

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 November 2016 at 6.00 pm.

Prior to commencement of the formal business of the meeting, a period of not more than 15 minutes will be assigned for the purpose of permitting members of the public to address the assembly, or ask questions on matters relevant to responsibilities under the direction of this committee, at the discretion of the Chairman.

Mrs H. Deehan addressed the Committee regarding the £5000 allocated from the Revitalisation Fund to employ a manager to organise a number of street markets. Mrs Deehan requested that the Council re-consider this proposal. Mrs Deehan asked whether the Council had consulted with the public over this decision and requested the Council undertake a survey on this proposal. Councillor A. O’Rawe stated that a resident’s survey specifically for the market would be very costly and time consuming and that the Councillors regularly gained feedback from the public over such matters. Councillor N. Collinson stated that the revitalisation money was committed by Hailsham Forward a number of years ago and that it is a formality to release the funding that the Council is entitled to spend.

K. Giddings read out an email submitted by Mrs L. Porter, asking various questions in relation to disability access and requirements for the Snow Globe which has been organised for the 3rd December Christmas market. Mrs L. Porter’s questions included whether the snow globe is inflatable, the height and width of the door to the entrance of the snow globe, whether an individual in a motorised chair or large wheel chair can get in and out of the globe with a carer or parent present, whether there are any grab rails and the content of the chemical used to produce the fake snow in the globe.

K. Giddings stated she would respond in writing to Mrs L Porter.

CC/16/5/54

Committee members present

Councillors: Mrs A. Clarke, G. Blake Coggins, N. Collinson, Mrs S. Cottingham, Ms. A. O’Rawe (Chairman) C. Triandafyllou (Vice Chairman)

Other members present

J. Cullen (Hailsham Community College), R. Piggott (Bonfire Society), B. Pratt (Farmers Market), J. Seale, Mrs D. Sinden (Hailsham Parish Church)

Officers in attendance: K. Giddings

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Apologies For Absence:

Committee Members

Mrs L. Collinson and R. Grocock

Other members

G. Constable (Hailsham Lions)

56 **Declarations of Interest**

None were received

57 **Confirmation of Minutes**

RESOLVED to note the minutes of the Communities Committee meeting held on Monday 3rd October 2016 were confirmed as a correct record.

58 **To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Communities Committee on 3rd October 2016**

It was noted that all resolutions would be discussed throughout the meeting

59 **Local Skills Gap**

J. Cullen advised that only 16 surveys out of 380 had been returned and that Hailsham Community colleges sixth form would be contacting businesses directly in their community hour's project.

P. Radley from Hailsham FM arrived at the meeting at 6.13 pm.

Some members advised of their own experience of difficulties in employing apprentices. H. Deehan advised that there is a change in legislation in 2017 with regard to apprentices and suggested that South Downs College could be contacted as they are launching their own skills solution and may be able to offer advice.

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

Members were advised that the road improvement works to the High Street would be finished by the end of November and that the High Street would be open to traffic throughout the Christmas period.

61 **Hailsham Forward**

There was no further update

62 **Christmas Light Switch on**

K. Giddings advised that everything is organised for the event, carol singing is booked from 5.00 pm with the switch on at 6.00 pm. D. Sinden confirmed that Hailsham Church's open church will be held from 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm. The Rotary's Santa would be handing out free sweets to children. Barriers would be placed to form a queue for those queuing to see Santa.

P. Radley advised that Hailsham FM would be present at both the switch on and the Christmas market.

63 **Christmas Market event 2016**

Members discussed the price to charge for entry to the snow globe and agreed on £2 per adult, £1 per child, with a group ticket for £5.00. K. Giddings confirmed that everything was in place for the event, approximately 40 stalls were currently booked, and that there would be a hog roast present on the day.

Mrs Deehan asked whether entrance to the snow globe could be free to families who use food banks. Members expressed uncertainty at how this would be policed and K. Giddings advised that the Town Council provide free balloon modelling on the day plus children can visit Santa and be given a free gift, so there are already free activities on the day that can be enjoyed by all families.

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Christmas events 2017

Members agreed that this item would be discussed further at the next Communities meeting. A decision would not be made on next year's dates until the Clerk had contacted other Councils such as Eastbourne, Uckfield and Lewes to see what date they are holding their Christmas markets. The size and possible road closure for a Christmas market next year would also be discussed once feedback has been given on this year's market.

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Bonfire Society

R. Piggott stated that the event had gone very well and the feedback from the public was very good.

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Hailsham Festival

N. Collinson advised that there would be a Hailsham Festival in 2017 and there would be a further update at the next meeting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.50 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 5th December 2016.

Global/Minutes & Agendas/Communities