

	Meeting (No)	Market & Town Hall Committee (4)	
	Date	10 February 2026	
	Document	Ref No	
	Stage Curtains		MTH4/54a

The front stage curtains are worn faded, dated and generally in a bad state of repair, despite best efforts made by officers to make repairs. The back stage curtains were replaced in 2025 improving the stage area, following this work committee have requested the replacement of the front stage curtains in the new financial year.

In order to provide a more professional stage for hirers additional measures to the new curtains have also been recommended and included in the quotes as follows:

- To fit a black valance above the black stage back curtains the back curtain rail and wall, greatly improving the overall stage view.
- To fit on stage side masking black curtains, to give professional stage entrance.
- To adjust the stage back curtains to open from the side as well as the middle to enable actors to move from the stage side entrance doors/masking curtains to behind the stage back curtain, unseen, in preparation for entrance depending on performance requirements.
- To slightly lower the stage back curtains to hide any visible feet etc.. behind the curtain.
- To reconfigure the front curtain rail so that curtains can be opened and closed off stage and more smoothly.

The stage front curtains will be provided with fire retardant qualities as detailed below and my recommendation is that they will be a neutral, gold colour to fit in with the existing and future colour schemes. I have also requested a valance, within the arch, rather than the out-dated existing swags which gather dust and are difficult to clean.

Four companies were approached to provide quotations and three quotations, with fabric samples, have been received following site visits and discussions. However, one company has sadly since gone out of business leaving two valid quotations. Both companies stated that curtain linings and the side front over curtains would not be needed, giving a significant saving in cost:

Quote 1:

Total **£4139 +VAT**

Details for quote 1:

Front curtain fabric is velvet and is inherently fire retardant so will not need to be treated in the future. Back stage curtains are fire retardant for 5 years (NB: this is the same as the new stage back curtains).

Quote 2:

Standard range material for front curtains **£5680 +VAT**
Velvet material for front curtains **£6425 +VAT**

Details for quote 2:

Front curtain and back curtain fabric inherently fire retardant so will not need to be treated in the future.

Further information

It is hoped that this work can be booked in to take place early in the new financial year. The Budget to be used is 4417 Responsive Maintenance. However, if agreed by Full Council (see report MTH4/54c) the project could be funded from the Special Projects budget.

Nicky McMahon

Market & Town Hall Manager