



Full Council 14th June 2022

Report Title; Larks in the Park Submitted by; Debra Townsend (Town Clerk)

1. Approval

Report for recommendation to Council for approval. This has been submitted directly to Council with the agreement of the Chair of the Arts, Events and Heritage Committee on the grounds that an urgent decision is required.

2. Background Information

2.1 Larks in the Park has been successfully taking place for a number of years, and it has been modelled on having local musicians playing in the River Gardens on a Sunday afternoon for the benefit and enjoyment of local residents. There have been very little formal arrangements for this to take place, and has been attended by one member of the Outdoor Team who puts out a small number of chairs and remains on site while the event takes place. Residents are invited to take a picnic and enjoy the atmosphere during the summer months. Numbers who attend this event are not excessive.

2.2 All acts for Larks in the Park are now confirmed for the first 6 dates and also for the final date. These are as follows;

19th June - Folk Friendly, Pinxton Puppets & Fleet Arts

26th June – Belper Town Wind Band

10th July – The Ferretts (musical duo)

17th July – Belper Jazz Company & Jeanie Barton

31st July – Rock Choir (Derbyshire Ladies Choir) & Ignite UK (Belper ladies A'Cappella Choir)

7th August – Ilkeston Brass

4th September – Matt Ratcliffe (4 piece Beatles Songbook)

2.3 The Town Clerk has raised concerns about the Errol Linton event, which would take place on Sunday 14th August, which is expected to generate significant interest, particularly if widely advertised.

Amber Valley Borough Council (AVBC) have also expressed concern that because numbers cannot be controlled in the River Gardens (which need to remain open to the public) and are aware of previous events (albeit a number of years ago) that have been over-subscribed and resulted in complaints to AVBC.

2.4 This has been brought before Council so that the risks can be discussed and agreement sought from Council on whether this event should proceed. Consideration should be given to;

- Risk assessment, particularly regarding limiting numbers at the event
- Stewarding, including possible need to restrict entry to the venue
- Parking
- Advertising
- First aid
- Personal use of alcohol

etc.

2.5 Council may also wish to consider an alternative plan involving holding the event in the Memorial Gardens, where access could be controlled through tickets. *This event would also be subject to the considerations highlighted above.*

2.6 The performer's Agent has been advised that we need final approval from Council to confirm the booking and seek advice from our insurers.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 The current budget has been committed and if this event is to go ahead an additional £700 will need to be vired across to the Larks in the Park Budget Heading (to cover the additional cost of the artist).

3.2 In addition consideration will also need to be made on other financial commitments that might be associated with this event (if it goes ahead).

4. Recommendations

It is recommended that;

either

a) It be agreed that this event goes ahead and consideration be given to;

- Risk assessment
- Stewarding
- Parking
- Advertising
- First aid
- Personal use of alcohol

b) That a budget be identified and vired to the Larks in the Park heading to cover the additional cost of the artist (£700.00) plus any other associated costs.

or

c) That this event is cancelled and replaced with a local musician/s, and that any additional budget be identified and vired to the Larks in the Park heading.