

Oakham Town Council	
Report No. 16	Council Date of Meeting: 13 th December 2023
Report Author: Cllr Lowe	Title: Budget & Finance
Subject: Lighting Infrastructure Charge	

OTC are not responsible for the Community Street lighting.

RCC have not ensured that all lights have LED heads, this has resulted in higher electrical costs and falls short of the expectation and could impact carbon neutral objectives.

To demonstrate OTC commitment to carbon neutral objectives and ensuring Oakham residents are getting a fair deal OTC could choose to pay for the LED head replacement, however this would be a costly exercise, but not unachievable.

The suggestion is that OTC cap the amount of our contribution to lighting charges we pay to RCC.

The contribution is matched with an earmarked reserve subheading to build a capital pot that RCC could have access to, to enable the completion of the LED expansion.

The cap should be £15,000 per year for the next 5 years. (£75,000). If electrical charges were to drop then the amount should reduce, however that is unlikely.

The LED earmarked pot should be £15,0000 per year for the next 5 years. (£75,000)

This financial planning of £150,000 for 5 years, is a huge undertaking, however if we carry on handing out money to RCC who have failed to fulfil their plans to upgrade lighting then we are being negligent with the money entrusted to us by the people of Oakham to ensure they get value for their precept. This paper has a saving over 5 years of £30,000 to the OTC and the people of Oakham in what we demand in precept from them.

Proposal:

- (1) OTC set a cap of £15,000 as our contribution to the RCC for the Community Lighting electrical charges for the next 5 years. It would be reviewed in 2029.
- (2) OTC earmark £15,000 per year with the single purpose of that money being used to upgrade the Community Lighting for the next 5 years. This should be reviewed as the work is completed.