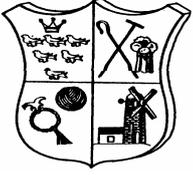


HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE



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 7th September 2015 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.

None were present.

CC/3xx/15/51 **Committee members present**

Councillors: N. Collinson, Mrs C Collinson-O'Toole, Mrs S. Cottingham, J. Puttick, Ms A. O'Rawe, C. Tasane, Mrs A. Triandafyllou, C. Triandafyllou,

Other members present

J. Coates (Air Cadets), J. Cullen (Hailsham Community College), Rose Piggott (Hailsham Bonfire Society), Ms. J. Seale, Mrs D. Sinden (Hailsham Parish Church), J. Tipler (Hailsham Festival)

Officers in attendance: K. Giddings, J. Harrison, M. Hagger

52 **Apologies For Absence:**

Committee Members

Councillor S. Henstock

Other members

None were received.

53 **Declarations of Interest**

None were received.

54 **Confirmation of Minutes**

K. Giddings advised that J. Seale was noted as being present at the meeting but she was not in attendance.

RESOLVED to note the minutes of the Communities Committee meeting held on Monday 3rd August 2015 were amended and confirmed as a correct record.

55 **Matters Arising**

None were received.

56

Christmas Light Switch on 2015

Members were reminded the switch on is on Saturday 21st November at 5.30 pm. D.Sinden advised that Hailsham Parish Church will have an open church that evening and will work around the times of the switch on. There will also be live music in the church at this time.

Members agreed to advertise both the switch on event and the Christmas market on the same banner, rather than advertising with the yellow boards.

J. Cullen advised that Grovelands School and Hailsham Community College will be singing carols 15 minutes before the switch on time and 15 minutes afterwards. Song sheets will also be handed out to members of the public so they can join in the singing. It was suggested some LED lights could be placed in the vicinity to offer some extra lighting for the carol singing.

K. Giddings confirmed that the Rotary's Santa and his sleigh will be in attendance, and barriers will be placed by the road side as a safety measure.

N. Collinson arrived at 6.12 pm.

57

Christmas Market 2015

A Triandafyllou suggested some children's games could be organised for the event. K. Giddings stated the Quintins shopping centre could be used for this, and considered that volunteers would be needed to run any children's activities.

J. Coates confirmed she will contact the Air Cadets regarding their involvement with a mulled wine and mince pie stall and A. Triandafyllou and C. Triandafyllou confirmed they will run a gluehwein stall.

M. Hagger reported that the first of the application forms had been sent to the regular traders inviting them to book a stall on 5th December and towards the end of September the market will be open for general traders to book a stall. She advised that two gazebos had already been booked.

Members agreed to book a face painter and balloon modelling for the event.

All local supermarkets will be contacted, inviting them to get involved in the Christmas events.

It was agreed to ask for volunteers for the market at the next Full Town Council meeting. M. Hagger advised she will also approach members of Hailsham Forward for volunteers.

J. Cullen reported he would enquire as to whether any of the sixth formers at Hailsham Community College would be able to help on the day and J. Coates said she would also approach the Air Cadets for volunteers.

58

Christmas 2016

Members considered merging the switch on event with a late night shopping event on a Thursday, with the switch on at 6.00 pm.

Members also discussed closing the High Street so that a large Christmas market event could be organised, with stalls the entire length of the street, rather than just on Vicarage Field. J. Seale stated she knew a number of people specialising in event organisation.

She was asked to invite her contacts to the next Communities meeting for further discussion.

Much discussion ensued regarding the closing of the High Street, such as the manning of the road closure, the need for volunteers for this and whether to have a road closure on a Saturday or Sunday. Members were advised that the organisation of a big market event with a road closure would need to be organised by an outside company and funds would have to be allocated for this. M. Hagger advised she would contact the previous event organiser who worked in partnership with the Council in 2013 in organising the Christmas market and they would be asked to quote for such an event.

It was agreed to produce all the costs for such an event and discuss this further at a future meeting.

59 **Summer Markets**

29th August

J. Puttick confirmed the traders and members of the Twinning Association from Gournay en Bray enjoyed the event. Members agreed to investigate the availability of other international markets for next year and look into a food themed market for summer 2016.

Members discussed the three events held over the summer and suggested to hold two summer markets in 2016, rather than three.

It was proposed more live music could be booked for the regular street markets but M. Hagger advised that a TEN licence is required for live music and only a certain number of these are allowed per year. Councillor O'Rawe stated she will look further into this at her next licensing meeting at Wealden District Council.

60 **Western Road Recreation Ground**

Members noted a letter received from Demelza fundraisers, asking whether they could hold a "Prom in the Park" to celebrate the Queens 90th birthday, in the evening of Friday 10th June 2016, at Western Road Recreation Ground. This request will be taken to the next Full Town Council meeting.

C. Tasane advised he would be against such an event as he lives adjacent the recreation ground.

Members discussed also holding a fete on the Bank Holiday Monday on 30th May 2016. It was agreed to contact the cricket club to see if the ground is free on that day.

J. Harrison and M. Hagger left the meeting at 7.25 pm.

61 **Bonfire Society**

R. Piggot advised a Bonfire Society event is now being held every Saturday until the end of November.

62 **Hailsham Festival of Arts & Culture**

J. Tipler listed a number of the events taking place at the Arts Festival, including an art trail, film competition and Cossack dancers. Hailsham FM will be broadcasting from the Old Courthouse and have now launched a newsletter. He circulated a brochure advertising all the events taking place for the Festival and reported that the Hailsham Arts Festival is now becoming well known.

N. Collinson stated the Arts Festival organisers are considering putting bunting up in the High Street for the 2016 Hailsham Arts Festival.

D. Sinden left the meeting at 7.40 pm.

63 **Hailsham Forward**

Minutes of the Hailsham Forward Executive Team had been circulated prior to the meeting.

N. Collinson advised that discussions continue with East Sussex County Council. The Hailsham Business Forum will be held on 2nd October. The Hailsham Residents Forum will be held on 16th October and questions from the public will be due in the next couple of weeks. Both Forums will be held at the Community Hall in Hailsham. Members were advised that Bill Bentley had been re-elected as the Treasurer of Hailsham Forward. N. Collinson further advised that discussions were currently taking place with Hailsham Forward about various changes to be made to the street markets.

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

Members were advised that East Sussex County Council are currently looking into the loading bays in the High Street and will be giving their verdict shortly.

The road improvements to the High Street are now likely to begin in February 2016.

65 **Reconnecting the Town**

There was no further update on this item.

66 **Local Skills Gap**

J. Cullen advised he has written to the Headmaster of the Community College regarding this matter. At a recent meeting, cv writing, job interview skills and mentoring had been discussed and the group were looking into whether there were gaps in these skills amongst students, how the Community College can assist in relation to this issues and how the students can be helped with these skills. N. Collinson advised he has met with a training provider to see what input they can offer the Town.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 5th October 2015.

Global/Minutes & Agendas/Communities