

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE



Agenda Item:	Finance Report: Revenue Growth Items, Special Revenue Projects, and Capital Projects
Meeting Date:	3 November 2025
Contact Officer:	Responsible Financial Officer

Should Members have any queries about this report advance notice would be appreciated, in writing, by 12 noon on Monday 3 November to allow for a full response at the meeting.

Background

In line with the Council's Financial Regulations the purpose of this report is to enable Members to consider proposed works and projects discussed over the course of the year for potential inclusion in the budgets for 2026-27 and/or subsequent financial years.

Note that these matters are brought to this Committee for consideration but that revenue growth and capital projects are matters for recommendation by the Policy, Governance and Finance Committee at its meeting on 25 November 2024. It will be for the Policy, Governance and Finance Committee to prioritise projects and recommend funding to the full Council.

Current Situation

- 1. Revenue Growth Items during current year .** There are major sports facilities which the Council has agreed to adopt from West Oxfordshire District Council. Sums were included in the 2025-26 budget and are also now in the 2026-27 revenue budgets.
- 2. Capital and special revenue projects.**

A report in relation to existing budget lines will be included for consideration by the Policy, Governance and Finance Committee. However the relevant current year budgets are:

1. Burwell changing rooms - £72,030 (EMR £47,030; s.106 £25,000).
2. Play area improvements - £75,000 (revenue funded). 2025-26 budget is fully committed and Members should consider a similar sum for 2026-27 budget.
3. Leys – Parking restrictions - £5,000 (EMR).
4. Footpaths (West Witney) - £40,000 (EMR £10,000; Grant £30,000).

There are also Capital budgets in relation to the Leys Masterplan (£250,000) and the West Witney Clubhouse.

Members are requested to consider capital items for 2026-27 and in particular their priority order, whether they are aiming for 2026-27 or to place them in a “preparation pool for 2027-28 and beyond. Your officers will be undertaking costing work ahead of the PGF committee, depending on this Committee’s prioritisation and further direction.

The following projects are for consideration by the Committee:

1. The potential need to set funds for improvements to the Basketball Court at King George V Field (see minutes PR487 and PR267).
2. The path at West Witney to enhance the Park Run (PR 487). Note current year budget £40,000 of which £10,000 is from an EMR and £30,000 is allocated from grants to be identified.
3. Consideration for pitch drainage at any sites that require it and for consideration by Officers of an increase of benches in the Council’s recreation areas (PR487). There is a report from the Operations Manager in relation to pitch drainage at agenda item 8 which will inform this item.

Impact Assessments

The Town Council has a duty to consider the effects of its decisions, functions and activities on equality, biodiversity, and crime & disorder. Consideration should also be given to effects on the environment, given the Council’s Climate Emergency declaration in 2019.

- a) Equality – no implications directly resulting from this report.
- b) Biodiversity - no implications directly resulting from this report.
- c) Crime & Disorder - no implications directly resulting from this report.
- d) Environment & Climate Emergency - no implications directly resulting from this report.

Risk

In decision making Councillors should consider any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability. The RFO has approached the budget with prudence so as accurate budget as possible can be set at this early stage, although there may be some opportunities to make savings if required to balance the budget.

The provision of regular financial reports is part of the Council’s risk management system.

Social Value

Social value is the positive change the Council creates in the local community within which it operates. Social value is not quantified in the financial reports but clearly the creation of social value is dependent on setting adequate budgets to meet the Council’s objectives.

Financial implications

This report forms part of the Council's due diligence and a process in line with its Financial Regulations. The financial implications are detailed above and also in the attached appendices.

This report forms part of the Council's mechanisms for budgetary control, as it enables income and expenditure incurred to be reviewed and to be compared with the Council's budgets.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and consider the capital/ special revenue growth items for 2026/27 and beyond and make a recommendation to the Policy, Governance and Finance Committee, the latter committee being responsible for budget bids and capital projects.