

	Full Council
Date	12 October 2026
Agenda Item	7e

To consider the gift towards festive celebrations from BDC

Letter from BDC

Braintree District Council is pleased to be offering Halstead Town Council/Witham Town Council a grant payment of £30,000 in 2026/27 financial year to support the celebration of the 2026/27 festive period.

As per Cllr Butland's letter, the grant is offered in recognition of the role that the main towns in the District play in the economy. Cllr Butland also highlighted that the funding would only be available to spend on festive celebrations at the appropriate time of year, and that BDC would seek some form of assurance that the funding will be spent on festive celebrations alone. We are keen now to transfer the £30,000 offered in order to support your celebrations.

In order to release the funds, could you please respond to this letter, copying in Dominic Collins, confirming:

- What you propose to use the fund to contribute to/deliver, including a budget breakdown of that expense
- That the identified activity will spend the full £30,000 grant in the 2026/27 financial year
- That you commit to referencing Braintree District Councils support for your festive celebrations in your social media coverage and relevant press releases
- If for any reason you are not able to spend the full amount supporting your 2026 celebrations, you will repay the outstanding amount to BDC by the end of January 2027

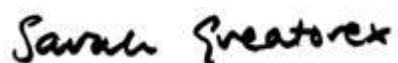
Funds to be used for the following:

New for 2026

Cost of installing power points in in lampposts for unmetered supply	5500 + vat	
Cost of using the unmetered supply	Unknown as yet	
Cost of sound systems for Switch on and light procession	1650	
Cost of traffic management	2871 + Vat	
Cost of tractor fuel	500	
Cost of the laser light display	3650 + vat	
Cost of new lights in The Centre	11,574 + Vat	
Inflatable for entrance to The Centre	79.99	
Total	25,825	

Cost of the original Christmas lights installation in the town	10,833 + Vat
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Recommendation: that HTC agrees to the expenditure of the £30,000 grant as described above



Sarah Greateorex Town Clerk