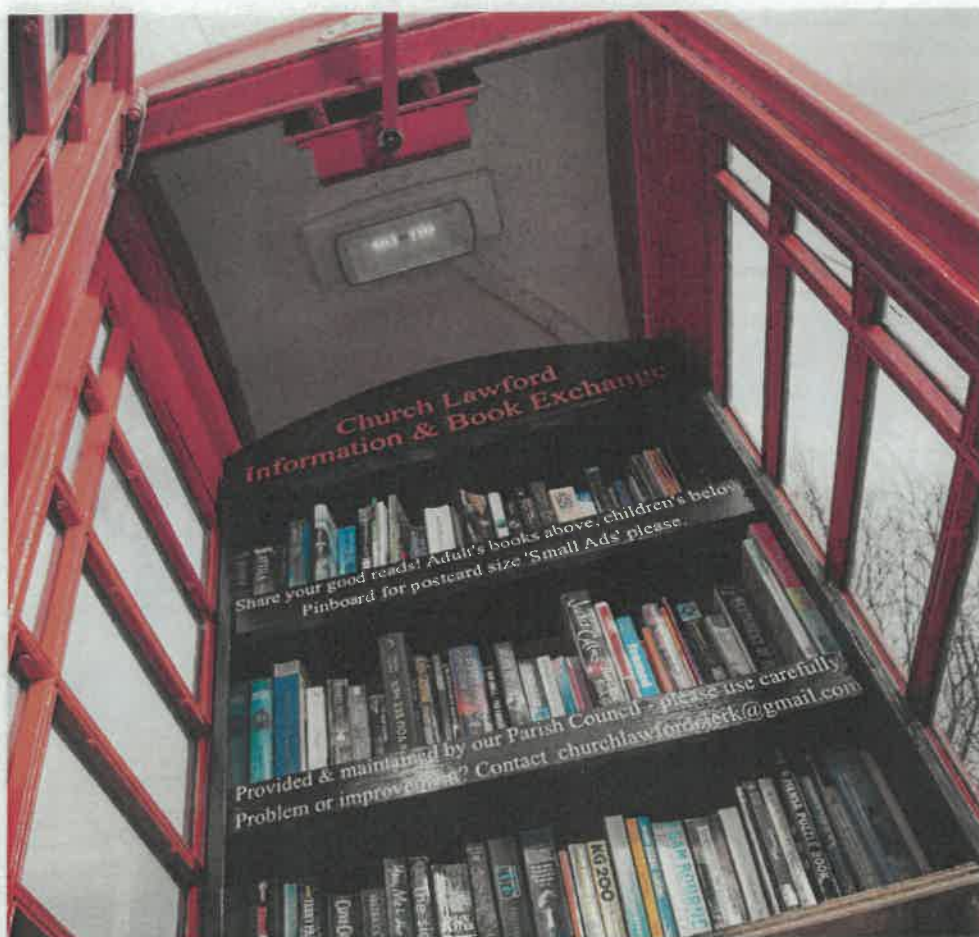


"I think it's a wonderful initiative and it's great that the modern glass boxes like these can also have a new purpose, not just the red ones (...). It could make the difference between life and death for someone in our community."

Jo McTavish
Councillor

Did you know...?

- Since the Adopt a Kiosk scheme was launched in 2008, over 6,600 kiosks have been adopted.
- Kiosks have been turned into defibrillator housings, art galleries, book exchanges, exhibition spaces, information centres and even a pub!
- Every village that fits a defibrillator provided by Community Heartbeat Trust in their adopted kiosk can receive a free paint kit from the British Coatings Federation to spruce it up.
- Villagers in Ambridge – from BBC Radio 4's long-running drama The Archers – have adopted a kiosk.
- You can check online to see if your local kiosk is available for adoption, and even if it isn't you can contact us to see what we can do for you.



How to get in touch

Visit www.bt.com/adopt to find out more about adopting a kiosk.



Offices Worldwide

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