



LEOMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Wednesday 16th February 2022

To: All Members of the Finance & General Purposes Committee:
Councillors Murdoch (Chair), Marshall (Vice-Chair), Bartlett, Davies, Hanna,
Marsh, Norman, Rumsey, Sutcliffe and Williams.
(Copies to other Councillors for information)

NOTICE OF MEETING

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **Finance & General Purposes Committee** to be held on **Monday 21st February 2022** commencing at **19:00 hours** in the Council Chamber, 11 Corn Square, Leominster HR6 8NL.

Julie Debbage

Julie Debbage
TOWN CLERK

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a record be kept of the members present and that this record form part of the minutes of the meeting. Members who cannot attend a meeting should tender apologies to the Town Clerk as it is usual for the grounds upon which apologies are tendered also to be recorded. Under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence are acceptable.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Under the Localism Act 2011 (sections 26-37 and Schedule 4) and in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, members are required to declare any interests which are not currently entered in the member's register of interests or if he/she has not notified the Monitoring Officer of it.

3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

To consider requests for dispensations (must be notified in writing).

4. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (maximum 15 minutes)

To receive questions and statements from members of the public as provided for in Standing Orders.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

To receive and approve as a correct record the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 20th December 2021.

6. CLERK'S REPORT

To receive the Clerk's Report on matters outstanding that may not appear on the agenda.

7. FINANCIAL AND COMMITTEE MATTERS

(a) Income and Expenditure Report

- To consider the Income and Expenditure report up to the end of January 2022 (Month 10) and additional budget notes. Please see supporting documents.

(b) Accounts Paid and Outstanding Accounts for Payment

- A list of accounts paid relating to the months of January and February 2022. Please see supporting documents.

(c) Committee Report

- Please see the attached Committee update report.

8. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Certain items are expected to include the consideration of exempt information and the Finance Committee is, therefore, recommended to resolve "That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the discussion of the matters referred to in the items listed below, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information"

(a) Grant Report

- To consider any grant applications.
- To consider a report of grants awarded in the last financial year.
- To review and approve the new Grant Application Form.

(b) Staff Holiday

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee will be held on Monday 25th April 2022 commencing at **19:00** hours in the Council Chamber, 11 Corn Square, Leominster HR6 8YP (subject to approval of the meetings calendar at the next Full Council meeting on 28th March 2022).

LEOMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 20th December 2021 commencing at 19:00 hours in the Council Chamber, 11 Corn Square, Leominster HR6 8NL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Murdoch (Chair), Marshall (Vice-Chair), Bartlett, Davies, Hanna, Norman, Sutcliffe and Williams.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Town Clerk and Democratic Services Officer.

FG39/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted by the Committee for Cllr Rumsey (Prior Engagement).

FG40/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made.

FG41/21 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There had been no requests for dispensations received.

FG42/21 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

No members of the public were present. No matters were raised.

FG43/21 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 25th October 2021 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

FG44/21 CLERK'S REPORT

The clerk informed the Committee that some of the Christmas Lights have not been working. The clerk will raise the issues with the contractor and request a rebate.

FG45/21 FINANCIAL AND COMMITTEE MATTERS

(a) Income and Expenditure Report

- Committee noted the report up to the end of November 2021 and the additional budget notes.

Cllr Sutcliffe requested that the best before date and sell by date on products sold in the TIC are checked monthly.

(b) Accounts Paid and Outstanding Accounts for Payment

- Following consideration of the accounts paid and outstanding accounts for payment, Committee **RESOLVED** to ratify the payments relating to November and December 2021.

(c) Budget Working Group Report

- Committee noted the draft budget report prepared by the Budget Working Group. The Budget Working Group will meet again, at the beginning of January 2022, before the budget is presented to Full Council for approval at the meeting on 24th January 2022.

(d) Grants awarded 2021/22

- Committee noted the verbal update, provided by the clerk, regarding grants awarded in 2021/22:
 - No Wrong Door (part of HVOSS) – the project has been delayed due to Covid-19. Arrangements have been made to commence work at Earl Mortimer College at the start of January 2022;
 - Herefordshire New Leaf - a website launch poster has been produced. There will be a renewed poster and flyer/website distribution in the new year. Exhibitions are planned for February 2022 at Salt Road gallery, Plantastik, 35 West and Earl Mortimer College;
 - Leominster Area Polish Society – the signage project has been delayed due to Covid-19. Leominster Museum are prepared to assist with shaping the content of the interpretation sign to ensure consistency with other signage in the town. A meeting has been requested with the chair of the society by the Projects & Grants Officer to discuss progress on the project.

Committee noted that the recipients of grants need to demonstrate that the grants have been used as advised in their applications. If not the grants should be repaid to Leominster Town Council.

(e) Committee Report - Committee considered the Committee Update Report and, following discussion, **RESOLVED:**

- To note the report;
- To approve the request from Westend WiFi to locate the first Leominster Town wifi access point on the front of 11 Corn Square, underneath the attached street lamp;
- To note that Westend WiFi will be installing 'things' connectivity that will cover a large part of Leominster. As part of their social value contribution they are offering a range of installations that can monitor humidity (black mould), temperature (fuel poverty), movement (lack of activity) and air quality (health). Emergency buttons can also be installed where help is urgently required;
- To move the councillor email service to Microshade as they provide enhanced security through a variety of filters;
- To accept a quote from Supplier 1 for the materials (Thermafleece cosy wool) required to insulate the roof at 11 Corn Square;
- To note Cllr Sutcliffe's recommendation to notify relevant bodies that the effort required to claim certain grants is disproportionate to the level of the grant;
- To note the following verbal update, provided by the clerk, regarding the High Street Heritage Action Zone:

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- Public realm: tenders for this work have been evaluated and a contract is currently being negotiated with the successful contractor. Consultation is expected to begin in Jan 2022.
 - Historic buildings grant scheme: a number of EOIs have been received for this scheme. Herefordshire Council's conservation team and external consultant have been working with landlords to investigate potential projects and complete the preliminary works required to inform full grant applications. It is hoped that the first grant offers will be made in Spring 2022.
 - Wi-Fi and footfall counters in the town centre: Westend WiFi have been appointed as the contractor for this project. Potential locations for wifi and footfall sensors have been identified, with permissions, planning considerations and landlord discussions due to be pursued over the next month. Team Leominster have been consulted in regards to the social value projects that have been suggested by Westend WiFi as part of this project. Completion date for this project is 31st March 2022.
 - Web-based heritage app: Visual Works have been appointed as the developer for this project. The HSHAZ Steering Group have appointed a Sub-Group to develop the project, which includes representation from heritage, culture and disability groups. The student senior leadership team from Earl Mortimer College have also agreed to advise on the project, as youth representatives. Initial launch date for this project is 31st March 2022.
 - Conservation Area appraisal: A draft appraisal report has been submitted to Herefordshire Council's conservation team and revisions have been made. The report will be circulated to the HSHAZ Steering Group for comment in advance of wider circulation.
 - Listing enhancement project: Historic England staff have made initial site visits to properties in the centre of town that may be suitable for dendrochronology investigations. Further work on the listing project is scheduled for Spring/Summer 2022.
- To request that the HAZ Project Manager visits Leominster for a walkabout in order that he can familiarise himself with the town;
 - To request that the HAZ Project Manager provides a full presentation on the HAZ scheme at the Full Council meeting on 24th January 2022;
 - To note that the governance procedure for dealing with HAZ grant applications is in place;
 - To note that the Cultural Consortium held a meeting last week and there are many ideas for events in the town commencing in 2022;
 - To write to Cllr Tyler (Cabinet member for Housing, Regulatory Services and Community Safety at Herefordshire Council) to

request clarification regarding the proposed CCTV provision in Leominster for 2022-23.

Cllr Williams left the meeting at 20.14 hours.

FG46/21 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

As certain items were expected to include the consideration of exempt information and the Finance & General Purposes Committee **RESOLVED** that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the discussion of the matters referred to in the items listed below, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraph of Part 1 of, Schedule 12A of the Act, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

(a) Grant Report

Following consideration of the grant applications Committee **RESOLVED:**

- To allocate a grant of £920 from the General Grant budget to Everybody Dance to subsidise travel costs and employ specialist support staff for the Great Outdoors project;
- To allocate a grant of £1000 from the Youth Grant budget to Kids Kitchen Collective CIC to deliver six 2-hour family cooking sessions at Leominster Children's Centre;
- To allocate a grant of £530 from the Youth Grant budget to Leominster Priory Holiday Club to cover the cost of hiring toilets and fencing;
- To allocate a grant of £700 from the General Grant budget to Jenny Pipes Morris for venue hire and equipment. Committee requested that practice sessions are held at a venue in Leominster if possible. The clerk will check whether they have tried to find premises in Leominster.

(b) Potential asset acquisition

Committee considered the potential asset acquisition and **RESOLVED** to give delegated authority to the clerk to pursue acquisition of the asset if the opportunity arises.

FG47/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Committee noted that the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee would be held on Monday 21st February 2022 at 19:00 in the Council Chamber, 11 Corn Square, Leominster HR6 8YP.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 20:44 hours.

CHAIR:

DATE:

Finance Committee

Date:	14th February 2022
Title:	Committee Report
Purpose of the Report:	To provide Members with a full report relating to all current Committee matters.
Contact Officers:	Julie Debbage

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That the report be noted;**
- 1.2 To make a decision on items 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 and 3.9.**

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report updates members on Committee matters and identifies items that require a decision.
- 2.2 The responsibilities of the Finance & General Purposes Committee are contained within the Terms of Reference and Scheme of Delegation. These include monitoring the Council's finances, recommending the annual budget and overseeing project development.

3. COMMITTEE REPORT

- 3.1 *Old Priory Asset Transfer*
 - Notification has been received that The Old Priory Asset Transfer to Leominster Town Council is now imminent and the Heads of Terms are being drawn up.
 - There is the possibility of linking the Old Priory project to the HSHAZ scheme to provide a measured survey and a condition survey.
- 3.2 *Precept Request*
 - The precept request of £598,117 agreed at the last meeting of the Full Council on 24th January 2022 has been returned to Herefordshire Council.
- 3.3 *High Street Heritage Action Zone*
 - The consultation regarding the Re-imagination of Corn Square and the wider Public Realm works is about to begin. Representatives of McBains and Turleys are about to begin engaging with stakeholders and a meeting with town councillors will be arranged shortly. The free town wifi and footfall counters, subject to permissions being granted, are about to be installed and the new web app is being developed. Signage promoting the

HSHAZ has been erected around the town and the three small projects associated with the scheme are currently underway.

- A number of offers to applicants of the Grant Scheme are due to be made in the coming month but due to GDPR it is not possible to give further details at this time.

3.4 *Cultural Consortium*

- The Cultural Consortium have a Leominster Roars exhibition created by the students of Westfield School in The Stable Gallery and this will be expanded to include more detailed information about the High Street Heritage Action Zone scheme in general.
- Students from the Hereford College of Art have produced logos for the Cultural Consortium.
- There are a number of projects being planned that focus on Barons Cross estate in conjunction with Team Leominster.

3.5 *Asset Register*

- The annual review of the asset register needs to be carried out before the year end. The clerk and a nominated councillor will carry this out in March.

3.6 *Clock at Grange Court*

- The Town Council owns the longcase clock situated in Grange Court. The clock is not currently working and a quote of £435 has been obtained to have the pendulum repaired and the clock movement serviced. It will then be covered by a 12-month guarantee.

3.7 *Welcome Back Fund and Great Places to Visit Fund*

- All projects with Welcome Back Funding must be completed by the end of March 2022. Please see the update below:
 - Greening Leominster's Bus Station: Permissions have been requested and two planters have been sourced. These will be donated to Leominster in Bloom when the project ends.
 - Leominster Independent Shops promotional event: Two business forum events have been carried out (in person and virtually) and a business directory is being set up. A 'Leominster Independents Day' has been organised for Saturday 12th March, which has free parking and is going to be promoted, with the help from Herefordshire Council, countywide.
 - Providing additional temporary toilet facilities in Central Car Park: The funds for this project have been moved to the Leominster Independent Shops project as it has been recognised that this will not be able to be completed within the allowed timeframe.
 - Additional Street Cleaning on Saturdays: Extra street cleaning will continue until the end of March 2022. This is particularly useful as

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there wasn't any provision on Saturday mornings and it ensures that the town is clean for the weekend.

- Through the Wardrobe Free Children's Event: This was successfully completed in December within budget. 405 people attended the event over 2.5 hours and excellent feedback has been received.
 - Tree Works in Leominster Town Centre: Quotes are being sought and permission has now been obtained to ensure that the town centre trees are well maintained.
- Great Places to Visit Fund – One of the projects is a Shop Front Grant Scheme to enable smaller projects to go ahead and compliment the HSHAZ scheme. Approval by councillors is required, please see attached documents.

3.8 *Budget Consultation Report*

- A summary of the recent Budget Consultation Report has been sent to Leominster News and will be put on the website from 1st March 2022. All respondents to the survey that identified that they would like a copy will receive one via email.

3.9 *Personnel Meeting and Clerk's Appraisal*

- To set a date for the next meeting of the Personnel Sub-Committee and the town clerk's appraisal.

LEOMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme – Application Form

This scheme is funded from the Government’s Covid-19 Outbreak Management Funds grant as part of Herefordshire Council’s Covid-19 recovery plan, supporting economic recovery and improving wellbeing in Herefordshire.

Leominster Town Council is committed to ensuring that its grants programmes are accessible to all local community groups and organisations. If you need a copy of this application form (or the accompanying scheme guidance) in an alternative format, then please contact the Leominster Town Council Offices by email on admin@leominstertowncouncil.gov.uk or phone on 01568 611 734.

If you have any questions regarding the completion of this form, or would like to discuss your project in advance of submitting a grant application, then please contact the Town Council’s Projects and Grants Officer, Liz Womack, on e.womack@leominstertowncouncil.gov.uk or by phone on 01568 611 734.

APPLICANT DETAILS

Contact Name	
Contact Address	
Name of Business	
Business address (if different from above)	
Contact Telephone	
Contact Email	
Website (if applicable)	
Nature of Business	

Is your business VAT registered?

Yes		No	
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Your interest in the property:

Owner	
Tenant	
Other (please specify)	

If you are a tenant, please give number of years remaining on your lease:

If you are not the owner of the building, it is your responsibility to ensure that you have permission to undertake the work outlined in this form.

Have you made any previous applications for grant improvements on the premises?

Yes		No	
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If yes, please give details below:

Please describe the work you propose to carry out:

Description of Work	Cost	Actual or Estimated Cost (A/E)

Please note that the funder’s procurement requirements for this scheme specify that 2 written quotes or prices must be sought from relevant suppliers of goods, works and services for all aspects of the proposed works. In submitting an application for a Shop Front Grant you are declaring that you will adhere to the scheme’s procurement requirements. If your grant application is successful, you should ensure that you retain evidence of quotes or prices sourced for goods, works and services.

Do the costs listed above include VAT?

- Yes
- No

How much funding are you seeking from the Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme?

£ _____

What is your expected start date for the work? _____

When do you expect the work to be completed? _____

Please note that all works must be completed by 30th June 2022.

Do you require any of the following permissions in order to undertake the proposed works?

	Yes	No
Planning Permission		
Building Control Approval		
Listed Building Consent		
Advertising Consent		

If you have answered ‘Yes’ to any of the items above, you will need to ensure that all necessary permissions and approvals have been granted before starting work. You may be required to supply evidence of permission to undertake the work, if your grant application is successful. If you are unsure of whether or not you require permission to undertake the work that you propose to carry out, please visit the Herefordshire Council planning advice at: <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/planning-services/planning-services-1/2>

DECLARATION

I/we hereby declare that:

- I/we have read the terms and conditions and declare that the information given within this application form and any supporting material is correct to the best of my/our knowledge.
- I/we accept responsibility for ensuring that all necessary permissions, approvals and consents are in place for the work outlined in this application.
- I/we agree to adhere to all procurement and reporting requirements outlined in the Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme Guidance documents.
- I/we understand that there is no appeal procedure, should this application be rejected.
- if I/we are awarded a grant by Leominster Town Council, it will only be used for the purposes outlined in this application and in accordance with any conditions specified.

Signature: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____

Completed Application Forms should be returned to:
Julie Debbage, Town Clerk, Leominster Town Council, 11 Corn Square, Leominster
HR6 8YP

Tel: 01568 611734 email: townclerk@leominstertowncouncil.gov.uk

LEOMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme - Guidance

Background

- 1.1 Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme is intended to assist shop owners, tenants and landlords to improve the external appearance of their premises.
- 1.2 This scheme is funded from the Government's Covid-19 Outbreak Management Funds grant as part of Herefordshire Council's Covid-19 recovery plan, supporting economic recovery and improving wellbeing in Herefordshire. The scheme will be administered by Leominster Town Council.
- 1.3 A budget of £10,000 has been allocated to fund a minimum of twenty grants of £500. Additional grants may be available if applications of less than £500 are received.
- 1.4 Leominster's historic centre contains the main retail area of the community. For this reason, the appearance of shop fronts, and the buildings of which they are a part, has a considerable impact and influence on the character of the town. A shop front that has been designed to reflect the character of the building and its surrounding area can add charm and vitality, making it attractive to shoppers and visitors alike.
- 1.5 The Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme aims to help local businesses to maintain and improve their shop fronts in the centre of Leominster, helping to support the growth of local businesses while improving the local environment and raising the image of the town centre with both locals and visitors.
- 1.6 These guidance notes have been developed to help you understand the aims of the Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme and how you can make a grant application.
- 1.7 If you would like to know more about the Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme in Leominster, or have any queries regarding your application, please contact Julie Debbage, Town Clerk, at townclerk@leominstertowncouncil.gov.uk

2. Who can apply?

- 2.1 The Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme is open to all freehold owners, tenants, and lease-holders with at least 3 years on their lease, of premises with commercial shop-frontage facing the street within the town of Leominster. Tenants must have the building owners' prior approval for any proposed works before submitting a grant application.

- 2.2 Commercial premises include:
- Shops – including hairdressers, beauty salons, funeral directors, launderettes, dry cleaners etc.
 - Financial and professional services (e.g. accountants, estate agents, solicitors etc.)
 - Restaurants, public houses, cafes and food takeaways
 - Buildings that are being used to provide a community service.
- 2.3 Priority will be given to premises in Leominster’s main shopping streets:
- Broad Street
 - West Street
 - Rainbow Street
 - Burgess Street
 - High Street
 - Victoria Street
 - Corn Street
 - Butchers Row
 - Corn Square
 - Etnam Street
- 2.4 Applications for first floor improvement grants will be considered from the lease-holders, tenants and freehold owners of offices and residential property located above shops and businesses in the area outlined in 2.3.
- 3. What does the grant cover?**
- 3.1. Funding is available up to a maximum of £500. Any expenditure above £500 will have to be financed from alternative sources.
- 3.2 The maximum grant will be £500 per project in order to assist as many businesses as possible.
- 3.3. All works must be completed by **30th June 2022**.
- 3.4. Once funding is exhausted, no further applications will be considered.
- 3.5. Claims can only be made against actual physical works necessary to deliver the improvement, including labour and materials.
- 3.6 The funder’s procurement requirements for this scheme specify that 2 written quotes or prices must be sought from relevant suppliers of goods, works and services for all aspects of the proposed works. In submitting an application for a Shop Front Grant you are declaring that you will adhere to the scheme’s procurement requirements. If your grant application is successful, you should ensure that you retain evidence of quotes or prices sourced for goods, works and services, as we may need you to supply this documentation after the completion of the works.

- 3.7 The following work will be considered eligible for support:
- new shop fronts;
 - repair and reinstatement of any part of a shop front fixture that is visible from the street;
 - re-instatement of original architectural features e.g. ornamental masonry, stucco and other applied finishes or details, historically patterned woodwork, ornamental metalwork or other features of historic significance;
 - repainting of shop front in suitable colours;
 - repair and reinstatement of guttering and downpipes to match historic materials;
 - repainting or re-rendering prominent elevations in suitable heritage colours;
 - repair of external stonework and brickwork and replacement of stonework or brick work;
 - re-pointing using traditional materials;
 - pedestrian access improvements – to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act
 - external signage, subject to planning approval;
 - lighting, subject to planning approval.
- 3.8 All work is subject to the relevant permissions, approvals and consents being secured.
- 3.9 The scheme does not support:
- works which have already been undertaken or any works which are started prior to a formal offer of grant funding being made;
 - structural repairs, including re-roofing;
 - internal repairs and alterations;
 - external shutters and other security devices (e.g. CCTV);
 - window display equipment;
 - internal security grilles and or security glazing (e.g. laminated or strengthened glass);
 - rear or side property frontage refurbishment connected to the business premises;
 - recoverable VAT.
- 3.10 The scheme will only provide grants to premises in the eligible area. Please note that grants are discretionary and subject to availability of funds. The inclusion of a building within an eligible area does not give any automatic entitlement to a grant.
- 3.11 Please note that you may require planning permission if you are making major alterations to your shop front and it is recommended that you seek advice from the Herefordshire Planning Department prior to submitting a grant application and commencing works.

Leominster Town Council 2022/23 Budget Consultation Results

We would like to thank all those who contributed to our annual budget consultation, which took place at the end of last year. The consultation responses have now been analysed and the results have helped to inform decisions on spending and services in the Town Council's 2022/23 budget.

Our annual budget consultation is an important opportunity for Leominster residents to tell us about your experiences and priorities. The Town Council services rated most highly by consultation respondents included: markets, allotments, Christmas lights, grass cutting and maintenance of open spaces.

The service highlighted as being most in need of improvement was maintenance of public rights of way, with 38.7% of respondents describing this service as being either 'poor' or 'very poor'. When designing the consultation survey, efforts were taken to clearly distinguish public rights of way from pavements (which fall under the responsibility of Herefordshire Council). Comments submitted by respondents in the 2022/23 budget consultation survey suggest that there is still some confusion over which public rights of way are maintained by Leominster Town Council, so efforts will be taken to provide residents with more detailed information via the Town Council website. Further public rights of way works will be addressed as part of the 2022-23 Lengthsman Annual Maintenance Plan. Play equipment at Ginhall Green and the Grange was also rated poorly. It is anticipated that s106 funds from local development could help to address these issues, in addition to planned improvements at the Grange that are already included in the Town Council's capital works programme.

Survey respondents identified the following Town Council services as being of the highest priority: supporting activities for young people, street cleaning within the town centre, providing grants and support to local groups and community facilities, and maintaining and cleaning public toilets in Central car park and on the Grange. The Town Council will continue to invest in these important services in the 2022/23 financial year.

Specific questions relating to the global climate crisis and proposed community asset transfer of the Old Priory building indicate that both of these issues are a priority for those residents that took part in the consultation. 67% of respondents felt that the climate crisis should be an 'extremely important' or 'very important' consideration for the town council in guiding management of services. The Old Priory community asset transfer proposal was well supported, with 89.7% of respondents indicating that they "...support the town council in working with current tenants and other local organisations to ensure that the Old Priory building remains a community asset that serves residents, businesses and community groups in Leominster."

You can download a more detailed summary of the 2022/23 Budget Consultation results via the Community Consultation page on the Town Council website: [Link to Leominster Town Council website](#) To request a copy of the consultation results in hard copy or large print, please contact us by phone (on 01568 611734) or speak to us in person at the Town Council Offices at 11 Corn Square.