

STRONGER COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Date: Monday 14th November 2022

Title: Revenue Growth Items, Special Revenue Projects and Capital Projects

Contact Officer: Town Clerk/RFO – Sharon Groth

Background

The purpose of this report is to update Members on any revenue growth items, special revenue or capital projects in the current year or the forward plan.

Provided in the attached appendices is the Capital spending/budgets for all the projects currently underway.

For consideration 2023/24

With regard to the Stronger Communities budget, the following projects/expenditure have been raised in meetings or by Officers and should be considered as part of the budget setting process. The expenditure will in turn be scrutinised by the Policy, Governance & Finance Committee later in the cycle, taking into account the Council's overall financial position.

1. Coronation – King Charles III – Events around the w/end of 6th, 7th and 8th May 2023
2. New Website – decision taken to outsource and upgrade the website (Minute SC360)
3. Replacement Union Jack Flag for the Town Hall
4. Commemorating 75th Anniversary of the NHS – St Mary's Church are planning an event
5. Supporting Community Events – Witney Music Festival, Libfest, Witney Pride, Witney Carnival – by free use of the Leys Recreation Ground and/or financial grant

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.

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 sufficient funding isn't available, then projects cannot proceed. Given the increased costs and competing demands on the Council's finances Members will need to decide if these projects should proceed fully funded, remembering that they are charged with the responsibility of the public purse.

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.

With regard to third party/community events held on Town Council land, in the current financial year the Council has provided the following funding:

Event/Organisation	Financial Grant	Subsidised Hire
Witney Music Festival	£2,500	£3,819
Witney Carnival	£2,100	£1,524

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and consider the projects listed above or other projects/events they wish to put forward for the 2023/24 financial year.