



Grounds and Environmental Services Committee

Date: 2nd March 2020

Title: Central Bedfordshire Council River Clearance

Purpose of the Report: To receive and consider a request from Central Bedfordshire Council’s – Countryside Manager, regarding shared responsibility for clearing a section of the River Ouzel.

Contact Officers: Ian Haynes, Head of Grounds and Environmental Services.

Corporate Objective/s		Objective #46
Implications:		
Financial		None
Risk management		None
Operational/service delivery		Some issues if undertaken during busy times.
Legal/compliance		None

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

Should members be minded, the recommendation is:

- 1.1 To note the report.
 - 1.2 To consider and approve Central Bedfordshire Council’s request
- Or
- 1.3 To consider and refuse Central Bedfordshire Council’s request

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At a meeting held on the Tuesday 10th December, Town Council officers and Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) officers, met to discuss the section of the River Ouzel that runs north from Leighton Road to Monarch Way.

- 2.2 All of the eastern side of the River Ouzel in this section is owned by CBC and the western section is owned by two landowners, the Town Council and W.E. Blacks Limited.
- 2.3 CBC has asked that the Town Council takes shared responsibility for clearing the section owned by W.E. Blacks Limited twice a year, with CBC clearing it themselves twice more.
- 2.4 It can be considered that this area of town is highly visible and would benefit from enhanced clearance. However, this is not a Town Council owned area and it isn't the responsibility of the Town Council to clear

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 Members are minded to consider either approving or refusing CBC's request for help in clearing this section of the River Ouzel.

End.