

Meeting	Community Development Committee
Date	1 st April 2025
Report Title	Community Choices: Consultation Results 2025/2026
Agenda Reference	8
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Recommendations

- 1) To note the report and the chosen themes for Community Choices “*Celebrating Community*” Theme in 2025/2026.
- 2) To note that the Thyme Close Play Area Repainting theme was the most popular project, and the Dog Play Area was in close second.
- 3) To note that the Council could try to deliver as many of the projects as possible within the allocated budgets.

Consultation 2025

The consultation run from Thursday 20th February – Monday 31st March. The consultation was done on ‘Formidable’ which is a package support by the Parish Council’s website. This was shared on social media, the website and within the HW Living Magazine.

There were five (5) social media posts during that timeframe and the post reached 2,638 people. There were 28 reactions to the posts but no comments on the social posts, but these have been captured in the consultation form. There were 128 responses and residents were voting for multiple options too.

Results

The top choices were Dog Play Area and Thyme Close Play Area Revival. The Community of Thyme Close really came together to highlight the need for improvements at the Thyme Close Play Area. This is clearly an asset to the community as it is a unique play area and quiet setting.

(Y) = Youth (C) = Community

Proposed themes	Results	Estimated Cost
1. Various Community Art Projects (e.g. a street art mural and a commemorative wood carving sculpture)	3	£1,000.00 (Y)
2. Budget to boost the existing Community Events (e.g. VE Day Event 80, Summer and Christmas)	6	£1,000.00 (C)
3. Wild Wick Community Garden Development/ Enhancing Community Open Spaces	7	£500.00 (Y)
4. Performing Arts/Community Theatre Performances	5	£500.00 (Y)
5. Thyme Close Play Area Revival	70	£1,500.00 (C)
6. Dog Play Area	43	£3,000.00 (C)



		<i>*potential sponsorship opportunity</i>
7. Celebrate our Community - Festival of Stories	6	£250.00 (Y)
8. Community Safety Initiative	6	£500.00 (C)
Total estimated cost against all projects <i>Note: Sponsorship, Income & Volunteering Opportunities</i>		£2,250.00 (Y) £6,000.00 (C)
Budget available		£2,500.00 (Y) £5,000.00 (C)

Additional Comments

“Better to have a safe area, away from cyclists and pedestrians, for dogs to be off lead for the dogs to run and play without worrying anyone.”

“The community safety initiative where an amnesty bin can be installed to allow people to deposit knives can only be a good thing. Encouraging young people to do that is going to be a difficult ask but at least it is a start in the right direction.”

“Haydon Wick is lacking in a safe space for dogs to play without fear of getting run over.”

“Bringing everyone together should be at the centre of what is focused on.”

Budget

The budget is £7,500.00 for 2025/2026 and has been split into the following categories:

- £5,000.00 General community projects
- £2,500.00 Youth projects (delivered either in-house and/or outsourced)

Previously the Council has vired some of this money to support the Council’s Community Grants scheme, larger scale events or to enhance the Christmas Parcel scheme to a wider audience, if there is the demand and/or if the budget allows.

It would be well received to distribute the budget to support as many of the project themes as possible. There is also a sponsorship opportunity for the Dog Play Area, so the Officers are pricing up fencing, a gate and signage.