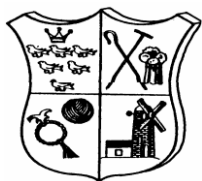


HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE



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 December 2023 at 6.00 pm.

CC/23/5/104

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

Councillor A. Ricketts chaired the meeting in A. Clarke's absence

105

Committee members present

Councillors: D. Chapman, C. Bryant, K. Nicholls, A. Ricketts (Chair)

Other Councillors present: P. Holbrook

Other members present

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

Officers in attendance: K. Giddings, K. Butcher, M. Caira

106

Apologies For Absence:

Councillor A. Clarke

107

Declarations of Interest

C. Bryant and D. Chapman both declared personal interests in the item discussing the Bonfire Society as they are members of the Bonfire Society.

108

Confirmation of Minutes

To resolve that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Communities Committee held on Monday 2nd October 2023 (Ref 23/4x/ 83-103) printed and circulated, may be taken as read, and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

There was no update

110

Hailsham Hero Award

Councillor P. Holbrook addressed the Committee, asking to resurrect the Hailsham Hero award, to be given to a member of the local community who had gone “above and beyond” in Hailsham.

It was noted that this project had not been included in the costed report and no funds had been put aside for any costs involved. Concern was raised by M. Caira regarding the staff time that would be required in administering this award.

The Committee agreed however to further look into how this project could be managed and whether it could be administered by another organisation.

Members requested the item be put on the January agenda for further discussion.

Councillor P. Holbrook left the meeting at 6.20 pm

111

Street Markets update

K. Butcher reported that the markets now have 7 new event traders and 2 local brewers.

K. Giddings thanked K. Butcher for her hard work in finding new traders and creating a successful market.

Members noted the last street market for 2023 will be held on 16th December.

112

Street market break in January

It was proposed that due to the poor weather expected in the month of January and the cancellation of many of the markets in January 2023, to have a temporary break in the street markets in the month of January, with the market re-opening the first Saturday of February 2024. All members were in favour of the proposal.

112.1

RESOLVED to have a temporary break in the street markets in the month of January 2024. The market to re-open beginning of February 2024

113

Weekly Street Market Fees

It was further proposed to increase the fees of the weekly street markets from 1st April 2024, to:

- i) £20.00 for a pitch and Town Council gazebo
- ii) £10.00 for a pitch only (with the trader providing their own gazebo)

All members were in favour of the proposal

113.1

RESOLVED to increase the weekly fees to £20.00 for a pitch and Council gazebo, and £10.00 for a pitch only

- 114 **Hailsham Forward**
- M. Caira advised Hailsham Forward had met with the Chamber of Commerce and Wealden District Council regarding the Local Plan, Health and Well Being Hub and Sports Hub. They are looking at a holistic approach with the development, rather than individual parts of the development.
- M. Caira further stated that the Chamber of Commerce have recently managed to secure further support for the Hailsham BID.
- 115 **Christmas Light Switch On 2023**
- K. Butcher advised that the feedback from the traders at the event had been very good.
- Members agreed that the plan to expand the switch on event had worked successfully. It was agreed to look at certain aspects of the layout for next year’s event, for example in the positioning of the food stall.
- D. Chapman advised he had received a complaint that the road had not been closed. It was agreed to look into further safety issues for the event, possibly placing further barriers in the busy areas of the event and getting an outside company involved such as the 4 x 4 vehicles used for the Remembrance Sunday event.
- Hailsham FM also advised they could make announcements throughout the evening reminding members of the public that the road is not closed and for individuals to take care by the roadside.
- M. Caira advised he would contact Wealden Council to ask if stalls can be moved under the canopies to allow more space on Vicarage Field, allowing more room for the public to congregate.
- 116 **Christmas Market 2023**
- K. Butcher advised the slow cooked pork stall is booked for the Christmas market and the market is now fully booked with traders.
- 117 **Community Forum**
- Members noted the next community forum meeting is in January with the “What Can I Join” event being held on Saturday 27th January at Hailsham Parish Church.
- Regular groups at the Community Forum can have a free stall at the weekly markets.
- 118 **Bonfire Society**
- Members noted the recent event had been well attended and a success.
- The area where the fireworks are set off had been moved which had created less debris after the event.
- Members noted that the Town Council has given the Bonfire Society permission to hold their October 2024 event again on Western Road Recreation Ground.

- 119 **Lions**
- G. Constable reported that the Lions have some new members and have received some extra donations recently
- The Tea Party held recently for 50 people had gone well.
- 120 **Hailsham Festival**
- T. Biggin advised that the planning for Hailsham Festival begins again in January
- The event in 2024 will be held between 7th – 22nd September
- A production of “String” will be held at the Grove Theatre on 1st and 2nd March and tickets are available to book now
- 121 **Hailsham Farmers’ Market**
- B. Pratt advised he is currently organising the anniversary cake which will be cut by the Mayor.
- The Farmers’ Market will still trade in January but the traders pay half price for a stall.
- B. Pratt advised he still has not managed to locate anyone to take dismantle the Farmers’ market stalls. G. Constable suggested he could approach the YMCA to see if they have anyone that could assist here.
- 122 **Hailsham FM**
- N. Mullery reported that the last month had been very busy. The Remembrance Sunday service was broadcast live and they hope to also broadcast live at the Christmas Market.
- 123 **Hailsham Parish Church**
- D. Sinden stated that the Church had been very busy after Bonfire night, serving hot chocolate and cake between the processions.
- The Church had also been very busy with visitors after the Remembrance Sunday event.
- A steady flow of people had visited the Church on the night of the switch on, with around 200 people attending in total.
- The recent Women’s Gingerbread House evening had also been well attended.
- Members were reminded that Wealden Brass are holding a free concert in the Church at 2.30 pm on the day of the Christmas market
- There are several Christmas services being held in the Church, with 3 Christingle services on Christmas Eve.

124

Remembrance Sunday

The feedback on the event had been good.

C. Bryant advised he would be asking for volunteers to erect the large poppies on the street lights for next year's event. He stated he would speak to the Bonfire Society to see if there are any volunteers as well as approaching Councillors at the next Full Council meeting.

Member requested that the event could be started with a Maroon.

125

10 K Run

The event is now being advertised and volunteers are being requested to assist with the event.

126

Stand Proud Event

There was no further update

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.00 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 8th January 2024 Global/Minutes & Agendas/Communities