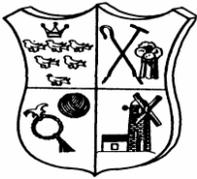


HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE



REPORT (Minutes) of the Communities Committee relating to the organisation of festivities and events held at the Fleur de Lys Council Chambers, Market Square, Hailsham, on Monday 4th October 2021 at 6.00 pm.

CC/21/4/78

Public Forum

To deal with any questions or brief representations from members of the public relevant to the remit of the committee, in accordance with Standing Order 1. and Hailsham Town Council policy. (15 Minutes)

Mark Hallett from Hailsham and District Chamber of Commerce attended the meeting and spoke on the agenda item for Hailsham BID.

79

Committee members present

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

Other members present

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

Officers in attendance: K. Giddings

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Apologies For Absence:

J. Seale (What's on Magazine), Mrs D. Sinden (Hailsham Parish Church)

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Declarations of Interest

Councillors N. Coltman, G. Blake Coggins and B. Pratt all declared a personal interest in the agenda item for Hailsham BID, as they are members of Hailsham Forward.

Councillor A. Clarke declared a prejudicial interest on the agenda item for Hailsham BID as she owns a business in the High Street, and she did not vote on the agenda item.

82

Confirmation of Minutes

T. Biggin advised that the minutes had stated that "String The Musical" had taken place, however the event had not taken place at the time of the meeting but was held shortly afterwards.

To resolve that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Communities Committee held on Monday 6th September 2021 (Ref 21/3x/59-77), as printed and circulated, were amended, and may be taken as read, and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

83 **To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Communities Committee on 6th September 2021**

It was agreed all updates would be discussed throughout the meeting

84 **Hailsham BID**

M. Hallett addressed the Committee in relation to Hailsham BID. He stated that:

Hailsham Chamber of Commerce has been discussing with Wealden District about starting a BID (Business Improvement District) in Hailsham. The BID will be a separate entity to the Chamber.

The BID company is funded by means of a levy from all the businesses in Hailsham. They will need the cooperation of the businesses to achieve this and all affected businesses would have a vote to adopt the levy.

It will mean that the BID company will be able to undertake a series of improvements around the town centre and industrial estates.

M. Hallett advised that they need to be able to get some initial funding to get this underway and that Wealden District Council had offered up to a £1000 funding which the Chamber will match. It was hoped that because the BID will help to get more businesses to come to Hailsham, this would be a positive move to help the Town Council.

M. Hallett asked whether the Town Council would be willing to contribute £1000 by matching the initial funds of Wealden District Council and the Chamber of Commerce.

Much discussion ensued. J. Puttick requested that the Chamber of Commerce involve Environment Hailsham in this project and M. Hallett agreed to this request.

Some concern was expressed that Wealden Council had proposed up to £1,000 funding, not necessarily a total of £1,000.

Members were advised that any proposal will need to go to Full Council for approval.

Councillor G. Blake Coggins proposed an award of up to £1000 to Hailsham BID, to match fund contributions made by Wealden District Council

4 Councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

Councillor A. Clarke did not vote on the proposal

Councillor N. Coltman voted against the proposal
Councillor J. Puttick abstained from voting

84.1 **RESOLVED** to recommend to Council that Hailsham Town Council match the contribution to Hailsham BID made by Wealden District Council, up to £1,000

Street Markets

K. Giddings relayed an update from Nikita Clarke-Cox regarding the street markets. She advised there are a couple of new traders that attend the markets and there has been some interest from new traders but the majority of traders have to be refused as they are selling stock that is too similar to the shops on Vicarage Field.

One of the previous traders, Brenda Taylor, has attended two markets since the Town Council have been offering gazebos again but none of the other traders have returned. The trader selling sweets now attends on the last Saturday of the month. There are 3 stalls maximum on any other Saturday in the month.

12 stalls are still the maximum allowed on Vicarage Field by Wealden District Council.

Members discussed the rule imposed by Wealden Council which states that traders cannot sell the same goods that are sold in the local shops.

A Clarke advised she would compose a letter to Wealden District Council, from the Communities Committee, challenging this rule. She advised she would send a draft copy to the Committee for the Committee to review, before it is sent to Wealden District Council.

Hailsham Forward

K. Giddings relayed an update from M. Cairn. Hailsham Forward will be meeting for the first time since March 2020, on 15th of October. They will be undertaking an update on all areas of work and in the meantime, they will be updating the Town and Shopping Guide as well as the website, which has not been updated since last year.

Hailsham Live

P. Gibson advised that he is still considering holding the event over two days, but a final decision has not yet been made.

Christmas Light Switch on

Members agreed to change the light switch on time to 6.00 pm, as in line with previous years.

D. Sinden had confirmed that Hailsham Parish Church will be open serving hot chocolate and marshmallows, plus other hot drinks. and will be open immediately after the light switch on to welcome people in.

N. Mullery asked whether it would be possible to consider organising a stage for next years event, for the pupil's carol singing.

Some concern was expressed at the health and safety implications of this and also the expense and the work that would be involved in erecting a stage, which would only be used for a relatively short time.

It was suggested that N. Mullery investigate this proposal and report back to the Committee.

Community Forum

There was no further update.

90 **Bonfire Society**

R. Piggott advised that everything was organised for the Bonfire event.

91 **Lions**

There was no further update

92 **Hailsham Festival**

T. Biggin thanked the Council and staff for all their support in the Hailsham Festival week.

He reported that attendance numbers were slightly down from previous years, and he considered that this may be due to concern over COVID in some of the older followers of the Festival.

He advised that String The Musical was hugely successful and he was hopeful for a full theatrical version next year. T. Biggin reported that a suitable location for this may have to be found as he was unsure whether Hailsham Pavilion would be large enough.

Nostalgia Day was also very successful.

Hailsham Farmers' Market

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B. Pratt reported that the market had recently had the highest ever number of traders outside of a Christmas Market and he considered that the public were now keen to shop more for local produce.

94 **Hailsham FM**

N. Mullery confirmed Hailsham FM are all ready for the Remembrance Sunday event and K Giddings confirmed they would be provided power for the event.

95 **Hailsham Parish Church**

K. Giddings provided an update received from D. Sinden, who had stated the Hailsham Parish Church were looking forward to Mayor Paul Holbrook being in attendance at a short commemoration for opening of Victoria Gates on Monday 11 October at 2.30pm. It was confirmed that all Town Council and Councillors are invited to attend this.

96 **Remembrance Sunday**

K. Giddings advised the Remembrance Sunday meeting had taken place prior to this meeting and the minutes of this meeting would be sent to all the members of the Committee.

K. Giddings confirmed she would email N. Mullery the timings for the event. She confirmed that power would be supplied to Hailsham FM at the event.

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 November 2021

Global/Minutes & Agendas/Communities