



**COTSWOLD**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council name	<b>COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL</b>
Name and date of Committee	<b>DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE DECISION MEETING 7 NOVEMBER 2024</b>
Subject	<b>BORTON ON THE WATER TOURISM LEVY INCREASE</b>
Wards affected	Bourton Village and Bourton Vale
Accountable member	Councillor 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, Assistant Director for Resident Services Email: <a href="mailto:jon.dearing@cotswold.gov.uk">jon.dearing@cotswold.gov.uk</a>
Report author	Jon Dearing, Assistant Director for Resident Services Email: <a href="mailto:jon.dearing@cotswold.gov.uk">jon.dearing@cotswold.gov.uk</a>
Summary/Purpose	To recommend an increase in Rissington Road Car Parking Tourism Levy in Bourton-on-the-Water from 2025/26.
Annexes	None
Recommendation(s)	That the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance resolves to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Approve an increase in the Rissington Road Tourism Levy from £0.50 to £0.60 per session, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025, and</li><li>2. Approve the necessary variation to the Parking Order.</li></ol>
Corporate priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Delivering Good Services</li><li>• Supporting Communities</li></ul>
Key Decision	NO
Exempt	NO
Consultees/ Consultation	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer, Ward Member and the Bourton on the Water Parish Council.



## **1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 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 volumes of visitors that it receives.
- 1.2 This report recommends an increase in that Levy, to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 In March 2021 Cotswold District Council introduced a Tourism Levy of £0.50 per parking session at its Rissington Road Car Park in Bourton on the Water. In 2021/22 the receipts totalled £59,445 and in 2022/23 receipts reduced to £40,024 as a result of a four month close to resurface and improve the car parking facilities. Since then (i.e. for 2023/24 and 2024/25) annual receipts have levelled off at circa £55,000 per annum.

## **3. MAIN POINTS**

- 3.1 The projects approved over the four years since the Levy's introduction are generally construction/adaptation projects and funds are therefore spent on materials and services.
- 3.2 According to the Bank of England's Inflation calculator, the cost of goods and services have increased by 20.04% since the March 2021 introduction of the Levy. A 20% increase in the Levy, in line with inflation against goods and services, from £0.50 to £0.60 per session is therefore recommended so that the Council can effectively continue to support the Parish Council cope with the impact of Tourism on the Village.
- 3.3 If approved this increase would need to be accounted for with the Council's Annual Budget Setting process as increase in the overall charges at the Rissington Road Car Park.
- 3.4 As this is a minor change it would only require a variation to the Parking Order, as per recommendation 2 (above). This increase would not need to be consulted upon but would need to be published in the press with the inclusion of a 'statement of reasons'. The wording of this statement to be formed from paragraph 3.2 of this report.

## **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The proposed 20% increase in the Levy would see the annual receipts increase from circa £55,000 per annum to circa £66,000 per annum.
- 4.2 An increase to the overall charging structure at the Rissington Road Car Park would need to be adopted as part of the Annual Budget Setting process.

## **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The legal requirements are included at paragraph 3.4 of this report.



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**6. RISK ASSESSMENT**

6.1 The proposed increase in the Levy does not attract any significant risks.

**7. EQUALITIES IMPACT**

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 is no negative impact associated with these recommendations.

**9. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

9.1 None.

(END)