



REPORT FOR DECISION

Item No:- ME22/037

Committee:-	Markets and Events Committee
Date:-	30 th November 2022
Author:-	Martin Hammond, Clerk
Report Title:-	Marking Coronation Weekend May 2023
Wards Affected:-	All

1. Purpose of Report

To seek members' views on how best to mark the coronation weekend next May

2. Recommendations

That members

- a) Identify a preferred day or days on which an event could be provided
- b) Discuss the nature of an event and the scale of a budget provision.

3. Information

- 3.1. The Coronation is on 6th May 2023, and there is a bank holiday planned for May 8th. Members at a previous meeting asked that consideration be given, once the dates were known, to how the coronation could be marked locally.
- 3.2. The coronation event itself is on a Saturday, so there are three full days when something could be provided. In the next item on this agenda, a proposed budget of £1500 is suggested.
- 3.3. Historical Productions – who provided the Victorian market in March 2022 – have submitted a proposal to provide a fifties themed event – on the basis that the last coronation took place in 1953. Their proposal is included as Appendix I but the projected costs - £16000 - far exceed the likely available budget. It might be possible though to isolate some aspects of the offer to provide a more affordable event.
- 3.4. In addition to this proposal, Historical Productions have also suggested providing a 1950s street market, inviting Shire Sounds to attend and play 1950s music and having a 1950s car enthusiast event.
- 3.5. If members preferred to have something more contemporary, then we would need to develop something ourselves. Options might include

- A children's art contribution was reasonably successful for the jubilee and could be re-commissioned. Costs for this are minimal.
- Badging up or extending the bands in the park programme and have performances across the weekend in various locations, although again this would be weather dependent.
- A themed trail round shops in the town
- A celebratory market with entertainment

3.6. A big screen on the Market Place showing the coronation might be achievable, although it would be weather dependent and would need to be explored. It would perhaps need to be "book-ended" by other attractions, and some activities, stalls and entertainment as delivered from the 2022 Street Food Saturdays might be possible. The big screen hire at Christmas lights switch on was £850.

3.7. Bunting for the jubilee in 2022 cost £3000 which was half the total costs of providing the bunting and having it erected and removed. (NNC paid the other half). Some of the material was saved for future use, (large union flags mostly) but the majority of the bunting was not in a fit condition to re-use.

4. Consultation and Engagement

None to date and it is possible some consultation or a call for ideas would generate ideas to explore.

5. Finance, Legal and Resource Implications

A figure of £1500 in the budget would only provide a relatively modest set of events, and whilst it might be possible to secure some sponsorship, that can't at this stage be guaranteed.

6. Policy Implications

The Council's policy is to support the economic vitality of the town centre.

Background Papers

Attached Material

