



## **Report**

Officer: Ros Williams – Deputy Town Clerk  
Date: 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
Meeting: Finance Committee - 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023

### **Earmarked Reserve - 343**

#### **Aim**

1. To inform Councillors of the origin, purpose and expenditure relating to EMR 343 – Marches LEP Funding.

#### **Background**

1. In July 2020 the town Council were made aware of funding that had been secured by Shropshire Council.
2. The Marches Investment Fund (MIF) was support for strategic business and tourism development. Working with the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (MLEP), the funding was made available for key Shropshire market towns for place-based marketing campaigns aimed at driving the visitor economy.
3. The funding for Bridgnorth totalled £20,000 and was aimed at enabling safe re-opening after Covid-19, social distancing, driving footfall and reinvigorating the town economy.

#### **Information**

4. Attached at Appendix 1 is a full breakdown of expenditure.
5. The current balance stands at £13,314.38.
6. Shropshire Council were contacted, following the initial spend, to confirm if part of the remaining monies could be spent on street scene items: painting of our Victorian style lamp posts around Castle grounds and the railings by the car park and entrance to Castle Grounds. No response has been received.
7. The Deputy Town Clerk has since contacted them again asking of the remaining monies can be spent and on what.

#### **Recommendations**

The Committee are asked to consider the following recommendations:

- To delegate to the Deputy Town Clerk the task of following up on the previous requests.