



Council name	<b>COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL</b>
Name and date of Committee	<b>DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE DELEGATED DECISION – 14 DECEMBER 2022</b>
Report Number	<b>AGENDA ITEM 2</b>
Subject	<b>BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER TOURISM LEVY</b>
Wards affected	Bourton-on-the-Water
Accountable members	Cllr Mike Evemy, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance Email: <a href="mailto:mike.evemy@cotswold.gov.uk">mike.evemy@cotswold.gov.uk</a>
Accountable officer	Jon Dearing, Group Manager for Resident Services Email: <a href="mailto:jon.dearing@publicagroup.uk">jon.dearing@publicagroup.uk</a>
Report authors	Jon Dearing, Group Manager for Resident Services Email: <a href="mailto:jon.dearing@publicagroup.uk">jon.dearing@publicagroup.uk</a>
Summary/Purpose	To make recommendations following the 2022 consultation on the use of funds collected from the Bourton-on-the-Water (Car Parking) Tourism Levy.
Annex	Annex A – Full list of projects included in the consultation.
Recommendation	a) That the expenditure proposals detailed in paragraph 2.5 be approved, and b) That any additional expenditure be delegated to the Council's Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance; as per the conditions set out in paragraph 3.2.
Corporate priorities	Deliver services to the highest standards.
Key Decision	NO
Exempt	NO
Consultees/ Consultation	Cabinet Member for Finance, Ward Member, County Councillor, Parish Council, County Highways and Public Consultation.



## 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1. Since 2021 the Council have added a Tourism Levy on Car Parking charges in Bourton-on-the-Water, in order to fund schemes that will help residents cope with the high volumes of visitors that the area receives.
- 1.2. In 2021/22 the Council collected an additional £59,340, which was utilised as follows:
  - Provision of a Village Warden (total cost £6,834),
  - Additional Waste Bins (£3,000),
  - Commissioning of an Accessibility Audit, to determine how the needs of disabled residents and visitors could be better met (£1,200), and
  - Additional Parking Control Bollards (£7,500).
- 1.3. These actions had a total cost of £18,534.

## 2. MAIN POINTS

The remaining budget from the 2021/22 receipts (£40,806) has been carried over to 2022/23. As the Rissington Road Car Park closed for refurbishment on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2022, the receipts for 2022/23 can be confirmed at £39,850.

- 2.1. Following consultation with the Parish Council, key themes and Project ideas were established:
  - Traffic and Parking,
  - Landscaping,
  - Green Initiatives,
  - Disabled Access, and
  - Other (including activity around Play Parks, Pathways and Art Installation).
- 2.2. The Council ran a public consultation from 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 to 18<sup>th</sup> September 2022, which attracted 290 responses. Against the 14 specific projects consulted upon (see Annex A) consultees were asked to indicate whether each was 'Not Needed', 'Somewhat Needed' or 'Definitely Needed'. A combination of response results against the 'Somewhat' and 'Definitely' needed enabled the Council produce a table of the priorities. The table, including the weighted averages, can be found at Annex A.
- 2.3. The consultation document included the opportunity to suggest other initiatives. While 59% (171) of consultees made a suggestion, they were very specific ideas which meant that there was little consensus.
- 2.4. The top priorities identified within the consultation were largely around traffic management, parking, accessibility and landscaping. Post-consultation discussions with the Parish Council, the County Councillor and the County Highways Department have helped form the consultation responses into specific projects.
- 2.5. In addition to the continued provision of a Village Warden, the following projects/actions are therefore considered to represent the most effective use of the funds:



- 2.5.1. Match funding (with the Parish Council) the provision of additional Traffic Enforcement for 2022/23 and 2023/24 at a cost of £9,250 (for both years).
- 2.5.2. Permissions and installation of three dropped kerbs (suggest: Post Office corner, In front of the Cedars and Clacton Ford) at an estimated cost of £12,000.
- 2.5.3. Traffic Regulation Order to extend parking restrictions in residential areas and add one new Bus Stop. The costs are estimated at £12,000 for Legal work and a further £3,000 for new signage and road markings.
- 2.5.4. Match funding (with the Parish Council) an annual refresh of the Village Green for 2022/23 and 2023/24, at a cost of £7,480 (for both years).
- 2.5.5. Cost of installation of pre-purchased cobbles (pre-purchased by the Parish Council) along the river bank, at a cost of £1,890.
- 2.5.6. Provision of a 'small project' budget for the Village Warden (to be held and managed by the Parish Council) of £500.
- 2.6. Decisions on the use of these funds is delegated to the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Finance and the Council's Section 151 Officer.

### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1. The financial implications are detailed within the body of the report. However, by way of a summary:
  - Carry over from 2021/22 was £40,806,
  - Confirmed final 2022/23 receipts are £39,850,
  - Provision of a Village Warden in 2022/23 is £15,768 therefore
  - The 2022/23 budget for allocation is **£64,888**.
- 3.2. As some of the costs in paragraph 2.5 are estimated, it is further recommended that additional expenditure be delegated to the Council's Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance. This delegation will only relate to items detailed in paragraph 2.5 and cannot take the total expenditure above the 2022/23 budget (i.e. £64,888).
- 3.3. The expenditure in paragraph 2.5 totals £46,120 so there will be circa £18,768 excess. This will either be utilised as set out in paragraph 3.2 or carried over into 2023/24.

### 4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

### 5. EQUALITIES IMPACT

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



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**6. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES IMPLICATIONS**

6.1. There is no negative impact associated with these recommendations.

**7. RISK ASSESSMENT**

7.1. The allocation of funding to projects or services in and around Bourton on the Water does attract any significant risks.

**8. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8.1. None.