

Community Services Committee

Title: Oxfordshire County Council – Volunteer Coordination

Date: 10 September 2024

Contact Officer: Cassie Pinnells, Community Services Manager

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide background for a request from Oxfordshire County Council Volunteer Coordination team.

Background

2. The Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) Volunteer Co-ordination Team have recently been promoting in Thame for volunteers to undertake tasks such as road sign cleaning on unclassified roads of 30 mph or less and only from the pathway (not in the road) and on ground (no steps or ladders). OCC provide the kit for the volunteers to use.
3. Unfortunately, volunteers are not covered by Oxfordshire County Council and any volunteers that come forward would have to come under the Thame Town Council Public Liability Insurance. Zurich have confirmed that our volunteers are covered by our Public Liability Insurance.
4. The Community Services Manager has been in contact with the Thame Wombles to check that they do not carry out the task outlined above.

Proposal

5. To consider the request from OCC to co-ordinate and insure volunteers to undertake roadside signage cleaning.

Risk Assessment

6. The OCC Volunteer Co-Ordination Team have provided examples attached to this report of the following:
 - i. Volunteer Agreement Road Sign Cleaning
 - ii. How to guide to clean signs and
 - iii. A generic risk assessment

Resource Appraisal

7. Staff time to co-ordinate the volunteers will be undertaken through normal staffing budgets.
8. Subject to the volunteer signing the Volunteer Agreement and adhering to the risk assessment requirements there should be no additional insurance expense.

Legal Powers: Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8

Recommendation:

The Committee is asked:

- i) To approve a volunteer agreement to enable TTC to support volunteers engaging with community projects such as street cleaning.***