

## Community Services Committee

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<b>Report Title:</b>	<b>Thame Pride 2025</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>16 July 2024</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Cllr David Dawson &amp; Amy Slater, Business Administration Apprentice</b>

### Purpose of the Report

1. To provide a progress update on Thame Pride 2025.

### Action Required

2. To note the report.

### Background

3. At the Community Services Meeting (16 July 2024) it was agreed to:
  - i) To support, in principle and subject to an event proposal with costings, for a Thame Pride event to be held in June 2025.
  - ii) To approve that Officers, provide administrative support to Cllr Dawson in establishing the feasibility and interest for a Thame Pride event in June 2025, in order to present an event proposal to a future meeting of this committee.

### Thame Pride 2025

4. We have created a social media profile (Facebook) for Thame Pride and have received many friend requests and likes. We put out a google form to invite the public to a discussion about the event and within a day we have already received confirmation of 14 attendees.
5. Bicester Pride have offered us the opportunity to have a stall at their Pride Event on September 7<sup>th</sup> 2024, unfortunately we were unable to accept due to short notice.
6. Flyers have been printed and are being distributed around Thame asking people to save the date.
7. The event could include music, with James Figgs, Candelo Lounge and The Bird Cage offering their facilities for free and London Gay Men's Chorus offering to perform in Thame. The Rugby Club wants to play an active part in a Pride Event, with a friendly game played against Kings Cross Steelers, the world's first gay rugby team. Thame running group have also expressed an interest in staging two events in support of Pride. The Player's Theatre has offered its resources for free with the possibility of staging an

evening cabaret event and talks about the history of Pride & equality. A number of local street food suppliers have expressed an interest in taking part in Pride.

8. For funding of Thame Pride, we have already had an expression of interest in sponsoring the event by Travelodge (They already sponsor Birmingham and Bristol Pride) and Lightfoots Solicitors (They sponsor Oxford Pride). There are also several grants available to support inclusive events in rural areas.
9. Thame Town Council would give support to Thame's first Pride in 2025 and would need to be prepared to offer staffing resources to help with street closures etc. The date is likely to be Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2025.

### **Resource Appraisal**

10. No financial resources required at this stage other than officer time to provide administrative support.

### **Risk Assessment**

11. There may be reputational risks associated with any decision for or against the event.

### **Legal Powers:**

- Equality Act 2010, Section 149(1)
- Localism Act 2011, Section 1-8, and The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012

### **Recommendation:**

- i) To note the progress update.*