

Community Services Committee

Report Title: Thame Pride 2025
Meeting Date: 4th February 2025
Contact: Councillor David Dawson

Purpose of the Report:

1. To provide councillors with an update on Thame Pride 2025 progress.

Action Required:

2. To receive and note the update.

Background

3. On 15th October 2024, Full Council voted unanimously to award Thame Community Pride CIC (TP) £500 seed funding. The Town Council had also previously agreed to provide some admin support through the apprentice.
4. Since this date TP has established a core team of nine people working to deliver a Pride Festival in Thame on 20th - 22nd June 2025. The core team members are:
 - Xarius Austin – Education & Legacy,
 - Tess Davie – Social Media,
 - David Dawson – Director,
 - Siân Jenkins – Finance and Web,
 - David Knights – Marketing,
 - Ala Lloyd – Event Management,
 - Jess McIvor – Project Management,
 - Bex Surrige – Community Engagement,
 - Simon White – Governance.
5. The festival consists of:
 - a late-night cabaret on Friday 20th June
 - a full day of activities in the town centre on Saturday 21st June
 - a Q&A screening of the film Pride on Sunday 22nd June.
6. The budget to deliver this is £29,000. TP will be funded by a mix of sponsorship and grants.

7. So far TP has raised £14,000 through sponsorship with a further £8,750 potential. TP is awaiting the decisions of two grant applications. It has also received a large amount of sponsorship in kind such as: accountancy, web building, printing, and technical support.
8. TP has created partnerships with Thame Museum, Lord Williams's School, and Thame Library.
9. TP is supported by members of the team who delivered Thame Music Festival.
10. On Wednesday 29th January 2025 TP hosted a launch event sponsored by the Candelo Lounge in Thame. More than 70 people attended the invitation only event. Since the event TP has experienced an increase in applications to support and/or take part in the Pride Festival.
11. TP is very grateful to Thame Town Council's seed funding and to its continued support for Thame's first ever Pride Festival in June.
12. More information is available at www.thamepride.co.uk

Resource Appraisal

None required.