

Meeting	Community Development Committee
Date	3 rd June 2025
Report Title	Community Choices 2025/2026
Agenda Reference	9
Author	Laura Cutter, Deputy Clerk, HR & Services Manager

Recommendations

- 1) To note the interim update on the Community Choices projects.

Background

During April's Community Development Committee, Council reviewed the survey results from the Community Choices Survey and agreed to splitting the Community Choices budget between a wide variety of projects and themes to further enhance the community development offering.

Since April, plans are being introduced and soon the findings along with project plans and timelines will be introduced to the public via a press release, a Haydon Wick "Living" Magazine article and on social media in June. Some material items have been purchased and tracked to offset against each project as can be used across most events throughout the year.

The main concept is 'Celebrating Community' and incorporates the Wild Wick objectives within the Community Led Action Plan. It is also an educational piece for upcycling - make do and mend.

(Y) = Youth (C) = Community

Proposed themes	Estimated Cost	Update
1. Various Community Art Projects (e.g. a street art mural and a commemorative wood carving sculpture)	£1,000.00 (Y)	Costs being received by the sculptor and tree stumps removed by SBC and the Tree Survey works will be available for use.
2. Budget to boost the existing Community Events (e.g. VE Day Event 80)	£1,000.00 (C) NOW SPENT.	Completed. The event was received well and was a perfect community celebration. <i>See event audit for breakdown of spending in Agenda 8.</i>
3. Wild Wick Community Garden Development/ Enhancing Community Open Spaces	£500.00 (Y)	Some of the funds have been utilised with the Leisure Garden youth events and the Skate Park fence weaving event. There have also been several art events such as the Luna Close Big Art and the pop in & paint sessions upcycling junk ready for temporary display outside the Leisure Gardens in Goodearl, Old Blunsdon Road. The plan is that this will build upon the Art Trail heading towards the Summer Event.
4. Performing Arts/Community Theatre Performances	£500.00 (Y)	Some money has been applied to arts/ theatre through community grant scheme, there is a poetry



		weekend “world of words” coming up in July as a partnership opportunity to see how well received this is and researching costs for a theatrical performance at Luna Close bowl area.
5. Thyme Close Play Area Revival	£1,500.00 (C)	A site visit was undertaken and some ideas for giving the area a refresh. As there was a lot of response from Thyme Close residents championing this project, it would be nice to hold a site visit inviting them along to capture their ideas and plans, as a lot of the play value within the surroundings of the parks (willow den, mud kitchen, etc) has been made by residents.
6. Dog Play Area	£3,000.00 (C) <i>*potential sponsorship opportunity</i>	The area has been costed up for fencing, signage and maintenance. There are potential sponsorship funds coming in to offset the bulk of the costs.
7. Celebrate our Community - Festival of Stories	£250.00 (Y)	Lead up for Summer Event.
8. Community Safety Initiative	£500.00 (C)	In progress. Previously resolved for this to be placed at the Orbital but recommendation to CD in June it is put at HWPC Offices. A bleed kit has also been donated by Owens World.
Budget available	£2,500.00 (Y) £4,000.00(C) <i>deducting VE Day event budget</i> <i>*awaiting up to date Income & Expenditure for Month 2.</i>	

Other Spending

Where possible the team is ensuring that there is an underspend, so that there are funds available for the Haydon Wick Haven to continue (£10 per session for refreshments) and the Memory Café & Community Co Ordinator is using left over craft activities and refreshments from the Memory Café and Companions Café. There are also donations, sponsorships and income from ticket sales to make the budget stretch as far as possible.

There may be some funds applied to offset the cost of tickets to parish residents on the upcoming Summer Beach Trip(s) in August, but these events are being developed and will be reported back to August's Committee meeting.

There is also a separate Youth Budget available which is being used for some Half Term Activities and sports activities such as BEST and ATB Skate Jams.

Other ideas are welcomed so please feedback to the Community Development Team to capture suggestions in the programme.