



COTSWOLD

District Council

Council name	COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL
Name and date of Committee	CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE DECISION MEETING - 6 OCTOBER 2025
Subject	BOURTON ON THE WATER TOURISM LEVY CONSULTATION AND ALLOCATION OF FUNDS
Wards affected	Bourton Village and Bourton Vale
Accountable member	Councillor Patrick Coleman – Cabinet Member for Finance Email: patrick.coleman@cotswold.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Jon Dearing – Interim Executive Director Email: Democratic@Cotswold.gov.uk
Report author	Jon Dearing – Interim Executive Director Email: Democratic@Cotswold.gov.uk
Summary/Purpose	To make recommendations for the use of funds collected from the Rissington Road Car Parking Tourism Levy in Bourton-on-the-Water for 2025/26
Annexes	Annex A – Summary of consultation outcomes
Recommendation(s)	<p>It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Finance approves the funding of the following Projects, listed in order of preference resulting from the 2025 public consultation process in relation to the use of funds from the Bourton-on-the-Water Tourism Parking Levy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Commissioning of a Visitor Traffic Management Strategy (estimated cost £35,000),2. Installation of rubber matting for the Melville and Naight play areas (estimated cost 3860),3. Provision of additional Parking Enforcement between Christmas and New Year (estimated cost £530),4. Set up and removal of Village Green railings for protection of



	<p>the Green from November to March (estimated cost £900),</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">5. Engineering works on the footpath adjacent to Jubilee Orchard, to improve drainage (estimated cost £8,000),6. Repainting of the benches in the Village centre (estimated cost £4,000),7. Repair of the paths around the Village Green (estimated cost £5,000),8. Resurfacing of the bonded area underneath circular benches on the Village Green (estimated cost £7,500), and9. Purchase of materials for volunteers to use to make gravel footpath improvements; particularly the Conigers and Manor Field footpaths (estimated cost £3,000). <p>It is further recommended that the Cabinet Member for Finance approves the funding of the recurring annual expenditure from the Bourton-on-the-Water 2025/26 Tourism Parking Levy receipts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">10. The cost of employing the Village Warden (£20,444),11. The cost of providing the Village Warden with a Small Projects budget (£500),12. Joint (50%) funding of the annual refresh of the Village Green (£9,957), and13. Joint (50%) funding of the provision of additional Parking Enforcement (£8,832).
Corporate priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivering Good Services• Supporting Communities• Supporting the Economy
Key Decision	NO
Exempt	NO
Consultees/ Consultation	The Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Finance, Ward Members, Bourton on the Water Parish Council and a Public Consultation exercise.



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report makes recommendations on the use of the Bourton-on-the-Water Tourism Levy funds for 2025/26, following the outcome of the 2025 Public Consultation exercise.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 In March 2021 Cotswold District Council introduced a 50p (per parking session) Car Parking Tourism Levy on parking charges at its Rissington Road car park (in Bourton-on-the-Water) in order to fund schemes that will help the Village manage the impact of the high numbers of visitors it receives. On 7TH November 2024 an increase to 60p (per parking session) was approved by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance.

3. MAIN POINTS

3.1 Over the four years of the Levy 'standard' items of expenditure have developed. These are the provision of a Village Warden (including a modest Small Projects budget) and 50% match funding (with the Parish Council) of additional Parking Enforcement and 50% match funding of the annual refresh of the Village Green.

3.2 Other (one-off) projects are subject to a Public Consultation. The consultation on projects for 2025/26 was undertaken during July 2025. There were 445 responses (434 submitted digitally and 11 paper responses). The results of the consultation have been used to form the recommendations in this report. A summary of the consultation results is included at Annex A.

3.3 The 11 projects included in the consultation were proposed by the Parish Council. The recommendation is that the four 'standard annual' items are funded and nine of the eleven projects consulted upon are funded. These are the nine highest ranked projects, that fall within the available funding.

3.4 The consultation included an opportunity for respondents to suggest other projects/initiatives. Of the 445 respondents, 161 made additional suggestions. There was no one additional suggestion that had significant support. The topic that had the most mentions was Coach Parking. This had 22 mentions (13.6 % of those who made a comment or 4.9 % of the total consultation responders). It should be noted that, if



recommendation 1 is approved, the Traffic Strategy should consider coach parking as a major factor.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There was a funding carry-over, from 2024/25 of £6,720; a project underspend (from a 2024/25 project that will no longer go ahead) of £40,000 and the 2025/26 receipts are projected to be £70,000. This means there is a total 2025/26 budget of **£116,720**.

4.2 The annual 'standard' items of expenditure are:

- I. Provision of a Village Warden - £20,444,
- II. Village Warden budget - £500,
- III. 50% match funding for additional parking enforcement - £8,832, and
- IV. 50% match funding for the annual refresh of the Village Green - £9,957.

These 'standard' items therefore total **£39,733**.

4.3 The recommendations on the consulted upon 2025/26 projects (recommendations 1 to 9) total **£64,790**.

4.4 If all recommendations are approved, the total expenditure for 2025/26 will be **£104,523**, leaving an excess of £12,197. The use of this excess would be subject to an additional decision-making meeting, unless the request falls within the delegation detailed in paragraph 4.5.

4.5 As costs can fluctuate during a project's delivery, it is further recommended that additional expenditure be delegated to the District Council's Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance. This delegation will only apply to recommendations 1 to 9.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

6. RISK ASSESSMENT

6.1 The allocation of funding to projects in and around Bourton-on-the-Water does not attract and significant risks.

7. EQUALITIES IMPACT



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7.1 There are no unacceptable adverse effects on the protected characteristics covered by the Equalities Act.

8. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no negative impacts associated with these recommendations.

9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

9.1 The Cabinet Member for Finance could decide to award funding to different projects.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 None