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 5th June 2023 at 6.00 pm.

Election of Committee Chair

Councillor A. Ricketts nominated Councillor A. Clarke as Chair

Seconded by Councillor K. Blundell

Councillor A. Clarke was elected as Chair of the Committee

2 **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)

K. Giddings read out a letter from a resident, concerned about a "naked walk" which was planned in June, in the local area.

It was agreed this could be placed on the next agenda and discussed at the next Communities Committee meeting

N.B. It was later agreed this item would be placed on the June Assets Committee agenda for discussion, instead of the Communities Committee agenda

Councillor S. Murphy addressed the Committee regarding the plans for a 999 Day event in 2024, and requested this is held on Western Road Recreation Ground. Members noted the event would need to be held on a Sunday, as the Cricket Club have league matches through the summer on a Saturday. Councillor Murphy's proposed date for 2024 had already been booked for the Bonfire Fun Day event on Western Road Recreation Ground and it was therefore agreed to place this item on the next Communities Committee agenda for discussion, and to set a date for the event.

3 Election of Committee Vice Chair

Councillor A. Clarke nominated Councillor A. Ricketts

Seconded by Councillor K. Blundell

Councillor A. Ricketts was elected as Vice Chair

4 <u>Committee members present</u>

Councillors: A. Clarke, F. Clarke, K. Blundell, C. Bryant, N. Hayes, A. Ricketts

Other members present

D. Chapman (Hailsham Bonfire), B. Pratt (Hailsham Farmers' Market), T. Biggin (Hailsham Festival), T. Tozer (Town Cryer), D. Sinden (Hailsham Parish Church), G. Constable (Hailsham Lions)

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

Other Councillors in attendance: Councillor S. Murphy

5 Apologies For Absence:

Councillor K. Nicholls

6 **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

7 <u>Confirmation of Minutes</u>

To resolve that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Communities Committee held on Monday 3rd April 2023 (Ref 22/7/102-120), as printed and circulated, may be taken as read, and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Communities Committee on 3rd April 2023

There was no update

9 Street Market

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M. Caira advised that the market has recently secured two new regular traders – a bakery from Brighton and a trader selling cut flowers. He further advised that trade is increasing and enquires are still coming in, with Wealden Council now slightly relaxing the rules on which traders are allowed to attend the market.

Members were advised that Wealden Council are still strict on food stalls and K. Butcher is liaising with Wealden Council in relation to this.

It was agreed that J. Martin from Wealden Council could be invited to a future meeting to discuss Wealden Council's rules and policies in allowing traders at the market and also Councillor N. Cleaver from Wealden Council, to discuss the fees that are charged for events.

10 **Hailsham Forward**

M. Caira advised that Hailsham Forward are still supporting the Hailsham BID and Eastwell Bridge Project and Hailsham Forward have secured the support from Hailsham Town Council and Hellingly Council regarding infrastructure.

A new project is underway called "Disc", which has been created to help local businesses share information on anti social behaviour and shoplifting.

11 Christmas Light Switch on 2023

K. Butcher advised she has already spoken to some traders who have confirmed they are interested in trading at the switch on. Wealden Council will need to be contacted to obtain permission to trade on this day.

12 Christmas Market 2023

The Christmas market will be held on Saturday 9th December 2023

Members noted a Christmas Sub Committee meeting will be held on 6th June to discuss details of the organisation of the Christmas market.

It was suggested that traders could now be charged a fee for attending the Christmas market and switch on event - £10 for a pitch only (3 x 3 metres) and £20 for the pitch (3 x 3 metres) plus the Town Council street market gazebo

It was agreed this item will be put on the agenda and discussed at the next Communities meeting in July

13 **Community Forum**

K. Butcher advised that the Forum are looking for ways to involve more groups.

A further "What Can I Join" event may be held in the summer.

14 **Bonfire Society**

The Bonfire event will be held on Saturday 21st October 2023

Torches are already being made and the Society are currently concentrating on fundraising and sponsorship

Members noted the next Bonfire Fun Day event on Western Road Recreation Ground will be held on Sunday 30th June 2024

15 Lions

G. Constable advised that the candy floss stall is still very popular and the Lions recently organised a jigsaw stall at the street market, which was a success.

Councillor P. Holbrook arrived at the meeting at 6.25 pm

M. Caira reminded members that any of the Community Groups can attend the street markets with a stall

16 **Hailsham Festival**

T. Biggin reported that the Festival website is now live and the Festival has at least 32 events currently planned

Tickets are now available to purchase, although a number of the events are free

A performance of Laurel and Hardy is planned plus a re-telling of "1984" and a burlesque evening

T. Biggin advised that the target for Eastwell Place Bridge funding has not been achieved at the moment. They are inviting artists of all ages and abilities to submit artwork to be placed on the bridge. Panels are on the inside of the bridge, not on the outside

"String" will return on the 1st and 2nd March 2024, in Eastbourne

17 <u>Hailsham Farmers' Market</u>

B. Pratt stated that the next Farmers' Market may be a little thin on traders as many of them are booked to be at the South of England Show

This December is the Farmers' Markets 25th Anniversary

18 <u>Hailsham FM</u>

N. Mullery stated that Hailsham FM is being booked for many events at the moment

19 <u>Hailsham Parish Church</u>

D. Sinden advised that Rory Graham has been licenced and is now the Vicar of Hailsham Parish Church

The Church is open between midday and 2 pm every Wednesday through the summer and has received many visitors recently. A Gentlemen's Breakfast is also being organised shortly

20 Remembrance Sunday

The Remembrance Sunday Sub Committee meetings have begun and the letter to go to all the local groups and associations, inviting them to the Remembrance Day event, will be finalised at the next meeting in July.

21 **10 K Run**

K. Giddings read an email from Councillor M. Laxton, updating members on the feedback for the recent event. She reported the event had been a huge success

The next run is already being planned again for May 2024

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.50 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 3rd July 2023

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