

# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Report to the Executive for Decision

### 10 January 2022

**Portfolio:** Leisure and Community

**Subject:** The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Proposals

**Report of:** Director of Leisure and Community

**Corporate Priorities:** Leisure Opportunities for Health and Fun  
Protecting and Enhancing the Environment

**Purpose:**

To outline proposals to commemorate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

**Executive summary:**

In 2022 Her Majesty The Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, seventy years of service, having acceded to the throne on the 6 February 1952 when she was just 25 years old.

The Queen became the longest-reigning British monarch on 9 September 2015 when she surpassed the reign of her great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria. On 6 February 2017 she became the first British monarch to celebrate a Sapphire Jubilee, commemorating 65 years on the throne.

As with The Queen's Golden and Diamond Jubilees, the first week in June has been chosen for the celebratory weekend. To mark this occasion, an extended four-day Bank Holiday weekend from Thursday 2 June to Sunday 5 June 2022, has been confirmed to provide communities and people throughout the UK to come together to celebrate the historic milestone.

To commemorate the significant anniversary, there is an opportunity to provide a series of community events and activities within the Borough to mark the occasion, as the Council has done in the past for The Queen's Silver, Golden and Diamond Jubilees.

**Recommendation/Recommended Option:**

It is recommended that the Executive agrees:

- (a) the formal naming of the public open space at Daedalus as 'Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Park' in commemoration of The Queen's Platinum Jubilee;
- (b) a tree planting scheme to commemorate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee at Abbey Meadows, Titchfield;
- (c) permission for officers to formally approach English Heritage to request that a beacon lighting ceremony is hosted at Portchester Castle;
- (d) that the Council promotes the Big Jubilee Lunch; and
- (e) expenditure of £11,500 to fund the commemorative events and activities

**Reason:**

To provide a series of community events and activities within the Borough to commemorate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

**Cost of proposals:**

The cost of providing these proposals amounts to £11,500 and can be met from within existing budgets.

**Appendices**

**Appendix A:** **Proposed commemorative tree planting plan at Abbey Meadows**

**Background papers:** None

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## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Executive Briefing Paper

<b>Date:</b>	10 January 2022
<b>Subject:</b>	The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Proposals
<b>Briefing by:</b>	Director of Leisure and Community
<b>Portfolio:</b>	Leisure and Community

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of this report is to outline opportunities for commemorating The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

#### BACKGROUND

2. In 2022 Her Majesty The Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, seventy years of service, having acceded to the throne on the 6 February 1952 when she was just 25 years old.
3. As with The Queen's Golden and Diamond Jubilees, the first week in June has been chosen for the celebratory weekend. To mark the monarch's milestone, an extended four-day Bank Holiday weekend from Thursday 2 June to Sunday 5 June 2022 has been confirmed to provide communities and people throughout the UK the opportunity to come together to celebrate this historic occasion.

#### PROPOSALS

4. Fareham has a history of marking significant royal events and to commemorate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Officers have outlined the following proposals for how the Borough can mark this special occasion with its residents.

#### The Platinum Jubilee Park at Daedalus

5. To provide a lasting commemoration, it is proposed that the public open space at Daedalus and the children's play area is named 'Queen Elizabeth

II Platinum Jubilee Park' and a formal opening of the open space is organised in honour of The Queen.

6. The public open space that is currently referred to as Daedalus Common will, when open, provide footpaths, cycle paths, wildlife habitats and dog walking areas, as well as the aviation themed children's play area, the Gate Guardian sculpture and the VE (Victory in Europe) and VJ (Victory in Japan) commemorative seating.
7. At this stage it is uncertain when the open space will be ready to open to the public, but the earliest feasible date the site could be ready is July 2022. However, there is a significant risk that the extensive drainage works that are required to make the open space safe are delayed or take longer to resolve than first anticipated. This in turn would delay the landscaping and grass seeding programme, and potentially the opening date.
8. The planning legal agreement with IFA2 requires the Council to inspect the land once work is completed by IFA2 and give its "written satisfaction" that the land is laid out correctly and to an acceptable standard. Should it arise that the landscaping is not to an acceptable standard, the Council must set out clearly what further work is required. Another inspection of any additional works would then be undertaken.
9. The Council cannot take responsibility of the land from IFA2 until this planning obligation has been met and our "written satisfaction" has been given to IFA2 that the open space is laid out and delivered to an acceptable standard. It was hoped that when the site opened, it would provide an opportunity for the Council to host a large-scale public event. However, the uncertainty over the exact opening date makes organising such an event extremely difficult to plan.
10. Instead, it is proposed that a smaller event is organised to officially open and name the open space in honour of The Queen and, that other opportunities for the wider community to come together to commemorate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee are identified.
11. If agreed, the smaller event format would be a plaque unveiling, ribbon cutting and a small gathering to include elected members, representatives from the project team and representatives from local schools and community organisations who have been directly involved in the project.
12. It is proposed that a sum of £2,000 is allocated to host this small event on a date to be determined, but to definitely take place within the year of The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

### **Commemorative tree planting opportunities**

#### **The Queen's Green Canopy**

13. In May 2021, a unique tree planting initiative 'The Queen's Green Canopy' was launched to mark The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022, offering people across the United Kingdom the opportunity to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee".

14. The focus of the initiative is to plant sustainably and to create a legacy, in honour of The Queen's leadership of the Nation, which would benefit future generations.
15. The criteria for individuals, schools, local clubs and groups to apply for funding to purchase a tree pack (which can contain anything from 15 to 400 saplings) from The Queen's Green Canopy initiative requires the trees to be planted on land accessible to the public and that the applicant is involved in the planting. The application process also requires the applicant to have written evidence that they have the landowner's consent.
16. Officers are currently looking at a small number of 'strategic tree planting sites' across the Borough that have the potential to plant trees gifted via The Queen's Green Canopy.

#### **Local Commemorative Tree Planting Scheme**

17. Whilst replacement tree planting will continue to take place around the Borough, the Council's Tree Service Review, agreed by the Executive in September 2021, placed a far greater emphasis on any new pro-active tree planting being undertaken on a strategic basis. Two sites were identified as potential strategic tree planning sites, namely Abbey Meadows and Coldeast. The larger of the two sites is Abbey Meadows, Titchfield.
18. It is therefore proposed that a sponsored commemorative tree planting scheme is introduced at Abbey Meadows to enable the community of the Borough to be part of a more local initiative to commemorate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
19. Some initial tests have been carried out at Abbey Meadows and the area marked on Appendix A is considered suitable for use as a commemorative tree planting area for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee and would make a welcome and prominent addition to the site. The area identified is approx. 0.54 hectares (1.34 acres) in size.
20. The number of trees which can be planted in this area will be dependent on the species. The estimate is that if large species are planted (e.g. oaks) approx. 100 square metres of land would be required for each tree. This means the area identified would accommodate 54 trees (at maturity) if only large tree species were planted. Smaller species of trees would need approx. 25 square metres of land per tree, and this would lead to a capacity of up to 216 trees. Therefore, the planting of a combination of small, medium and larger species of trees in commemoration of The Queen's Platinum Jubilee could range from between 54 and 216 trees.
21. If the concept of a commemorative planting scheme and its proposed location are agreed by the Executive, then ground decompaction works would be required at a cost of £1,750 to prepare the hardened ground for tree planting.
22. Although the commemorative trees at Abbey Meadows would not be directly accessible to the public, as they would be planted within a fenced area for the protection of the trees, an interpretation board would be sited at the entrance to the area to explain why the trees have been planted, and who has sponsored them.

23. Three sponsorship options have been identified for this site as follows:

Option	Cost	Approx. size	Species available for all options	Stock
<b>Option A</b>	£50.00	0.5-1 metre	Pedunculate / Sessile Oak, Hazel, Wild Cherry, Sweet Chestnut, Yew, Aspen Hornbeam, Field Maple, Hawthorn, Small-leaved Lime and Crab Apple	Bare root
<b>Option B</b>	£125.00	1.5 metre		Containerised
<b>Option C</b>	£250.00	3.0 metre		Containerised

24. The cost of sponsorship would cover the supply, planting, staking, a protective tree guard if required, watering of the tree and the sponsors' names being included within a display of recognition.

25. Ongoing maintenance associated with the planting of the new trees and whips i.e. weeding and mulching would be undertaken by the Council's Countryside Rangers Team and community volunteers.

26. In the event that the area marked on Appendix A reached capacity, then a second area, south of the site has been identified with potential to accommodate up to 50 commemorative trees. If a second area is required, then some ground preparation works will be required at a cost of £1,000.

27. A page on the Council's website would also feature a roll of honour, detailing all clubs, schools, individuals, community groups and businesses that have purchased a tree or trees.

28. If the Executive agrees to a commemorative tree planting scheme at Abbey Meadows, then Officers would begin preparing a campaign with a view to launching it on 1 February 2022, with trees and saplings being planted from November 2022.

29. The scheme would be supported by a marketing campaign that would include a feature in Fareham Today alongside other events and activities being planned to commemorate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

### **Lighting of a Beacon**

30. Beacons have previously been lit to celebrate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee and then again to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's Silver, Golden and Diamond Jubilees, and more recently in 2016, to celebrate her 90th birthday.

31. On Thursday 2 June 2022, to commemorate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, it is anticipated that more than 1,500 beacons will be lit across the United Kingdom at 9.15pm.

32. Following the success of the 'lighting of a beacon for The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday' at Portchester Castle, it is proposed that Officers formally approach English

Heritage regarding another joint commemorative event being held for the community within the grounds of the Castle to acknowledge The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

33. Subject to agreement by English Heritage, the joint event, in addition to the lighting of a special beacon, would offer live music, food and drink concessions, along with activities for children including games and face painting. The community focused event would provide an opportunity for local communities, individuals, and organisations to come together and pay tribute to The Queen at this momentous time.
34. At this early stage, it is difficult to provide precise costs, but taking into account the costs associated with a similar event in 2016, it is proposed that a sum of £5,000 is allocated. This includes £490 for the purchase of a specially designed beacon burner-head, which will, after it has been used, be put on display in the Mayoral offices display cabinet, along with entertainment and activity costs.

### **Big Jubilee Lunch**

35. In addition to the proposals outlined above, communities across the country will also be encouraged to come together on Sunday 5 June for the Big Jubilee Lunch.
36. The Big Lunch is where people are invited to share friendship, food and fun with neighbours as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.
37. It is proposed that the Council promotes the Big Jubilee Lunch as being another opportunity for local residents to come together and also provides helpful information and guidance regarding how to hold a safe event.

### **COST BREAKDOWN**

38. The table below outlines the projected costs for each proposal detailed within this report:

Description	Cost
Formal opening and naming of the public open space at Daedalus	£2,000
Commemorative tree planting scheme at Abbey Meadows inc. marketing of the scheme, an interpretation panel and an allowance if a second planting area is required.	£4,250
Lighting of a Beacon at Portchester Castle	£5,000
Promotion for the Big Jubilee Lunch	£250
<b>Total</b>	<b>£11,500</b>

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

39. The total cost of the project is £11,500 and can be from within existing budgets.

## **CONCLUSION**

40. The Council would like to provide a fitting tribute to commemorate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. As outlined in the report, a series of proposals have been suggested to enable communities and people to come together to commemorate and celebrate this historic milestone.

### **Enquiries:**

For further information on this report please contact Emma Watts, Leisure and Community Manager (Ext. 4440)