

Meeting	Community Development Committee
Date	7 th February 2023
Report Title	Community Choices Project Update
Agenda Reference	10
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Officer's Recommendations

1. To agree the five community projects listed below (submitted by residents in 2022) for community voting for the 2023 Community Choices.
2. To note the project community communication methods.
3. To note the survey response platform for the project/ collation of responses.
4. To note the dates for project public vote.

Background – Project Objectives

This project is not a grant scheme. The project budget will not be awarded to a specific community group or charity. Instead, the allocated budget will be spent on the service development or provision by the Council in the area decided by its community.

The Community Choices project budget will be approved at Full Council in February, but the proposed budget is to split this in to £5,000.00 for general community projects and £2,500.00 for youth activities.

The idea of the budget is:

- To engage the community in a democratic process and to help support active residents through Participatory Budgeting.
- To build community engagement and participation is an important underlying principle of this Council.
- To give our residents meaningful choices about how a proportion of the annual budget will be spent. In doing so, residents will have ownership and gain the positive effect of the chosen event or project.

Project Update Summary

The project themes received by members of the public in 2022/23 and to put to public vote are listed below:

1. Haydon Wick Parents & Baby/Toddler Group(s)
2. Haydon Wick 'A Big Community Celebration'
3. Youth and Community Activities
4. Community Outside Gym
5. Reducing Isolation in our Community

The following communication platforms will be used to engage residents with the project: notice boards across the parish, the Haydon Wick Living Magazine (spring edition), social media, parish website, local press, outreach at youth activity workshops, outreach at community Memory Café and potentially a Community Outreach morning at the Orbital – subject to attendance from Councillors.



- The survey responses will be collected on the current survey platform of choice for the Council, which is Microsoft Forms. This is a free platform, and the link can be shared via social media and other engagement methods.
- Responders can submit more than one vote to the survey, however, as one of the objectives of this project was to increase community engagement, this should not impact the overall objectives in a negative capacity. It is not possible to break-down votes submitted via social media/ website/ postal votes from Haydon Wick Living Magazine.
- Residents of Haydon Wick will be asked to vote on their preferred Community Choices project by 31st March 2023. The project will then be delivered in the financial year of 2023/2024.