

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: AGENDA ITEM: 2025.184**Parish Council Meeting 7th April 2026**

Options for upgrading our email hosting provision ahead of this year's renewal deadline of 22nd May 2026.

The Parish Council uses the LCN for hosting the colsterworthanddistpc.co.uk domain which provides us with email accounts each with 1GB storage. There are a wide-range of pricing options for their service and LCN comes in mid-market overall but represents less value for the inbox size provided.

Please also note that while we could continue to host our domain with LCN and just switch email provider, hosting companies provide much cheaper options for bundled domain and email hosting. This could also be an opportunity to switch to .gov.uk which is recommended best practice in the 2025 Practitioner's Guide and will potentially become a requirement in the years to come.

Please see options for domain and email hosting to consider below (all prices are for 1 year ex. VAT):

| Option | Provider | Inbox | Package Cost |
|--|--|--------------|--|
| Option 1 | Remain with LCN Business | 1GB | Renew current package Total cost £192.88 |
| Option 2 | Remain with LCN Business | 10GB | Upgrade package Total cost £307.89 |
| Option 3 | Switch to Cloud Next and keep .co.uk | 2GB | Home Package for £49.99 plus £7.99 for co.uk domain Total cost £57.98 |
| Option 4 | Switch to Cloud Next and change to .gov.uk | 2GB | Home Package for £49.99 plus £50.00 for .gov.uk domain Total cost £99.99 |
| Option 5 | Switch to Cloud Next and keep .co.uk | 5GB | Premium Package for £99.99 plus £7.99 for co.uk domain Total cost £107.98 |
| Option 6 | Switch to Cloud Next and change to .gov.uk | 5GB | Premium Package for £99.99 plus £50.00 for .gov.uk domain Total cost £149.99 |
| Cloud Next info: https://www.cloudnext.uk/web-hosting/#packagespricing and reviews: https://uk.trustpilot.com/review/cloudnext.uk . Selected as they are UK-based with excellent reviews. They are also licenced to create .gov.uk domains and have an offer to provide one year free for parish councils who switch. | | | |
| Option 7 | Switch to Krystal and keep .co.uk | 5GB | Amethyst Package for £70.00 plus £7.99 for .co.uk domain Total cost £77.99 |
| Option 8 | Switch to Krystal and change to .gov.uk | 5GB | Amethyst Package for £70.00 plus £9.99 for .gov.uk domain Total cost £79.99 |
| Krystal info: https://krystal.io/hosting and reviews: https://uk.trustpilot.com/review/krystal.io . Selected as they are UK-based with excellent reviews and are licenced to create .gov.uk domains. Their data-centres run on 100% renewable energy. | | | |