

Stronger Communities Committee

Date: 18th November 2019

Title: Events Update & Leys Pitch One Update

Contact Officer: Operations and Estates Officer - John Hickman

Background

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the current position regarding 2019 Events since the last meeting and the current position regarding Leys Recreation Ground football pitch one side.

Current situation

Remembrance Sunday

The Works team have carried all the necessary preparations for the Remembrance Day Service and Parade at the time of writing this report. The Operations and Estates Officer can provide a verbal update regarding the event itself at this meeting if required.

Pinders Circus

Attended the Leys Recreation Ground on 30th September until 3rd September contrary to social media the circus was not on pitch one, they were pitched between the top of the football pitch and the new path that leads across the field to Sainsbury's as agreed by council.

Very little damage was done to the field and the site was clear and tidy on hand back to WTC and their damage deposit has been returned in full.

Leys Recreation Ground Pitch One Side

The Operations & Estates Officer put a comprehensive report to the Halls & Green Spaces Committee on 11 November however the item has been deferred until a suitable alternative can be found to replace pitch 1.

Terms and Conditions of Hire

The Operations and Estates Officer along with the newly appointed Compliance and Environment Officer will over the next month be reviewing Witney Town Council's Events Policy and terms and conditions of hire.

It is also hoped to meet with Event Organisers to discuss these items prior to making a final draft document for consideration and ratification by Council in the January schedule of Council Meetings.

Areas that will be looked at are:

- Small events below 50 persons as the current terms and conditions are onerous to people trying to run small events and clarification as to what is regarded as an event.
- PLI levels for 3rd parties at events.
- Set dates on when WTC will expect documentation to be provided by.
- Large Event Organisers will also be asked to show how they intend to reduce the events environmental impact regarding. Pollution from vehicle emissions, noise, chemical, sewerage, ammonia, etc. Litter in the area around the event and on the event site. Litter and waste materials going into landfill, composting or recycling facilities. Congestion and corresponding local air pollution from vehicle emissions. Greenhouse gasses from use of fuel / power.

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.

Council should consider the carbon footprint of each separate event and how the organisers plan to offset this.

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.

If members of the Public are invited to participate in a staged and planned event the organiser is responsible for public safety.

Financial implications

These are contained in the above report.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report.