

Priestley 250 Anniversary Circus of Science Event Proposal

1. Background

This year will be the 250th anniversary of the discovery of Oxygen by the early scientist, Joseph Priestley. Priestley made the discovery while working at Bowood House, as a tutor and librarian in the employment of the then Lord Shelburne.

Various events and activities are being planned in and around Calne over the Summer to commemorate this important discovery.

2. Proposal

It is proposed that the Council participates in the commemoration of the anniversary by promoting a popular science show by the Circus of Science, aimed at young people. The purpose of this would be both to celebrate the discovery within the parish that it was made, and to encourage the next generation of scientists.

Circus of Science are two locally based science teachers who put on popular science shows and workshops at festivals and events aimed at promoting science with young people. (Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/p/The-Circus-of-Science-100057502266907/>).

The Event would comprise a 40-minute show, as well as workshops covering, for example, rocket-making, thermal imaging cameras, dry ice science and dry ice ice-cream. A more detailed proposal is included as Appendix A.

The Event would be staged over the Summer, with the date and time organised to avoid clashes with any of the other planned celebrations. It would be staged in the Lansdowne Hall and would be promoted by the Parish Council as a free event. The Event would be ticketed in order to manage numbers attending and ensure that no-one is turned away on the day. Children will be required to be accompanied by an adult: this is needed for any consent to any audience participation. All elements of the show will be thoroughly risk assessed in advance. The Event will be covered by the Parish Council's Public Liability Insurance (Kate to check).

3. Budget

The estimated cost of the event is:

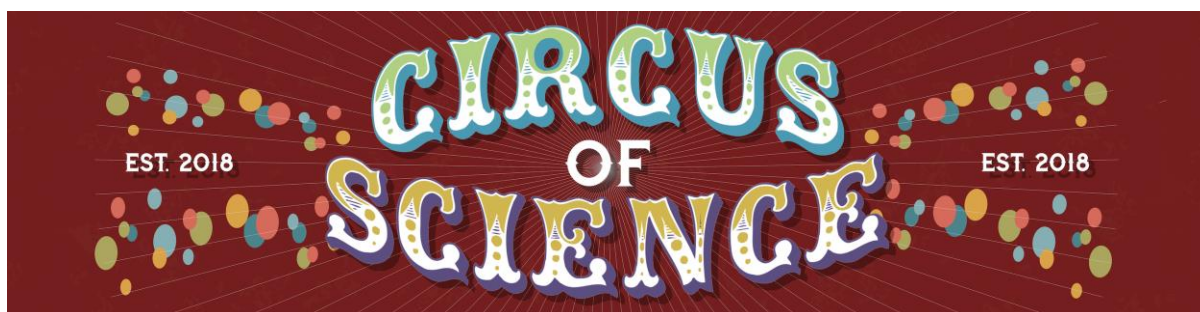
Circus of Science Fee, including consumables, PA and lighting hire, labour, travel and expenses	£650
Online ticketing registration	£20
Hire of hall and old meeting room	£120
Refreshments	£30
Contingency	£30
Total	£850

4. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council organises and promotes the Circus of Science Event as part of the Priestley 250 celebrations planned for the Summer of 2024, with a budget of £850 drawn from the Public Participation, Exhibitions and Events budget.

Cllr John Barnes

Appendix A – Circus of Science Proposal



Circus of science show:



For one day only, watch the Ringmaster and Frankenstein's monster showcase the science experiments we all know and love.

Expect hair raising experiments as the Ringmaster wields the power of static electricity with his powerful Van der Graaf.

Gasp as the pair harness the power of science to blow things sky high using chemistry and physics as their playthings.

Squeal as the monster uses liquid nitrogen to demonstrate how he used cryogenics to preserve his tissue. All under the watchful eye of the ring master.

This show is a mixture of technology, science and, for good measure, a small amount of slapstick comedy. Duration approx. 40 mins

Circus of science show: Workshops

We can provide a series of stations for kids and parents to freely move around. Some provide opportunities for kids to experience science that they cannot experience elsewhere but others show simple ways of doing science in the home. Stations include:



Simple rocket making

The physics and chemistry of dry ice

Making dry ice ice cream

Thermal imaging, which can be linked to energy in chemical reactions for example making bath bombs and showing the energy changes during the reaction

These can be tailored to your own requirements. Duration approx. 40- 60 mins