

Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member
for Finance Decision Meeting
26/October2023



COTSWOLD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Notification of Decision of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance

Present: Councillor Mike Evemy

Officers: David Stanley- Deputy Chief Executive and S.151 Officer, Jon Dearing – Assistant Director for Resident Services, Caleb Harris – Senior Democratic Services Officer

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations made by the Cabinet Member or the Officers present.

2. Bourton on the Water Tourism Levy

It was also confirmed by the Senior Democratic Services Officer that there had been no comments from the public received by Officers following the publication of the agenda.

The purpose of the report was to make recommendations following the 2023 consultation on the use of funds collected from the Rissington Road Car Parking Tourism Levy in Bourton-on-the-Water.

The Cabinet Member confirmed that a public consultation had taken place to gather the views of residents on how the funding should be spent. It was also confirmed that the Cabinet Member and the Assistant Director also had a meeting with the Parish Council before the meeting took place.

The Assistant Director was then invited to summarise the report.

It was highlighted that the levy had raised funds from the Rissington Road car park in Bourton-on-the-Water since 2021.

It was noted that a list of projects at Annex B had used from funds the levy is in the report over the last two financial years. It was noted that some projects from the previous year were still in progress due to legal processes such as traffic regulation orders.

It was explained that there was a carry-over of £3735 from the previous year funds and that the receipts from 2023/24 financial year are projected to be £100,000.

It was highlighted that the continuing provision of a village warden would cost £18,851 with a projected budget of around £85,000.

It was noted that a meeting with the Parish Council took place with the Deputy Leader and the Assistant Director in attendance to formulate ideas for the public consultation. It was then highlighted that a public consultation then asked residents to rank the 10 proposals to determine favourability of the items.

Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance Decision Meeting
26/October2023

It was outlined at paragraph 3.6 of the report, that because of the expenditure required, the Parish Council were asked to attain quotes on the top three projects which came to a total of £55,000.

The Assistant Director stated that once the delivery of these items was underway, it may be necessary to have a further decision-meeting later in the financial year to consider the allocation of any remaining funds.

The Cabinet Member noted the 339 respondents to the consultation and thanked them for taking the time to give their views.

It was highlighted that the responses were published verbatim for openness and transparency in the same process used for Budget consultations.

The Cabinet Member highlighted that the proposals in the report are important given the level of visitors to the village each year, and there was a need to support the Parish Council and residents in this work.

Decision

The Cabinet Member considered the recommendations of the officer and resolved to approve recommendations 1 – 3.

Reason for Decision of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance

The Cabinet Member noted that the levy was designed to support the village to manage the volumes of tourism it receives, and that the proposals were reasonable to help the village in this work. It was also highlighted that the Council has considered the feedback from the public and the Parish Council, and therefore the Cabinet Member was confident the decision would achieve the stated objective.

ACTIONS BY:

Jon Dearing
jon.dearing@cotswold.gov.uk
Tel: 01993 861221

Date of Publication:	27 October 2023
Closing Date for Call-In:	6 November 2023 (5.00pm)
Action Embargoed until:	7 November 2023

Chair

(END)