

# ABINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

Report to	Finance Governance & Asset Management
Meeting date	26 July 2022
Report author	Dan Sancisi
Agenda item	10

## Report of Museum Manager

### 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To request approval from Members to renew the license granted to One Planet Abingdon for use of the café space as a climate emergency centre.

### 2. Summary

- 2.1 The license agreement between Abingdon Town Council and One Planet Abingdon expires on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Your Officer's are in discussion with OPA to extend the license for a further 12 months pending approval from committee.

### 3. Action required

- 3.1 Members are requested approve an extension to the license for a further 12-month period.
- 3.2 Members are requested to consider whether public consultation should take place on this matter.

### 4. Link to strategic plan and objectives

- 4.1 KO2 To develop a resilient, sustainable town which will provide a home for residents now and in the future.  
Facilitating a climate emergency centre in the café promotes public engagement with sustainability and develops skills and knowledge about reuse, repair and recycling.
- 4.2 KO4 To work with community partners to support those who are vulnerable and in need and to create opportunities to increase social inclusivity.  
Working with Abingdon Carbon Cutters and One Planet Abingdon creates an opportunity for diverse communities to access free events and support, also to engage with the Museum.

**5. Background**

- 5.1 One Planet Abingdon signed a license agreement to utilise the café space at Abingdon Museum as a climate emergency centre, on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021.
- 5.2 The license was drafted by Slade Legal and formed a legal basis for the formal utilisation of the café for a climate emergency centre.
- 5.3 Minute M11 from the County Hall Museum Management Committee of 15th July 2021 states 'The advisory committee considered requests from Abingdon Carbon Cutters and One Planet Oxfordshire to use the basement of the County Hall Museum. It was proposed by the Chair, Cllr Lonergan, seconded by Cllr Birks and agreed that consideration of a temporary agreement with a local group to use the basement for up to twelve months be delegated to the Town Clerk and Museum Manager.'
- 5.4 Your Officers have observed a hard-working voluntary team make a successful enterprise of One Planet Abingdon in the café. Their events and workshops are popular and encourage diverse audiences into the museum space.
- 5.5 The current license expires on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2022. OPA have asked for a 12-month extension to this license, based upon development of a loyal visitor core clientele and the anecdotal support for continuance of their service by the many that engage with talks and workshops.

**6. Key information and options**

- 6.1 Slade legal will be required to notarise the signing of a new agreement although your Officers do not expect any detail of the license to change.
- 6.2 Your Officers will work with Slade Legal to reassess and amend the license, if necessary, on conditions of use of the café. We recommend this process begins shortly so as to engage in dialogue with OPA and gather any information that may be used in assessing the validity of current terms of the license going forward.

**7. Climate change/green implications**

- 7.1 No additional climate change / green implications to report.

**8. Financial/budget implications**

- 8.1 There will be a cost incurred for legal services which will be coded to legal fees in the budget.

**9. HR implications**

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- 9.1** Utilisation by OPA of the café space mitigates the need to staff the basement from Museum staffing budget. Normally the basement would remain closed without a fire warden volunteer or staff member present.

Dan Sancisi, Museum Manager, 21 July 2022