

Environment & Assets Committee

Title: Thame Barns Centre – Photovoltaic Panels

Date: 15 July 2025

Contact Officer: Andrea Oughton, Operations Manager

Purpose of the Report

1. To agree in principle, to the installation of photovoltaic panels on two sides of the roof of Thame Barns Centre, Church Road.

Proposal

2. The Barns Centre Charity has contacted the Town Council as one of the landlords of Thame Barns Centre to request permission to install photovoltaic panels on two sides of the roof (see Appendix 4a).
3. The Barns Centre is situated within the Conservation Area and as such the installation may require Conservation Area Consent.
4. The installation will make a significant positive impact on future energy bills and the sustainability of the building.
5. The following information is required before the Town Council can give final approval to the scheme (the list is not exhaustive and additional items may be added):
 - All costs will be met by the Barns Centre Charity (including legal & planning costs, if required)
 - That the roof is suitable for such an installation
 - Ongoing maintenance costs for the energy system will be met by the Barns Centre Charity
 - Planning permissions, if required (see Appendix 4b.)
 - Insurance levels are reviewed.
6. Subject to the above and completion of due diligence, the Barns Centre Charity will notify the Town Clerk that all conditions have been met before work proceeds.

Resource Appraisal

7. The Barns Centre Charity will meet all costs associated with the scheme including planning fees if required.
8. Benefits of installation will result in a reduction of energy costs for the Charity.

Legal Powers

- General Power of Competence
- Local Gov (Misc Provisions) Act 1976 s.19
- Local Gov Act 1972 s111

Recommendation:

- i) To agree in principle that, the Barns Centre Charity proceed with the project to install photovoltaic panels on two sides of the roof of Thame Barns Centre subject to any planning permissions being obtained and satisfactory responses to the questions listed in para 5 of the report.***