

Introduction

Each year, the Council is required to set a balanced budget that outlines its spending, investment plans, and how services will be funded. This budget must consider new financial pressures while ensuring that all services operate as efficiently as possible.

The Council is currently in the process of setting its budget, and residents' feedback is essential before key decisions are made.

A draft version of the budget will be presented at the Town Council meeting on Monday, 24th November 2025, with the final budget to be approved at a meeting in early 2026.

This survey will close on Friday 21st November 2025

The Council works for your community — make sure your voice is heard. We have listed the council's services beneath the committee in which it is considered.

Important Note

PLEASE NOTE, YOU MUST BE A RESIDENT OF WITNEY TO TAKE PART IN THIS SURVEY.

* 1. We'd like to check that we are reaching a good cross section of our residents across our town. Our survey is anonymous but it will help us if you let us know your street name

* 2. And your age group please

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18-29
- ☐ 30-39
- ☐ 40-49
- ☐ 50-59
- ☐ 60-69
- ☐ 70-79
- ☐ 80+

Section 1 - Witney Town Council Services

COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Witney Town Council operates through six committees, each with its own budget and responsibility for delivering specific services within the town.

Climate & Biodiversity -Energy Efficiencies & Carbon Neutrality, Biodiversity, Waterways, Lake & Country Park Management, Planting/Floral Displays, Tree-stock

Parks & Recreation- Sports Pitches, Recreation Grounds, Play Areas, Skate Park, Splash Park

Halls, Cemeteries and Allotments - Public Halls, Cemeteries, Closed Churchyards, Allotments

Stronger Communities - Communication, Community Engagement and Community Events, Youth Services, Street Furniture & Infrastructure, Third Party Events, In Bloom Entries and Community Gardening

Policy Governance and Finance - Financial, human and property resources, Civic Items, Grants, Policy Matters, Audit & Legislation, Recommends Budget & Precept

Planning and Development - Witney Town Council is a consultee only on the following: Planning & Licencing Applications, Street Naming Applications, Flooding, Highway Issues via Witney Traffic Advisory Committee. (there is only a very small budget allocated to this committee and therefore it is not included in this survey as it will not need to change)

These are the ONLY services provided by the Town Council

Services not listed here—such as parking and refuse collection, pothole repairs and road maintenance—are managed by the District or County Councils, and we are not able to allocate funds for them.

We would like your feedback on the services we provide and how important you think each of them are.

Use the arrows or drag the boxes to set their order (Top = highest priority).

*** 3. Please rank Climate & Biodiversity committee services by importance to you:**

Use the arrows or drag the boxes to set their order (Top = highest priority).



Biodiversity Enhancement



Carbon Neutrality



Climate Change



Town Planting and Floral Displays



Waterways



Wildflower Areas



Witney Lake & Country Park (Local Nature Reserve)

*** 4. Please rank Parks & Recreation committee services by importance to you:**

Use the arrows or drag the boxes to set their order (Top = highest priority).



Play Areas



Recreation Grounds and Sports Pitches



Skate Park



Splash Park

*** 5. Please rank Halls, Cemeteries & Allotments committee services by importance to you:**

Use the arrows or drag the boxes to set their order (Top= highest priority).

-  **1863 Café**
-  **Allotments (daily management by Witney Allotment Association)**
-  **Burwell Hall**
-  **Cinema screenings**
-  **Community Events (WTC funded) e.g. Warm & Safe Spaces, Youth Café, Tea Dance, Young People Mental Health drop-ins**
-  **Corn Exchange**
-  **Live Music and Theatre Events**
-  **Tower Hill Cemetery**
-  **Windrush Cemetery**

*** 6. Please rank Stronger Communities committee services by importance to you:**

Use the arrows or drag the boxes to set their order (Top = highest priority).

-  **Christmas Lights and Trees for the Town Centre**
-  **Civic Events - Remembrance, Mayor's Carols, Flag Raising, Citizen of the Year and Civic Reception, National, Royal and Military Commemorations**
-  **Communications - Website, Social Media, Newsletters, Noticeboards, Surveys and Consultations, Cllrs in the Café**
-  **Community Bus (West Oxfordshire Community Transport) (partial funding)**
-  **Community Groups operating in Witney (Grants)**
-  **In Bloom - Schools In Bloom Challenge, Community Gardening, In Bloom Town Entry**
-  **Third Party Events (those run and managed by community groups) -e.g. Play days, Witney Carnival (Local volunteer groups), Witney Music Festival (WMF), Witney Pride, Christmas Light Switch On (Witney Rotary Club) (Grants and Subsidised Letting)**
-  **Town Council - Community (Free to Residents) Events - Advent Fayre, Heritage Open Day, Town Band Summer Concert program, Volunteer Thank You Picnics**
-  **Youth Organisations offering new or expanded services e.g. Homestart, APCAM (Grants)**
-  **Youth Services (Financial Support) Witney Town Council funds outreach work via The Station Detached Youth and Young People's events (e.g Gaming and Mental Health Drop ins during school holidays)**

*** 7. Please rank Policy Governance & Finance committee services by importance to you:**

Use the arrows or drag the boxes to set their order (Top = highest priority).



Budget and Spending



Community Grants



Grounds Maintenance - Managing and maintaining areas under the responsibility of the Town Council, Grass & Hedge Cutting and Tree Maintenance



Vehicle and Other Asset Maintenance

8. Tell us if there are other areas you think Witney Town Council should focus on. Please note, we don't deal with potholes, road repairs, or other County or District Council services.

Take a look at the services we provide on the wheel diagram below if you are unsure.



Council Service Responsibilities