

## **POLICY, GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

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**Date:** Monday, 24 July 2023

**Title:** Witney High Street Feedback & Consultation

**Contact Officer:** Deputy Town Clerk

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### **Background**

At the meeting of the Stronger Communities Committee on 17 July, it was resolved that a decision on how to work collaboratively with Oxfordshire County Council to achieve the best possible feedback on this project for residents should be deferred until after further information was received.

### **Current Situation**

By the time of the meeting, Members should be in receipt of the County Council's plans for engagement and consultation from September onwards.

The Committee should decide on what format any town council engagement should take during the summer holidays. Current availability in the Main Hall at the Corn Exchange is as follows:

- Evenings of Fridays 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>
- Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> from 5.30pm
- All Sunday's during the day (caretaking and bar staff would need to be arranged as the Corn Exchange is usually closed on Sundays unless there's something on).

At the Stronger Communities Committee meeting there was preference for holding this as a drop-in style event on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August. The Hall is available as required during the afternoon and evening.

### **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 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.

This scheme will be one of the key projects occurring during the term of this Council administration. It will affect businesses, residents and visitors and the town council should consider how it can help stakeholders and the County Council in achieving the best outcome for all.

### **Financial implications**

- There may be a small cost implication which will be dependent on the format and number of feedback sessions the town council wishes to hold.

## **Recommendations**

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

1. How to engage with residents and businesses and work collaboratively with Oxfordshire County Council on this project.