

DEPUTY TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

5. Deputy Town Clerk's Update

Report on items from 12 May 2022 committee meeting not already on the agenda – for information

Cycle Parking

Cycle stands have been installed in Westbourne carpark and have been observed in use.

11. Budget Monitoring 2022/23

To receive and accept a budget report to 31 May 2022

Attachment 11. Budget Monitoring to 31.5.22

On target spend should be at 16.67%.

The following points should be noted:

- All PAYE & NI (4010) and Pension (4020) contributions are paid a month behind until year end, and therefore only reflect one month's expenditure (8.33%).

Recommendation: to accept the budget report

12. Objectives

To consider objectives and priorities for this committee for 2022/23

The previous objectives set for this committee were:

1. To continue to support and enhance existing events and new activities
2. Work with youth organisations to set up a youth council and improve collaboration
3. Build on the improved accessibility at the Public Hall to work with others to promote inclusivity and accessibility in Liskeard.
4. Promote walking and cycling in and around Liskeard, including reviewing and improving signage and establishing new trails.

For 2021/22 it was agreed that priority would be given to walking and cycling activity which related to the current Active Travel project being undertaken by Council.

A review of these objectives and consideration of any new projects will help Council assess its priorities for the coming year and allocate available officer time and other resources accordingly.

13. Events

b). Fiver Fest event in October – to consider how this could be progressed (ALJ)

We have been advised by Totally Locally that the next national event will be 8 – 22 October 2022 with a slightly different Magic Tenner campaign <https://totallylocally.org/2015/02/the-magic-tenner-message/>. The Magic Tenner campaign is all about how money flows around the local economy and highlighting just how much impact local businesses and shops have in the community. The poster states “When you Shop Here, You Support Another XXX Businesses Who Supply & Work With Us.” It shows exactly how shopping locally can make a big difference on a local economy, even when you spend a small amount. There’s a bit of maths that says if you spend £10 in a shop that sells stuff from local producers the amount of money that goes back into the local economy can be over £50! Indirectly, suppliers, local tradespeople, window cleaners, etc are also supported.

There was a Fiver Fest campaign which ran from 2 – 16 July but the nearest local town taking part was Ottery St Mary, so there were not any opportunities to go and see it live.

15. Weed Treatment Public Engagement

To consider how best to obtain feedback on possible options to the current weed treatment arrangements.

The Council currently undertakes two weed treatments per year of approx. 80 kilometres. The contractor has advised that due to several factors costs are likely to increase substantially over the next year, and therefore, along with an aspiration to move to becoming herbicide free, the Council has agreed to look at alternative solutions in consultation with residents.

This could begin with a focus on surveying residents as to what they think of the existing arrangements;

- Explaining the existing weed spraying areas,
- how frequently,
- with what chemicals,
- how much it costs the Town Council
- Are residents satisfied with the existing arrangements and what they like/don’t like with the status quo.

The second phase of the plan would be to survey residents’ views about alternatives, these would be everything from:

- The status quo (although this will cost more than the current year budget)
- Mechanical means (this may be limited due to damage caused to some pavement surfaces by the current Cormac machine)
- Reducing to one treatment per year
- Reducing the areas by half, focusing on main routes (within existing budget)
- Asking what areas we should focus on, compared to the existing route
- Asking if residents would like to carry out hand weeding in their local area
- Obtaining views on ceasing weed control altogether

Possible tools for carrying out the consultation are a survey monkey questionnaire, although it may need to refer to the large maps of the existing treatment areas, posters about the consultation with an e-mail/address to submit responses, social media posts and perhaps a drop in session or two with large maps to obtain views.

17. Circulating Grant Information

To consider how information on available grant funding can be best cascaded to any interested groups

The Town Council currently receives information on available grant funding from several sources, some as regular monthly newsletters (these are generally long, covering both national and area specific opportunities across the full spectrum of possible purposes), and others on an ad hoc basis usually related to local funding opportunities. Where we are aware of opportunities that may be relevant to local groups these are shared, but a system that groups can sign up to and then view all the available options for things relevant to them may be useful. A possible solution for achieving this is Mail Chimp, which allows people to remove themselves from the communication if they no longer wish to receive it.