

## **MALMESBURY TOWN COUNCIL POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE 17 JUNE 2025**

### **CIVIC RECEPTION PROPOSAL: UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY SUNDAY 24 AUGUST 2025**

#### **Background**

Since the illegal Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, Malmesbury Town Council has hosted an annual reception on Ukrainian National Independence Day (24 August).

In that time Malmesbury Stands with Ukraine has raised over £20,000 to help support one of the main hospitals in the Ukrainian city of Cherkasy. That connection came through local residents Natasha Ball and her daughter Katya who were born in Cherkasy.

Last year Malmesbury Town Council signed a formal Friendship Agreement with the City of Cherkasy.

A Cherkasy Friendship Sub Committee of Malmesbury and District Town Twinning Association has now been formed to strengthen and deepen this relationship on behalf of the Town Council.

#### **The Proposal**

It is proposed that:

1. Malmesbury Town Council hosts a formal civic reception to mark Ukrainian Independence Day on the afternoon of Sunday 24 August 2025 to include a light buffet, welcome drink and cash bar
2. In addition to honoured guests from Wiltshire and Malmesbury that are invited to such civic events alongside Malmesbury Town Councillors, the staff team work with Malmesbury Stands with Ukraine and the Cherkasy Friendship Sub Committee of the Malmesbury and District Town Twinning Association to draw up the guest list to invite Ukrainian refugees, their current and previous host families and those involved with both bodies to attend this reception.

#### **Budgetary implications**

1. The costs of the above for this year to be drawn from the civic reception budget line and if it requires to be supplemented that the balance is drawn from the General Reserve of the Town Council.
2. Going forward these costs are built into the annual budget planning.

#### **Cllr Gavin Grant**

Convenor, Malmesbury Stands With Ukraine  
10 June 2025