

IT Review 23/9/22

Purpose of review: Ensure IT Infrastructure is secure, cost effective, time effective and compliant with data and audit requirements.

Background

Increased use of IT to deliver information over time has meant that the PC has assorted platforms in use. This makes it more time consuming to access & more expensive than necessary.

A more integrated approach should be considered to reduce overall costs, simplify use and ensure data protection.

Confluence (virtual files/joint working) is not designed for its current purpose, therefore the administration time to make it function is too high. In addition, the new pricing structure will now cost \$550/year in the future

To consider

- Improve and simplify document storage and sharing (for councillors)
- Reduce cost
- Reduce administration time spent on document storage and sharing (for clerk)
- Improve compliance with data regulations, provision of cloud working and central email management.
- Provide councillors with tools necessary to complete their role (either software or hardware).
- Provide official ".gov.uk" email addresses.
- Improve engagement with available resources & information.

Recommendation:

- Move to the **Zoho** workplace platform.
- This will replace ProtonMail (paid and free) and Confluence plus Gmail, Zoom (as required) in a cost effective manner.
- The package is the right balance of cost, features and intuitive administration for the PC needs (without managed service provider).

^{*} Example video from free trial*

Improvements:

- Single login for councillors for all services (including apps for smartphones).
- Reduced cost.
- It will provide secure compliant cloud storage not requiring storage on personal devices (reducing personal risk)
- Email security (e.g. Councillors leaving, lost passwords, FOI requests) will improve.
- Video conferencing is branded, included and recordable.
- Office suite provided to users.
- Communication similar to Slack included.
- Administration and management console for clerk.

Potential Solutions:

Google Workspace (link)	Microsoft 365 For Business (<u>link</u>)	Zoho Workplace (<u>link</u>)
Price: £496.80/year	Price: Minimum of £486.00/year, see below.	Price: £259.20/year
Notes: More privacy invasive than the other options	Notes: Would need third party management company	Notes: Parish branded video conferencing included
Confluence replacement:	Confluence replacement: <	Confluence replacement: 🗸
Fit for purpose, folders and files.	Fit for purpose, folders and files.	Fit for purpose, folders and files.
Shared and private files: 🗸	Shared and private files: 🗸	Shared and private files: ✓
Video conferencing: ✓	Video conferencing: ✓	Video conferencing: ✓
.gov.uk email address: ☑	.gov.uk email address: ✓	.gov.uk email address:
Provides office suite:	Provides office suite:	Provides office suite:
(google docs)	(microsoft onedrive family)	(zoho docs)

Meetings joinable without	Meetings joinable without	Meetings joinable
download: 🗹	download: 🗙	without download: 🗹

Current set up pricing

Confluence: £454.94/year n.b. this is revised structure from the website.

ProtonMail Emails: £161.28/year n.b based on 4 users at PLUS level and 4 users on FREE

level

Zoom: £0/year as currently not subscribed

Total: £616.22/year

R.Girt Clerk