

FULL COUNCIL

Date: Monday, 17 April 2023

Title: Council Working Party's

Contact Officer: Deputy Town Clerk – Adam Clapton

Background

The purpose of this report is to review the progress of the Council's current Working Party's/task and finish groups and consider dissolving those which have completed their work per Standing Order 30 (d) (vii).

A Working Party is designed to oversee and advise on a specific task/project on behalf of a Council Committee. In its terms of reference, it has objectives and a date by when it should have completed its work (shown below).

Current Situation

Corn Exchange Working Party

'The purpose of this Working Party is to formulate a vision for the long-term future of the Corn Exchange based on current knowledge, advice from professionals, input from stakeholders and in consultation with the wider community. In particular, the Working Party should develop a costed and reasonable plan for the phase two refurbishment of the hall taking into account expected use of the facilities, needs of the current and prospective users and compliance with all legislation....the project in its entirety should be completed by May 2023.' (*CEWP Terms of Reference*)

The phase two refurbishment has been successfully completed in January 2023; Any further Corn Exchange-related items can be referred to the Halls, Cemeteries & Allotments Committee and any larger projects can be referred to a specially designated task and finish group or Sub-Committee, as and when the Council decides this is appropriate.

20mph Working Party

'The purpose of this Working Party is to formulate a proposal for the implementation of 20MPH Speed Limits in Witney in accordance with the scheme adopted by Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)... the project in its entirety should be completed by June 2022.' (*20mph WP Terms of Reference*)

A plan was formulated and subsequently implemented by Oxfordshire County Council after public consultation in October 2022.

Platinum Jubilee Working Party

This Working Party/task and finish group was established to facilitate events for the Late Queen's Platinum Jubilee in the summer of 2022.

The events successfully took place under the auspices of this Working Party in June 2022.

The Council has further task and finish groups/delegations for smaller projects which will automatically cease at the end of this administration. These include; Covid-19 Memorial, Children's Memorial Garden, Platinum Jubilee Sundial, Rebranding, In Bloom, Coronation and Remembrance 2022. The details of these projects have either completed or are in the process of being implemented by Officers.

Environmental Impact

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

Risk

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

There is no perceived risk in dissolving these Working Party's.

Financial Implications

➤ There are no financial implications.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and;

1. Consider dissolving the Council's Corn Exchange, 20mph and Platinum Jubilee Working Party's due to the successful completion of their objectives and,
2. Note the dissolution of smaller project task and finish groups on their successful completion.