

Cultural and Economic Services Committee

Date: 11 March 2019

Title: Town Band

Purpose of the Report: To seek Member endorsement to the principle of creating the title of “Town Band”

Contact Officer: Mark Saccoccio, Town Clerk

Corporate Objective/s	LLTC Five Year Plan – Objective 24: To continue to deliver quality community events and regularly review their scope and delivery	
Implications:		
Financial	√	To be considered at the next meeting of the Cultural and Economic Services Committee to be held 3 rd June 2019
Human Resources		
Operational/Service delivery	√	An element of co-ordination will be required
Procedural/Legal		
Risk/Health and Safety		

1. RECOMMENDATION

Should members be minded, the proposal is:

- 1.1 To seek Member endorsement to the principle of appointing a Town Band to represent the Parish at high profile events including certain Mayoral Functions.**

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** The Town Council has been approached by a Leighton-Linslade based band requesting consideration be given to the potential of appointing a town band. As a status, the title of town band would afford the recipient certain privileges. Namely, it would allow the band opportunity to represent the parish at events outside the parish, be the band of first resort for Mayoral functions as well as other high-profile events within the parish. At this stage, any financial implications have not been considered as it is the principle that is being sought here. The successful band could for example be encouraged to apply for town council grant funding (twice-yearly application process is run) to help to support certain costs associated with the accolade.

- 2.2 Should Members be minded in supporting the principle, it is considered reasonable and appropriate that expressions of interest be sought from other parish bands in the first instance. By doing this, the process is considered open and transparent by giving all interested parties opportunity to apply.

The Process

- 2.3 It is anticipated that during the month of April, expressions of interest will be sought. This will be done by way of a social media campaign to include meaningful engagement with the Leighton Buzzard Observer. Any expressions of interest received will be presented to the next meeting of the Cultural and Economic Services Committee Meeting to be held on Monday 3rd June 2019. As the Town Council nears the local government elections, it is considered appropriate for the new administration to influence any decision.

- 2.4 In order to satisfy the Town Council, any interested band will have to show that:

- i) Good governance by having in place a constitution as well as a managerial structure;
- ii) Effective mutual working by being able to demonstrate a willingness to work in partnership with the Town Council and the community;
- iii) Strong positive ties with the community;
- iv) The type of band and how they would align with the town's music programme or other;
- v) Quality Assurance – a resume of previous performances;
- vi) Evaluation process which is to be determined at the Culture and Economic Services Committee Meeting to be held 3rd June 2019;
- vii) A commitment that the successful band can perform on dates as requested;

Future Relationship

- 2.5 Whilst the detail has yet to be determined, it is likely that in return for the title of Town Band, the successful band would be required to enter into a Service Level Agreement with the Town Council which is likely to run for 3 years. At the end of the term, the process as set out above will be re-run. By doing this, it encourages competition as well as maintain or indeed improve standards.