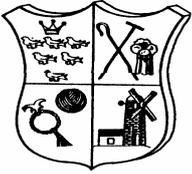


HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE



REPORT (Minutes) of the Communities Committee relating to the organisation of festivities and events held at the Fleur de Lys Council Chambers, Market Street, Hailsham, on Monday 11th January 2016 at 6.00 pm.

Prior to commencement of formal business, a period of not more than 15 minutes was assigned for the purpose of permitting members of the public to address the Committee or ask questions (on matters relevant to the responsibilities under direction of this Committee) at the invitation and discretion of the presiding Chairman.

CC/6/15/114

M. Adams of Hailsham Jewellers asked the Committee for the start date of the road works in the High Street. M. Caira advised that the start date is now likely to be May 2016 and not February 2016 as originally planned. He explained that some further issues have been raised and the start date should be confirmed at a Business Forum meeting due to take place in mid February.

M. Adams advised that he was not in support of a road closure for the Christmas market or of a late night shopping event in November.

J. Seale advised she had received some feedback regarding the Christmas event dates and reported that 10 people had stated they would prefer a Christmas weekend, with the late night shopping/switch on event on the Friday and Christmas market the following day, as opposed to spreading the two dates over two weekends.

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Committee members present

Councillors: Mrs C. Collinson O'Toole, Mrs S. Cottingham, J. Puttick, C. Tasane, C. Triandafyllou (acted as Chairman at the meeting, in the absence of Councillor O'Rawe)

Other members present

G. Constable (Hailsham Lions), B. Funnell (Hailsham Rotary), Rose Piggott (Hailsham Bonfire Society), N. Povey (Hailsham FM), Ms. J. Seale

Officers in attendance: K. Giddings, M. Caira

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Apologies For Absence:

Committee Members

Mrs A. O'Rawe, A. Triandafyllou, Ms J. Wells

Other members

Mrs J. Coates (Air Cadets), J. Cullen (Hailsham Community College), Mrs D. Sinden (Hailsham Parish Church),

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Declarations of Interest

None were received.

118 **Confirmation of Minutes**

RESOLVED to note the minutes of the Communities Committee meeting held on Monday 7th December 2015 were confirmed as a correct record.

119 **Matters Arising**

Councillor F. Berry asked why one trader who required two stalls was turned away from the Christmas market? The trader had then asked to trade on Vicarage Field but had been refused this request. The market had been moved to the Community Hall due to the inclement weather and F. Berry considered that there was no atmosphere in the Community Hall and no music.

Hailsham FM stated that they were due to organise music in the Community Hall but this had not been possible due to the PAT testing restrictions.

M. Caira advised that the trader in question had not responded to attempts by the Council to contact him about the market, various messages had been left for him but he had not responded in time to book the stalls. He had been advised he could not trade on Vicarage Field as the entire market had been moved to the Community Hall, due to the high winds on that day which had meant the gazebos could not be kept up safely. It was therefore not possible to allow anyone to trade on Vicarage Field on that day due to the bad weather and the resulting restrictions imposed by the owners of Vicarage Field.

120 **Local Skills Gap**

K. Giddings reported that a meeting was scheduled to be held next week and therefore an update would be given at the next Communities meeting.

121 **Hailsham and Hellingly Movement & Access Strategy**

M. Caira advised that East Sussex County Council are currently dealing with the traffic regulations, they are also liaising with contractors and once the technical side of the scheme is settled the contract for the road improvements will be given. The works are currently scheduled to start at some point in May.

122 **Hailsham Forward**

Discussions regarding a loyalty scheme are taking place with the company "Town City Cards" who have already created a loyalty scheme in Hastings, St Leonards and Bexhill.

Councillor F. Berry stated that many traders had no information as to when the street markets were beginning again in the new year. M. Caira advised that details of the start date of 30th January were sent to all traders by email, apart from a small number who do not have email and were telephoned instead. M. Caira queried why any trader who did not know the start date did not just speak to the market manager who was always available at the markets. He advised he would send out another email/telephone the traders again.

123 **Summer Markets**

N. Povey confirmed that Hailsham FM would be available to attend both markets on Saturday 25th June and Saturday 30th July

It was agreed:

- an arena could be set aside for the children's market on 25th June, to allow for

entertainment

- the hog roast would be booked for both events
- the Lions will attend both events with candy floss
- Hailsham FM will provide the Hailsham FM Bear for the children's market

Further activities for the children's market were discussed. G. Constable advised she would provide K. Giddings with contact details for various children's rides and entertainment.

The market on Saturday 30th July would be centred around food and drink, with an Italian market booked for the day as well as the regular market traders that trade on a Saturday.

124 **Christmas Light Switch on event 2016**

K. Giddings advised that N. Collinson had reported that the Chamber of Commerce have confirmed they wish to be involved in a late night shopping event. Members suggested holding this event on Friday 25th November, with the switch on to be held later on in the evening. Hailsham FM and the Rotary's Father Christmas will attend the event. This date is subject to the availability of the lighting contractor.

125 **Christmas Market event 2016**

Members were advised the Council in principle has agreed to hold a larger event which includes a road closure. The date for the event was agreed as Saturday 3rd December. Members discussed the placing of the stalls in the High Street and agreed that shop fronts must be kept clear.

M. Caira advised that all the High Street traders had been written to in October 2015, asking for their views on a road closure for a Christmas market. Only 4 traders had responded to the letter.

Members discussed the possibility of using the service road which runs between North Street and the High Street, by Asda supermarket, as a potential emergency access.

126 **Hailsham Bonfire Society**

R. Piggott stated that the Societies AGM will be held on 29th January. She reported that all the Bonfire Societies had raised a total of £65,000 for charity.

127 **Hailsham Festival**

There was no further update.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.00 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 1st February 2016.

Global/Minutes & Agendas/Communities