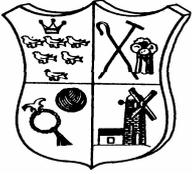


# HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE



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 3rd April 2017 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.

CC/16/7/125

Mrs H. Deehan requested the Hailsham Forward minutes are on the Town Council website in a more timely manner. She also asked how much time Mr C. Letchska spends a week on Hailsham Forward duties and whether the review Mrs T. Ryland had been asked to undertake on the street markets would be discussed at this meeting.

A question had been received by email from Mr K. Hinton, asking for a summary of the findings of the review of the street markets to be published on the Town Council and Hailsham Forward website. Members discussed this request and agreed instead to include details of the findings in the Communities minutes.

126

## **Committee members present**

Councillors: Mrs B. Beckett (substituting for L. Collinson), G. Blake Coggins, N. Collinson, Mrs S. Cottingham, R. Grocock, A. O'Rawe, (Chairman) C. Triandafyllou (Vice Chairman)

## **Other members present**

Mrs G. Constable, B. Funnell, R. Piggott (Bonfire Society), J. Seale

Officers in attendance: K. Giddings, M. Ciara

127

## **Apologies For Absence:**

## **Committee Members**

Councillors Mrs A. Clarke, Mrs L. Collinson

## **Other members**

J. Cullen (Hailsham Community College), B. Pratt (Farmers' Market), D. Sinden (Hailsham Church)

128

## **Declarations of Interest**

N. Collinson declared a personal interest in the agenda item for Summer Markets and the discussions on financially assisting the High Street traders with their 25% discount, as he has a business in the High Street

129

## **Confirmation of Minutes**

Mrs B. Becket asked who would organise the Christmas market if Mrs T. Ryland does not manage the market, as was agreed at the last meeting, as the Town Council staff do not have

the manpower to organise a large event? M. Caira advised that the Christmas market event this year will be more modest and therefore the Council staff will be able to organise the event.

**RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Communities Committee meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were confirmed as a correct record.

130 **To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Communities Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

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

131 **Hailsham Forward**

Members were advised that Mrs T. Ryland has spoken to the former and existing street market traders and has provided feedback. She reported that the main issue highlighted by traders is the low footfall at the markets. The traders had advised that they were happy with the existing trading hours, although some had suggested the trading hours could be extended in the summer months.

Details of the feedback:

*We have called every trader and ex trader and also emailed the ex traders to try to get feedback. We haven't reached everyone but have left messages where we were able to.*

*There is a good amount of feedback and although some of it is mixed there are some consistencies. These are mainly:*

*Footfall is by far the biggest issue*

*Although it goes quiet at times most people seemed fairly happy with the trading hours and some even talked about extending them*

*Interestingly, most of the previous traders were positive about the price whilst most of the current traders said that it is too high.*

*Finally, I put a post on facebook which asked what people would like to see in the market. So far the post has reached 493 people and they have made the following comments:*

*Cheese, Bread / cakes, Cider, Meat, Fish, Ice cream, Gift items, Local wines, Local honey, Flowers, Clothes, Shoes, Household items, Unique kids clothes and accessories*

Councillors G. Blake Coggins and N. Collinson both stated that they were very pleased with the results that had been achieved by Mrs T. Ryland so far, and agreed it was very useful to employ someone with Mrs Ryland's skillset.

132 **Summer Events 2017**

**June 24<sup>th</sup> market**

Councillor A. O'Rawe reported that a meeting had been held at the request of some of the High Street shop owners. She advised that the meeting had been very positive and suggested the Council and High Street traders could work together in promoting and creating a successful event on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Members were advised that the road improvements have had a huge impact on businesses in the Town and that a number of traders had approached the Council with a suggestion for the event on 24<sup>th</sup> June, to get members of the public shopping again in Hailsham. They had suggested that a number of the shops could offer up to 25% discount on the day; the shops could pay for the promotion of the market in the run up to the event, with the Town Council underwriting half of the discount given by the traders. M. Caira advised that the Town Clerk was seeking legal advice on this but it was unlikely the Council could lawfully

underwrite a percentage of the discount, but instead the Council could offer to pay for all the advertising and promotion of the event.

A. O'Rawe stated that the traders attending the meeting had been asked to supply a list of those shops that had signed up to offer a discount on the day.

Members were advised that there was money available in the advertising budget and £1400 could be allocated for advertising of the event.

The traders had also requested the proposed road closure planned for the event to be cancelled. Members discussed this request and agreed that the 24<sup>th</sup> June event could be held on Vicarage Field with no road closure and agreed to the request to abandon the plan to hold a road closure on this day.

M. Caira circulated to members a list of the stalls that had been booked so far by community groups, for the event.

K. Giddings advised that she had not received any communication from Centre Events, the organisation who were due to supply the tea cup ride. It was agreed that if the organisation did not get in touch shortly then other entertainment would need to be organised.

K. Giddings stated that the open church by Hailsham Parish Church would take place at both the June and July events, with the times to be confirmed.

Members were advised that all the Heads of the local schools had been written to, inviting the schools to get involved in the event in some way. None of the schools had replied to the letters, however K. Giddings reported that Hailsham Community College may get involved in the June 24<sup>th</sup> event.

G. Blake Coggins stated that he had been approached by a photographer asking to display old photographs of Hailsham. Members agreed this would be a perfect stall for the celebrating Hailsham event.

132.1

**RESOLVED** that

- i) the Communities Committee promote and work with the High Street traders for the event on 24<sup>th</sup> June and cover the advertising costs for this event for up to £1400 (taken from the advertising budget) subject to a sufficient number of High Street traders signing up for this event
- ii) the road will not be closed for the event

133

**July 29<sup>th</sup> event**

G. Blake Coggins advised that he had not yet confirmed a band for the event but would be able to confirm later in the week. Members agreed to the booking of a second band also, for the event.

133.1

**RESOLVED** that up to £500 is taken from the agreed communities budget for 2 live bands for the event (£100 for the band organised by G. Blake Coggins and £400 for the additional band)

134

**Christmas 2017**

It was agreed to contact Hailsham Choral Society to ask them to sing carols at both the Christmas market and light switch on event.

B. Funnell confirmed that the Rotary's Father Christmas would be present at both the light switch on event on 24<sup>th</sup> November and the market on 16<sup>th</sup> December.

B. Funnell left the meeting at 6.55 pm.

M. Caira advised that Mrs T. Ryland is helping to recruit traders for the Christmas market and one booking has already been confirmed.

135 **Christmas Light Switch on 2017**

Members discussed who to invite to switch on the Christmas lights and it was suggested a raffle could be organised leading up to the event and the winner could switch the lights on. It was agreed to ask the local shop keepers to sell the raffle tickets, with the drawing of the raffle to take place 15 minutes before the switch on, with the winner being announced by Hailsham FM. This would be held in place of the 2 winners of the Dominos pizza competition switching the lights on, as in previous years. It was agreed that the proceeds from the sale of the raffle tickets will go to a local charity of the winners choice.

136 **Bonfire Society**

R. Piggott advised that the Bonfire Societies craft fair had been successful, and a meal would be held at Chapter 12 Wine Bar, this coming Saturday.

137 **Hailsham Festival**

N. Collinson reported that there was a lack of volunteers to organise the festival at the moment, however more details of the events will be known after the next meeting. Hailsham Festival will be held from 14<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> September

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.15 pm.

**The next meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017.**

Global/Minutes & Agendas/Communities