

LITTLE BEALINGS PARISH COUNCIL

15 MAY 2023

ASSET REVIEW AND PORTABLE APPLIANCE TESTING REPORT

ASSET REVIEW (Standing Order 5 j xiii)

Current Assets are:

- 1 only wooden Gt/Lt Bealings village sign (parish boundary) (shared with Gt Bealings)
- 3 only Noticeboards (The Street, Playford Road, Beacon Lane)
- 6 magnets for Noticeboard
- 1 only padlock for Noticeboard

- 1 only Brushcutter
- 1 only 5L petrol can for Brushcutter fuel
- 1 only shovel
- 3 only Grit/Sand Bin (All Saints Church and Level Crossing (2)): Network Rail due to supply one replacement in August 2023.
- 5 only Dog Fouling signs
- 1 only SID and data collection option
- 2 only padlocks for SID

- 1 only Chairman's gavel
- 1 only Filing Cabinet
- 1 only large tin box 'Little Bealings Parish Council'
- 1 only printer
- 1 only hard drive
- 1 only HDMI 10m cable
- 1 only digital mouse and map
- 1 only laptop and MS Office 365
- 1 only mobile phone

RECOMMENDATION

The Council notes the Assets held and resolves to purchase such replacement dog fouling signs as necessary

PORTABLE APPLIANCE TESTING (PAT)

Advice from <https://www.pat.org.uk/> :

"What Is PAT Testing?"

Portable appliance testing is a safety precaution that ensures the electrical appliances used by places of employment, service or hire will not cause damage or injury to employees, customers or renters. Various laws and regulations indicate it is the responsibility of businesses to perform such tests as often as deemed necessary to ensure the equipment is functioning properly.

Is PAT Testing A Legal Requirement?

There is currently no strict legal requirement for PAT testing. The Government however has put regulations into place that pertain to the maintenance of electrical appliances and the most effective way to ensure that these regulations are met is through PAT testing.

The UK Health and Safety Executive along with insurance companies will expect you to perform PAT testing to ensure that you are compliant with certain regulations including:

- *Health and Safety at Work Act of 1974*
- *The Electricity at Work Regulations of 1989*
- *The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations of 1998*
- *The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations of 1999*

Not complying with the above mentioned regulations can result in fines up to £5,000 and/or six months imprisonment. Fines have been seen to go as high as £20,000 and offences heard in the Crown Court have carried sentences of more than 2 years imprisonment in addition to unlimited financial penalties. So even though PAT testing itself is not legally required, it simply helps you to protect yourself by ensuring that you are complying with these regulations.

Claims that PAT testing is required by law and that the client is breaking the law by not having it done are simply not true. The law does require however that employers, including self-employed, ensure that all electrical equipment that they provide in their business is safe and properly maintained. This means that PAT testing is a critical part of your company's health and safety and should be considered part of a solution to your safety concerns.

PAT testing provides the most effective way to identify defects that can come with use. Faults in electrical equipment pose a potential hazard, particularly if they are not repaired readily. Even though PAT testing itself is not required by law, the consequences of electrical faults should be considered carefully."

The Council has recently obtained a quote for PAT testing of its laptop, a loaned second screen, printer and mobile phone from Eastern Fire of £150 plus vat. Eastern Fire also undertakes PAT testing for Bealings Village Hall and the Angela Cobbold Hall. Arrangements by All Saints Church are not known.

PAT testing does not need to be carried out by a qualified electrician. An appropriate testing device, suitable for use by the Council, may cost in the region of £350 plus vat:

[PAT Testers & Portable Appliance Testing Equipment | test-meter.co.uk](http://test-meter.co.uk)

RECOMMENDATION

The Council resolves to make application for Locality Funding from its District Councillors for the purchase of a PAT Testing Device to be used by the Council and to be made available to Bealings Village Hall, the Angela Cobbold Hall, All Saints Church and Great Bealings Parish Council.