

## Full Council

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<b>Report Title:</b>	<b>External Organisations</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>13 August 2024</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Lizzie Fuller, Committee Services &amp; Processes Officer</b>

### Purpose of the Report

1. To update the Council on the reporting of external organisations.

### Action Required

2. To **receive** the latest reports from external organisations (Appendix A).
3. To **consider** and **approve** the frequency and line of external organisation reporting.
4. To **approve** that Cllr Dyer be re-appointed as the external organisation representative for NALC.
5. To **review** the current list of external organisations (point 10) and **agree** any to add / remove.

### Reports from External Organisations

6. All external organisations representatives have been asked to provide reports to this Full Council meeting, as reports have not been requested since February. See Appendix A.

### Background

7. The role of an external organisation representative is to:
  - Assist the organisation
  - Attend their meetings regularly
  - Become familiar with issues relating to the organisation
  - Report to the Council on the organisation's progress and any issues for the council's consideration.
8. The council may choose to appoint representatives to external organisations where the council has provided / provides financial or operational support, owns the building / land, or works in partnership with the organisation. In many cases it is all of these.
9. Officers have reviewed the current external organisation reports. This is usually done at the annual meeting in May but was delayed due to the implementation of the new committees.
10. Prior to the implementation of the new committee structure in May 2024, 25 external organisations reported across 3 standing committees on a quarterly basis (8 times a year for Transport Representative and Thame Community Land Trust):
  - 21st Century Thame Partnership
  - Chinnor RFC

- Citizens' Advice
- Cuttle Brook Management Committee
- Friends of Elms Park
- Music in the Park
- Red Kite Family Centre
- Sinaia Friendship Association
- Thame Barns Centre
- Thame Business Forum
- Thame Carnival Committee
- Thame Community Land Trust
- Thame Football Partnership
- Thame Good Neighbour Scheme
- Thame Museum Trust
- Thame Remembers
- Thame Senior Friendship Centre
- Thame Shed
- Thame Sports Club
- Thame Town Cricket Club
- Thame Welfare Trust
- Thame Youth Memorial Trust
- Thame Youth Projects Group
- Transport Representative
- Twinning Association

### **Review of External Organisations**

11. Given the natural overlapping of these organisations over the committees, and based on research of other councils, it is suggested that future reporting of these organisations be through Full Council.
12. The frequency of reporting is at the discretion of the council. As a minimum, it should be annually in order to fulfil requirements of the grant award policy. A suggested frequency would be twice a year – Feb/March and August.
13. The appointment to external organisations is done annually at the Annual Meeting (May), however external organisations may be removed / added anytime by resolution of the council.

### **External Organisations to add / re-instate / remove**

14. National Association of Local Councils – This was removed as a representative in May 2023 as it was felt no longer needed. Cllr Dyer was the representative. In July 2024, Thame Town Council was invited to join NALC's 'Super Council Network', aimed at councils with a precept over £1million, and asked to appoint a lead councillor to attend online meetings every 3 months, the first being in September. As the former representative for NALC, Cllr Dyer has agreed via email to be reappointed to this role.
15. If there are other organisations which the council feel there should be an external organisation for, these can be agreed / appointed at this meeting. Likewise if any should be removed, this can be agreed too.

## Resource Appraisal

16. The proposed changes are all within existing defined resources, and / or reflect what the Town Council does already, so there are no additional resource requirements identified.

## Risk Assessment

17. External organisation representatives support the governance of the Town Council and improve relations with the community.

## Legal Powers:

- Local Government Act 1972

## Recommendation:

- i) To approve that all reports from external organisations be reported to Full Council on a bi-annual (twice a year) basis.*
- ii) To approve that Cllr Dyer be re-appointed as the external organisation representative for NALC.*