

POLICY, GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, 27 September 2021

Title: Financial Report & Associated Matters

Contact Officer: Deputy Town Clerk – Adam Clapton

Background

Detailed income and expenditure statements for the whole of the Councils approved budgets are attached for information. The period to which this report relates is up until 31 August 2021, being the latest period for which accounts are available.

Members should note these reports do not show the current salary overheads and recharges, which are currently being processed.

Recommendations made by Spending Committees

It is the Council's usual practice that all matters discussed, and recommendations made by spending committees which have financial implications, are reported to this committee. This committee is responsible for the overall financial management of the Council.

Parks & Recreation Committee – 6th September

In relation to 2022/23 budget setting, the committee requested that an allocation of £75,000 to complete works to the changing rooms at Burwell Hall together with contingency funding for the Skate Park project be considered.

Halls Cemeteries & Allotments Committee- 13th September

In relation to 2022/23 budget setting, the committee requested that signage for the halls be put forward for consideration.

In relation to heating at Burwell Hall, that the Council commissions ESOx to carry out a feasibility study for Burwell Hall, for a new heating/hot water system that reduces its carbon footprint and use of fossil fuels, at a cost of £1,500.

In relation to the 1863 Café/Bar, that an application for a new Pavement Licence, with longer hours than currently, be made for the Corn Exchange at the cost of £100.

Stronger Communities Committee – 20th September

In relation to Salt Bins, that a bin is requested at Dark Lane at the cost of £250. That further requests are made for the East to West Active Travel Corridor, particularly between Newland and Madley Park. That the latter request is made to Oxfordshire County Council as creators of the scheme but the cost being covered by the Town Council if they are not forthcoming.

In relation to 2022/23 budget setting, that an additional £1000 be requested for the annual events budget to cover additional items as outlined in the Community Engagement Report.

In relation to the Youth Services Grant, that the un-used £9,750 from the discretionary grants budget, allocated to Witney Music Festival in the current year be diverted to this fund for community use. A separate report on the distribution of this fund is an agenda item for this committee.

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 regarding its facilities and services it operates.

Environmental Impacts from the above items will have been presented to the committees at the time of discussion.

Risk

In decision making Councillors should consider any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

All the Council's Committees receive financial reports to carry out its checks and balances, and consideration is generally given to budgets and funding availability when agreeing expenditure.

Financial implications

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.

➤ As set out in the report above.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and;

1. Agree the recommendations of the spending committees as detailed above;