

STRONGER COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, 18 March 2024

Title: Third Party Events – Subsidised Hire

Contact Officer: Deputy Town Clerk

Background

This report is to provide Members of the Committee with an update on any events held on the town council's land.

Current Situation

In previous years, the Council has provided subsidised hire to cover the Witney Pride (Saturday 25th May) and Witney Carnival (Saturday 13th July) costs at the Leys Recreation Ground.

In addition, the Council has a partnership agreement with Witney Music Festival and has covered the cost for the hire over the duration of the Leys event.

Damage deposits are still requested from all hirers to mitigate against any damage to the land/sports pitches by the users.

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.

Social Value

Social value is the positive change the Council creates in the local community within which it operates. Benefits provided by the above items are:

- The sustainable social and economic value attributed to the services provided by the organisations to residents.
- Benefits to the economy – providing opportunities to support and showcase smaller outlets and musical talent.
- Benefits to Witney's community - inclusive events open to all.

Financial implications

- The hire charge for Witney Pride in 2024 is £715.00
- The hire charge for Witney Carnival in 2024 is £1,775.00
- The hire charge for Witney Music Festival in 2024 is £2,365.00
- The Council has a budget of £10,000 for subsidised hire of the Leys in the 2024/25 fiscal year (4110/402) which will cover the above requests.

Recommendations

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

1. Granting subsidised hire to Witney Pride, Witney Carnival and noting the partnership agreement agreed subsidised hire for Witney Music Festival.