

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 3rd July 2023 at 6.00 pm.

CC/23/2/22

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)

None were present

23

Committee members present

Councillors: A. Clarke, F. Clarke, C. Bryant, K. Nicholls, A. Ricketts, G. White (substituting for K. Blundell)

Other members present

D. Chapman (Hailsham Bonfire Society), G. Constable (Hailsham Lions), N. Mullery (Hailsham FM), B. Pratt (Hailsham Farmers' Market), T. Biggin (Hailsham Festival), P. Gibson (Hailsham News), D. Sinden (Hailsham Parish Church)

Other Councillors Present: Councillor M. Laxton

Officers in attendance: K. Giddings, M. Caira

24

Apologies For Absence:

Councillors K. Blundell, N. Hayes

T. Tozer (Town Cryer)

25

Declarations of Interest

C. Bryant declared a personal interest in the item discussing the Bonfire Society as he is a member of the Bonfire Society

26

Confirmation of Minutes

To resolve that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Communities Committee held on Monday 5th June 2023 (Ref 23/1/1-21), as printed and circulated, may be taken as read, and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

27

There was no update

28

999 Day

There was no update as Councillor Murphy was not present at the meeting

Members agreed to keep the allocated day of Sunday 28th July 2024 aside for the event

29

Stand Proud Event

Councillor M. Laxton addressed the Committee regarding the “Stand Proud” event planned for 2024.

She advised that the event will comprise of a day of activities at the HMI Club in May. The event will run from 1.00 pm to 11.30 pm and will celebrate diversity and equality.

A rainbow theme flag will be placed on the War Memorial and the local shops will be contacted to see if they wish to get involved by organising a rainbow theme in their shop windows.

There will be a sensory and interactive show on the day, a live band and a drag queen and comedians later on in the evening.

Councillor Laxton requested that the Town Council provide £1000 sponsorship towards the event. K. Giddings advised this request for funding will be included in the Costed Report which will be taken to the August Communities Committee meeting for discussion.

M. Laxton requested that the Town Council take charge of the best dressed window competition and organise the placing of the rainbow flag on the War Memorial.

30

10 K Run

M. Laxton reported that the recent 10 K Run had been a huge success, with 500 runners and approximately 1000 people attending the event. A number of individuals with severe disabilities also got involved in the Run. Many community groups also got involved in the event and the Run brought a large amount of business into the Town.

M. Laxton advised that £1,300 profit was made from the Run and this was distributed to the local sports clubs.

M. Laxton left the meeting at 6.15 pm

31

Street Market

M. Caira reported that the recent market had been quiet, however a new trader has joined selling South African groceries. The market is slowly growing with 5/6 new traders in the last six months.

32

Hailsham Forward

Members were advised that Hailsham Forward is currently concentrating on the

33 **Christmas Light Switch On 2023**

Members noted that Wealden Council have stated they will approve market stalls selling goods at the switch on, subject to the usual licences.

12 stalls can be placed between Subway and Waitrose and these are currently being booked up by traders.

Members were asked to consider the pitch fees to be charged at the Christmas light switch on. It was proposed to charge £10.00 for a pitch only and £20.00 for a pitch and a Town Council gazebo

Members were in favour of the charges

RESOLVED to charge £10.00 for a pitch only and £20.00 for a pitch and a Town Council gazebo at the Christmas Light Switch on

34 **Christmas Market 2023**

K. Giddings advised that Hailsham Choral Society have been booked to sing carols at both Vicarage Field and the Farmers' market site on the morning of the event.

The jazz band Sussex Stompers will play in the afternoon, at Vicarage Field.

Hailsham FM will again be broadcasting from both sites.

Members were also asked to consider the pitch fees to be charged at the Christmas market. It was proposed to charge £10.00 for a pitch only and £20.00 for a pitch and a Town Council gazebo

Members were in favour of the charges

RESOLVED to charge £10.00 for a pitch only and £20.00 for a pitch and a Town Council gazebo at the Christmas Market

35 **Community Forum**

Members noted the Forum will meet this coming Thursday in the Church lounge.

36 **Bonfire Society**

D. Chapman reported that the Bonfire Society are 3 / 4 of the way through the 2,000 torches that need to be made.

Fundraising will begin again when the school holidays start.

37 **Lions**

G. Constable advised the Lions president has stepped down.

38 **Hailsham Festival**

T. Biggin distributed brochures at the meeting, for the Hailsham Festival event.

He reported that many events have been booked for the Festival week and all was going well with the organisation of the event.

39 **Hailsham Farmers' Market**

B. Pratt stated that he has 11 stalls booked for the market this coming Saturday. He advised that the Farmers' Market allow 2 charity stalls to have a free stall at the market, every month.

40 **Hailsham FM**

N. Mullery told members that Hailsham FM will be moving premises, from 2 North Street. They will be moving at the end of July.

He reported that they have secured a lease on a new premises in Hailsham and that they will remain broadcasting while they move.

41 **Hailsham Parish Church**

D. Sinden updated members on the events coming up. A women's "Pimms and Pudding" evening is planned at the Church on 13th July, the Church is currently open on Wednesdays between 12 pm to 2.00 pm, a Men's breakfast will be held at the end of September at B12, the Church will be open as usual after the Christmas Switch On event welcoming visitors with hot drinks, Wealden Brass will play their free concert at the church at 2.30 pm, on Saturday 9th December, the day of the Christmas Market.

The Gingerbread House event will go ahead on 30th November and the Church will be open for the Bonfire event on Saturday 21st October

42 **Remembrance Sunday**

Members noted that the letter is ready to go out inviting the various local organisations to the Remembrance Sunday event.

A formal request will be sent to Hailsham Church to use their churchyard as an escape area, if the need arises.

Hailsham News advised they could put a request out for any local community groups to contact the Council if they would like to order a wreath.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.55 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 7th August 2023

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