

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 4th November 2019 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

None were present

CC/19/5/73

Committee members present

Councillors: C. Bryant, G. Blake Coggins, Mrs A. Clarke (Chairman), N. Coltman, Mrs K. Nicholls, Mrs A. Ricketts

Other Councillors Present: Councillor P. Holbrook

Other members present

T. Biggin (Hailsham Festival), P. Gibson (Hailsham News), Mrs R. Piggott (Hailsham Bonfire Society), B. Funnell (Hailsham Rotary), B. Pratt (Farmers' Market)

Officers in attendance: K. Giddings

74

Apologies For Absence:

Committee Members

Ms A. O'Rawe

Other members

Mrs G. Constable (Hailsham Lions), Mrs J. Seale (Community Forum), Mrs D. Sinden (Hailsham Parish Church)

75

Declarations of Interest

None were received

76

Confirmation of Minutes

To resolve that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Communities Committee held on Monday 7th October 2019 (Ref 19/4/55-72), as printed and circulated, may be taken as read, and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

77

To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Communities Committee on 7th October 2019

K. Giddings advised that she had contacted M. Charles from France at Home to investigate whether the French Market wish to return to Hailsham in 2020. M. Charles had advised that she would be speaking to her traders at their meeting in January 2020 and would report back with a decision then.

78

May Bank Holiday 2020

N. Coltman read out an email from J. Seale, regarding the proposed VE Day event in May.

J. Seale advised she felt the discussions in this matter at the previous meeting had been rushed and she expressed concern at the event, stating that the community groups had not been invited to be involved.

K. Giddings confirmed that if the event went ahead it would involve all the community groups and that all decisions on the matter would have to be agreed within the Steering Group and then approved by the Communities Committee, so the event would be jointly arranged, it would not be arranged solely by Mr Gibson.

P. Gibson advised that he had not yet contacted any of the community groups as a location for the event has not yet been confirmed. He stated he had met with Wealden District Council to request the use of the bottom end of their car park, and Wealden Council had advised they would be in touch regarding whether or not their car park could be used for the event, in the next few weeks. He confirmed he had not yet received a response from the Community College regarding the use of their ground for the event.

P. Gibson further advised he had met with Chandlers BMW in Hailsham, regarding sponsorship, and they have located a stage manager for the event.

The current budget for the event so far is £11,000.00

P. Gibson left the meeting at 6.25 pm

79

Street Markets

K. Giddings stated that the number of traders at the market had been consistent for a while and the market was currently holding its own. The market now has a new trader, selling cakes. Unfortunately last Saturday's market had been cancelled due to the high winds.

80

Hailsham Forward

K. Giddings reported that the new Hailsham Card is available, and can be purchased at the Town Council offices.

81

Christmas Light Switch on 2019

A. Ricketts advised she has not yet heard back from Hailsham Pavilion regarding her request for ticket prizes.

K. Giddings confirmed that everything is in place for the event. The Dominos "Design a Christmas Pizza" competition is organised for this year, with the two winners switching on the Christmas lights with Hailsham's Mayor. K. Giddings further reported that she has contacted all the local schools regarding the events and the competitions for "Find the Elf" and "Best Dressed Elf". Posters have been sent to all the schools and they have been advised to contact K. Giddings if they would like some flyers for the events.

82

Christmas Market 2019

B. Pratt confirmed that they have located a tractor for the day and this will be driven around the

Town in the morning, before the procession. A number of the young farmers will be dressing up as elves.

K. Giddings confirmed that Mr G. Rowe, the Town Crier, has been contacted to advertise the event.

B. Pratt reported that there is plenty of car parking at the back of the Farmers' Market and this can be advertised on the day.

P. Holbrook stated he will advertise all the events when he broadcasts on Hailsham FM later in the week.

K. Giddings agreed to provide some "Find the Elf" forms for the Rotary on the Santa Sleigh.

The Committee agreed for the procession to begin at approximately 11.45 am, with the procession then making its way to the Farmers' Market, with the judging of the Best Dressed Elf at midday.

B. Funnell confirmed that the Rotary's Santa and Sleigh will arrive at approximately 9.00 am on the day. K. Giddings confirmed she will speak to Pound Land to organise the power for the Sleigh. Members were shown an example of the sweets that will be given out by Santa at the Christmas Market. K. Giddings advised that they are in a fully recyclable tub.

83 **Community Forum**

There was no further update.

84 **Bonfire Society**

R. Piggott reported that the bonfire event had been very successful and thanked the Council for allowing the use of the Western Road Recreation Ground.

P. Holbrook reported that he had spoken to Inspector Gross and he could confirm that the Police had not received any complaints regarding the event.

A. Clarke reported that she had attended the event with her family, as they did every year. She praised the event and considered that moving the event away from the Town to the Recreation Ground gave it more of a family feel and helped prevent any problems occurring in the Town.

R. Piggott reported that the Bonfire Society raised over £1,000 on the day, which will be split between Care for Carers, the Cricket and Rugby Club, Friday Night Club and Demelza Charity.

K. Giddings advised that the bonfire event would be reviewed at the Assets Management Committee meeting the following week and a decision would be made then on whether to allow a further bonfire event on the Recreation Ground in 2020.

85 **Lions Fun Day**

There was no further update.

86 **Hailsham Festival**

Members were introduced to Mr T. Biggins, who advised he would now be attending the meetings as the Hailsham Festival representative.

He advised that the Festival has grown immensely over the last few years and they are now in need of funding for next year. T. Biggins advised he would be putting a request to the Town Council, asking whether the Council will fund £2,000 a year over a period of three years, to help cover the costs of the printing and distribution of the Festival booklet. He reported that the

Festival booklet brings many people to the Festival, who would not otherwise have known about the event.

Members were advised that this request would be taken to the Full Council meeting on 20th November.

87 **Hailsham Farmers' Market**

B. Pratt advised that the market is going well, they have a new company called "It's a Scoop" trading and the trader may be attending the Christmas Market.

88 **Hailsham FM**

There was no further update.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.10 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 2nd December 2019

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