

## STRONGER COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

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**Date:** Monday, 23 January 2023

**Title:** Third Party Events Report

**Contact Officer:** Venue & Events Officer - Tomas Smith

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### Background

The Town Council operate and manage outdoor spaces which can be hired by third parties to host their own events. These make up a crucial part of the community engagement for the people of Witney and is intended to offer entertainment throughout the year.

### Current Situation

The Council is currently about to start the new year of third-party events on its recreation grounds which broadly follows a similar pattern to previous years.

- **Hatwell's May Fair:** 15<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> May on the Leys
- **Witney Pride** 27<sup>th</sup> May on the Leys
- **Witney Music Festival:** 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> June on the Leys
- **Libfest:** 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June on the Leys
- **OPA Play Day:** Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August on Oxlease
- **Witney Carnival:** 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> July with the carnival running through town and culminating on the Leys showground
- **Witney Feast:** 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> September on the Leys
- **Circus Ginett**, returning for a third year, they will be on the Leys showground 16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> October

All the events that have successfully run before and the dates give a good selection of events over the coming year when the parks can be utilised.

The Town Council has been approached again by BBOWT (Berks, Bucks, Oxford Wildlife Trust) who would like to run an information pop up stand on the Leys in February (25<sup>th</sup>), and later in the year at the end of August. This is a no charge pop up display and information stand on the Leys.

### Environmental impact

Having declared a Climate Change Emergency at its Council meeting on 26 June 2019 – with this in mind Councillors should have due regard to the environmental impact of any decisions they make with regard to its facilities and services it operates.

**Risk**

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

**Financial implications**

Described here or as stated in the report above.

- The town council charges rental for commercial operators on its Grounds

**Recommendations**

Members are invited to note the report and consider the following:

1. The request from BBOWT to allow a pop-up info stand in the Leys.