

REPORT TO EVENTS AND TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

EVENTS UPDATE REPORT

Report Reference E-22-10
Meeting Date 6th February 2023
Agenda Item 9
Prepared by Events Officer



1.0 BACKGROUND

The date for the coronation of King Charles III has been confirmed for Saturday 6th May 2023; the Knutsford Royal May Day event has been moved to 13th May to avoid clashing with the coronation. A budget of £1,500 has been included in the 2023/24 committee budget for celebratory events and initiatives.

Following two inquorate committee meetings in December, the proposed activity for the coronation was referred to the January meeting of the Full Council. Council resolved:

not to hold a screening of the coronation and refer the matter back to the Events and Town Centre Management Committee with direction to look at tree planting, commemorative coins and community singing.

2.0 TREE PLANTING

The Events Officer has explored plans for a commemorative tree planting to take place on Saturday 6th May, this would be held in either the morning or afternoon before or after the Coronation (the timings for this have not yet been announced publicly and as such the timings for the tree planting will not be confirmed until this information is available). The tree planting could form a small event, with music from a brass band and can incorporate the community singing into this event either in the form of a choir or attendees encouraged to sing along to songs performed by the brass band. Some light refreshments could be provided to attendees. The Council's own equipment including PA system can be utilised therefore eliminating the need for outside hire to reduce costs.

The Planning and Facilities officer has sourced a flowering cherry "Charles" which could be planted in the Library Gardens in a suitable location. Costs for this event are estimated at:

Item	Cost
Tree	£70
Plaque	£150
Brass Band	£200
Choir	£100
Refreshments	£50
TOTAL	£570

3.0 COMMEMORATIVE COINS

The Events Officer has explored options for sourcing commemorative coins which could be given out as part of the celebrations, similar to those given out as part of the 2012 Jubilee celebrations. The lowest price coin is £9.99, this would mean only ~ 100 could be purchased. The quality of the coins is not the same as was available for previous Jubilee celebrations and in 2012 the Town Mayor gave coins to all primary school children which would not be possible with the current costs/budget. Therefore, this idea unfortunately is not viable at this time due to the increased cost.

4.0 COMMUNITY SINGING

As detailed in point 2.0 this could form part of the small tree planting event or this could be explored as a separate initiative with further guidance from the committee on how they would like to see this take place.

5.0 BUDGET

If the committee wishes to proceed as outlined in this report there will be surplus budget of just under £1,000 which could be utilised to support sourcing of bunting for the town or to support other festivities in the town.

6.0 DECISION REQUIRED

The committee should consider the tree planting proposal and determine how it wishes Knutsford to mark the coronation.