

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 2nd August 2021 at 6.00 pm.

CC/21/2/39

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)

Councillor N. Coltman chaired the meeting in Councillor A. Clarke's absence

Mr R. Moreton, a trader at the weekly street markets, attended the meeting via zoom link and asked to speak to the Committee when the Street Markets agenda item was discussed.

S. Wennington and Councillor M. Laxton attended the meeting and asked to address Councillors on the agenda item for the 10k, 5k, 1k, Race.

Councillor P. Holbrook attended the meeting and asked to address the Committee on the agenda item "Paint the Town Red"

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Committee members present

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

Other members present

T. Biggin (Hailsham Festival), Mrs G. Constable (Hailsham Lions), P. Gibson (Hailsham Live) R. Piggott (Hailsham Bonfire), J. Seale (What's on Magazine), Mrs D. Sinden (Hailsham Parish Church)

Officers in attendance: K. Giddings

Other Councillors in attendance: Councillor M. Laxton and Councillor P. Holbrook

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Apologies For Absence:

Councillors Mrs A Clarke, Ms A. O'Rawe and B. Funnell (Hailsham Rotary), B. Pratt (Hailsham Farmers' Market)

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Declarations of Interest

None were received

43 **Confirmation of Minutes**

To resolve that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Communities Committee held on Thursday 1st July 2021 (Ref 21/1/21-38), as printed and circulated, may be taken as read, and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

44 **To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Communities Committee on 1st July 2021**

It was agreed all updates would be discussed throughout the meeting

45 **10k, 5k, 1k Race**

S. Wennington and Councillor M. Laxton addressed the Committee in relation to the Race and advised that an inclusive run has been proposed by Councillor M. Laxton alongside Hailsham Active and they requested the Town Council consider sponsoring the event for £5,000.

The Committee were advised that the £5000 will be towards the cost of the medal which would be a replica of the Town Crest and its colours on a lanyard with wording saying that Hailsham Town Council has sponsored the event. Every entry will receive a medal.

Much discussion ensued and the Committee were in favour of the event and agreed to suggest up to £5000 is funded by the Town Council.

K. Giddings advised she would include the proposed amount in the costed report which will be considered by the Committee at the next meeting in September and then considered by Full Council in November.

45.1 **RESOLVED** to allocate up to £5000 in the costed report, for sponsorship for the 10k, 5k, 1k, Race. The funds to be taken from the Communities budget.

S. Wennington and Councillor M. Laxton left the meeting at 6.25 pm

46 **Street Markets**

Mr R. Moreton spoke in relation to the street markets. He suggested the markets are held monthly rather than weekly and stated that he was only likely to trade once a month for the foreseeable future, as his busiest time for his trade at the market is at the end of each month.

Members discussed the future of the street markets and agreed that one issue with the traders not currently attending the markets, was that the Council are not currently supplying gazebos. Members were advised that a number of traders would return to the market if the Council could again supply them gazebos.

Much discussion ensued and it was noted that the gazebos are not being supplied at the moment due to the difficulty in cleaning them under the current COVID guidelines.

K. Giddings stated she would speak to M. Cairra about whether gazebos are due to be supplied again once all restrictions are dropped on 19th August.

Members agreed for the current time to keep the markets weekly rather than monthly.

47

Paint the Town Red

Councillor P. Holbrook advised that the event is being organised by St Wilfrid's Hospice and that businesses are being asked to put red items in their window displays.

Collection boxes may be organised. P. Holbrook was advised that Wealden District Council will need to be contacted for their permission for a charity collection.

The event will be held on Friday 29th October.

K. Giddings advised she would organise the Town Council window to be dressed with red items, balloons, etc.

P. Holbrook confirmed that the Town Council were not being asked for funds for the event.

The Committee agreed they were all in favour of the event.

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Hailsham Forward

K. Giddings read out an update from M. Cairra:

The work to improve the path behind part of Diplocks Way should start in October, thanks to Steve Wennington for his work to secure this for Hailsham.

Hailsham Forward has been involved in the Wealden Local Plan taking part in meetings with respect to the town centre.

49

Hailsham Live Event 2021

P. Gibson advised that approximately 1500 people attended the event and feedback from the ticket holders was very good, with 100 responses rating the event at 8.1 out of 10. He advised he had not received any negative feedback.

The food outlets in the High Street had also received extra trade due to the event.

Councillor N. Coltman thanked P. Gibson for all his hard work in organising the Hailsham Live event.

The issue of paying for the Wealden Council car park was discussed and the Committee raised concerns that Wealden Council had charged P. Gibson to hold his event in the car park, considering the car park is free of charge and no money would have been lost by the Council in allowing its use for the event.

J. Seale addressed the Committee in relation to the Hailsham Live event and considered that the general feedback from the Community Forum was that the event was not particularly well organised and some of the shops in the High Street were unhappy at having stalls placed outside their premises.

J. Seale asked about the accounts in relation to the event and P. Gibson advised that all accounts for the Hailsham Live event were in the public realm and available for anyone to view.

It was agreed that P. Gibson would attend the next Community Forum meeting to discuss any concerns raised by the Forum.

50 **Christmas Light Switch on**

K. Giddings reported that Hailsham Community College in conjunction with Grovelands School had advised they would like to be involved in the Christmas light event switch on again this year.

Members agreed the light switch on event would be held on Friday 26th November with the lights switched on at 5.00 pm.

D. Sinden confirmed that Hailsham Parish Church would hold their open church as in previous years, with hot drinks being served at the Church after the switch on, at around 5.30 pm

G. Constable confirmed that Hailsham Lions would sell candy floss at the event.

51 **Community Forum**

J. Seale confirmed that the Forum would be meeting again in the first week in September.

52 **Bonfire Society**

R. Piggott advised that Hailsham Bonfire Society plan to hold a procession on Saturday 16th October, with drummers, although the event will not be as large this year.

53 **Lions Fun Day**

G. Constable reported that the Fun Day had been a great success, Jane Torville had opened the event and stayed for photos and autographs.

The Lions continue to help members of the public and had recently provided someone with a bed and kitchen equipment for his move into a flat.

G. Constable advised that the Lions are still working as a Club but would not be organising another Fun Day.

Councillor G Blake Coggins, G. Constable and J. Seale left the meeting at 7.15 pm

54 **Hailsham Festival**

T. Biggin advised that the new website for Hailsham Festival is now live.

Approximately 30 face to face events have now been organised but are obviously subject to any changes in the COVID guidelines.

55 **Hailsham Farmers' Market**

Councillor A. Rickets advised that she had carried out a leaflet drop for B. Pratt, for the Farmers' Market. She further advised that there were a large amount of stalls at the last Farmers' Market.

56 **Hailsham FM**

There was no update

57 **Hailsham Parish Church**

D. Sinden reported that the Church building has been open on Sundays but there is now no need to book. Masks are still asked to be worn and social distancing is still in place.

The footpath outside the church is now being built and is going well, with some internal work also taking place.

The new footpath will allow easier disabled access and work to the entrance will create a more visible entrance to the Church.

58 **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.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.35 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 6th September 2021

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