

Community, Leisure & Recreation Committee

Title:	Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III and Her Majesty The Queen Consort
Date:	4 April 2023
Contact Officer:	Cassie Pinnells, Community Services Manager

Purpose of the Report

1. To confirm Thame Town Council's involvement in the Coronation celebrations of His Majesty King Charles III and Her Majesty The Queen Consort over the bank holiday weekend of the 6 - 8 May 2023.
2. Buckingham Palace announced details on the ceremonial, celebratory and community events that will take place over the Coronation weekend between 6 – 8 May 2023.
<https://www.royal.uk/coronation-weekend-plans-announced>

Saturday 6 May – Coronation service in Westminster Abbey, Coronation procession; Buckingham Palace balcony.

Sunday 7 May – Concert and lightshow at Windsor Castle, Coronation Big Lunch street parties.

Monday 8 May – Extra bank holiday, Big Help Out encouraging people to get involved in local volunteering.

Update

3. Thame annual events were already being organised before the announcement of the Coronation, scheduled to take place before and after the Coronation. Music in the Park taking place on Sunday 30 April 2023 (6 days before the coronation) and Taste of Thame on Saturday 27 May 2023 (3 weeks after the coronation which is also a street party). Thame will have a month of commemorations, to enable residents and volunteers to enjoy the additional Coronation Bank holiday weekend to relax at a time when our volunteers are more needed than ever.
4. Following the Community, Leisure and Recreation Committee meeting held on 7 February 2023, further investigations have taken place.


Screens

Approached multiple companies and all were outside of budget, plus with weather issues it may not be a big turnout; therefore the decision was made not to progress this option.

Union Flag mapping or projection on the town hall

We approached 2 companies, one was out of budget and the other advised that it would be difficult to map as vehicles driving past would get in the way. There may also be an issue for drivers affected by the flashing lights. Based on this information this option was not progressed any further.

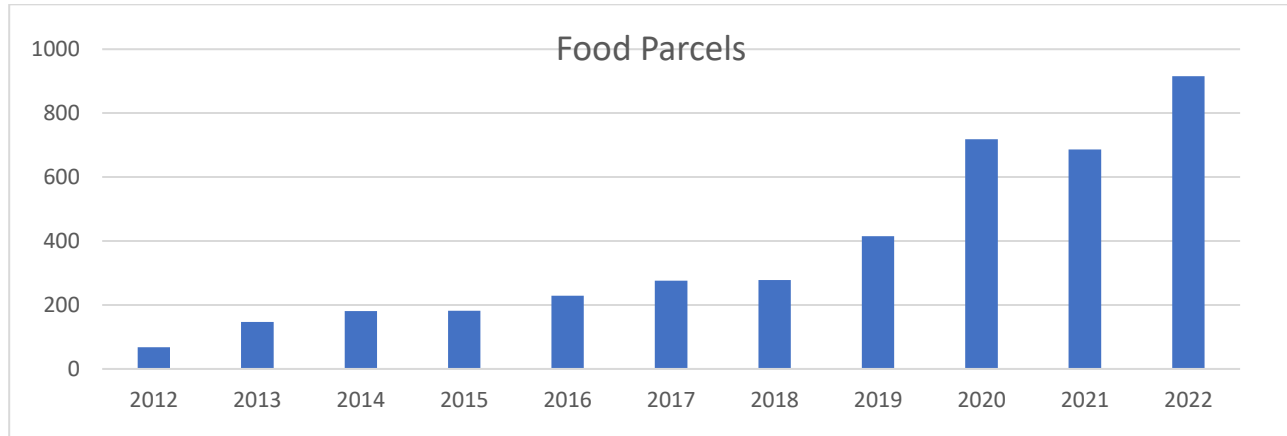
Projects

Project	Cost
<p>Bunting provided by C21st Thame, operational requirements - hire of cherry picker & Cable ties.</p> <p>Locations - Buttermarket, (subject to licence and business permissions), Montesson Square Floral standards and High Street Floral standards nearest Coop. Cherry Picker for bunting - 2 day hire plus delivery fee.</p> <p><i>NB: OCC have waived the standard fees for the licence.</i></p>	£305
Wildflower packets for each primary school – Design attached as Appendix 1	£1,680
Donation to Thame Museum/library to run event or for future endeavours	£200
Print out of A5 leaflet for all school children, includes seeds, info on the weekend and a colouring sheet to decorate the library	£450
Window Wanderland set up & prize	£450
Planting of oak tree subject to recommendation from Open Spaces Working Group and approval from Community, Leisure & Recreation Committee. After seeking expert advice, location/s, and partnership working with the Thame Trees / Thame Green Living Plan who are already working on different areas within Thame.	£250
<p>Rather than the Coronation Large the proposal is to fly a King Charles III cypher flag (see below) during the month of May – subject to flag flying policy and can be reused for His Majesty.</p> 	£70

Encourage holding street parties and provide the advice for residents to celebrate with their neighbours as promoted for the Queens Platinum Jubilee. This information has been going out regularly on Newsletter and social media channels.

5. As part of the “Big Give” to support the Thame and Moreton community who are financially struggling due to the cost-of-living crises we propose providing a grant of £1,500 from the Coronation Budget to Sharing Life.
6. Sharing Life and Citizen Advice are working together to assist those families that are below the poverty line but above the line for government financial support. They are launching a new support called UTUBE (Your Top Up of Basics Essentials) to assist families with one food parcel a month of basic items to keep them going.

Stats below for the foodbank since Sharing Life started it in 2012, these are the total number of Food Parcel we gave out each year.



i.e. Each food parcel is designed to provide enough to feed the family for one week and because we live in a rural area, each one is delivered to the clients house.

Comparing the first two months last year (January – February 2022) with the same period this year 2023, you will see we are experiencing a 57% increase in demand.

2022 Jan to Feb – 135
 2023 Jan to Feb – 212 – 57% increase

As a result of this increased demand, Sharing Life costs have gone up significantly, not only in the extra food needed but the requirement to employ two part-time administrators to deal with all calls, plus plan and schedule the packing and delivery of every food parcel.

Please be aware that these Food Parcel are not all Thame residence but include families struggling in the area surround Thame, since the next foodbank to the west is in Oxford City, to the South Didcot or Abingdon and to the north Aylesbury and none of those foodbanks deliver.

Resource Appraisal

a) A budget of £5,000 has been approved by the Council.

Action required:

- i) To approve Thame Town Council's involvement as outlined in item 5 of this report in the celebrations of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort.***
- ii) To approve the donation of £1,500 to Sharing Life to aid Thame & Moreton families recognised by Citizens Advice for a "Top up of basic essentials", as part of the Big Give.***