

ABINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

Report to	Community committee
Meeting date	19 November 2025
Report author	Victoria Moore
Agenda item	11

REPORT OF THE PROJECT MANAGER: PROPERTY AND PLACE ON FUTURE USE OF THE ROBING ROOM

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To approve the use of the Robing room for Studio Theatre Group

2. Summary

2.1 The Studio Theatre Club approached the Project Manager Place & Property to ask if a suitable Guildhall room was available to host plays whilst their current venue, The Unicorn Theatre goes under refurbishment for approximately 2 years.

3. Action required

3.1 To approve point 5.4

3.2 To approve point 5.5

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.

KO3 - To manage the Council's assets efficiently and effectively to meet for the needs of the community now and in the future.

KO4 - To work with community partners to support those who are vulnerable and in need and to create opportunities to increase social inclusivity

5. Key information and options

5.1 The Studio Theatre Club currently uses the Unicorn Theatre in Abingdon to perform various plays throughout the year. The Unicorn Theatre is due to close for approximately 2 years. During this time the Studio Theatre Club has no venue in which to perform their plays.

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- 5.3 The Studio Theatre group was shown around and have chosen the OMC as their preferred room and have booked it in June 2026 for two weeks to perform a play.

The club requested the use of the Robing room as well as the OMC. The Robing room would be used a changing / rest area and stage entrance. (using the two doors at the front of the room).

Without the use of the Robing room cast members would have to change / rest and enter the stage in the OMC from either the balcony or the cells, both areas are tricky to access and not very private.

- 5.3 Guildhall room hire charges are based on the room size, per meter. Hire charges to The Studio Theatre Group to hire the OMC is £8.50 per hour. The Roysse Room and Council Chamber are larger rooms with an increase in charges to £11.00 per hour. The inclusion of the Robing room increases the area of the OMC to match that of the Council Chamber. It is recommended charges are increased to £11.00ph with the inclusion of the Robing Room and OMC combined during the Studio Theatre Groups hire period.
- 5.4 The Project Manager Place & Property recommends members approve the use of the Robing room for the Studio Group in addition to their booking of the OMC for their June play.
- 5.5 The Project Manager Place & Property recommends members approve the increased charges to £11.00ph for combined use of the Robing room and OMC for the duration of hire by Studio Group.

7. **Climate change/green implications**

None.

8. **Financial/budget implications**

None

9. **HR implications**

None.

10. **Supporting papers and appendices**

No supporting document are attached to this report.

Victoria Moore
Project Manager Place & Property.
November 2025