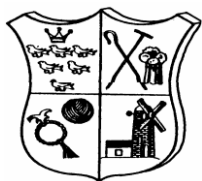


# HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE



CC/23/3/44

REPORT (Minutes) of the Communities Committee relating to the organisation of festivities and events held at the James West Centre, Brunel Drive, Hailsham, on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2024 at 6.00 pm.

## **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)

B. Jenner, P. Woodley and R. Moreton attended the meeting, from Hailsham Street Market.

They addressed the Committee, stating there had been a lack of consultation regarding the reduction of street markets to two markets a month. B. Jenner requested to have representation from the traders on the Working Group, when it is formed.

K. Butcher advised she had only emailed the traders that had traded that year, asking them how they were finding the market. She advised she was not looking to reduce the market at that time, but just investigating how traders were finding the market.

The traders also requested further advertising for the markets on social media and a programme of events.

The issue of driving onto Vicarage Field was raised. K. Butcher advised that this was not allowed by Wealden Council as it was a danger to pedestrians and there was not enough staff present at the markets to manage vehicles safely onto Vicarage Field.

K. Giddings advised that vehicles may be allowed to drive onto Vicarage Field for bigger events as there is more staff available to ensure this is done safely.

It was agreed for the Council and traders to try and work together and for the traders to have an input in the Working Group, when it is formed.

45

## **Committee members present**

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

## **Other members present**

T. Biggins (Hailsham Festival), B. Pratt (Hailsham Farmers' Market),  
Officers in attendance: K. Giddings, K. Butcher

46

## **Apologies For Absence:**

Councillor A. Ricketts

G. Constable (Hailsham Lions), N. Mullery (Hailsham FM), D. Sinden (Hailsham Parish Church)

47

## **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.

48 **Confirmation of Minutes**

To resolve that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Communities Committee held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024 (Ref 23/2/22-43) printed and circulated, may be taken as read, and confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

49 **To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Communities Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024**

There was no further update

50 **Street Markets**

G. White read the following email from A. Ricketts:

*“Firstly I would like to acknowledge all the hard work both Kaylee and Karen have put into trying to improve our Saturday markets , Kaylee in particular has done a lot of research into improving footfall and attracting more traders.*

*The proposal to reduce the markets to two a month was discussed at length at full council meeting in May and the motion carried to do this and then review in 6 months to see if this was successful. It is now only August ( just ) and as such I don’t feel we have given sufficient time to see if this will be beneficial and it is too soon to take back to full council.*

*Unfortunately some markets were cancelled due to poor weather conditions and the council having to move premises therefore very few markets have been given the chance to see if two a month will work beneficially.*

*Council staff are not contracted to work weekends but have been doing so , by altering the market to twice monthly this will improve their work/ home balance, an important consideration. The alternative would be to employ someone to erect the gazebo’s and as the market does not generate enough income this is not in my opinion a possibility.*

*Myself, Alexa Clarke, Kaylee Butcher and Karen Giddings met with a representative from Wealden Council as they will not allow certain traders selling goods which in their opinion detract from local businesses. Wealden have given us some leeway which we hope will improve the amount of traders but this needs to be tried, it’s very early days. We have had response from buskers which may hopefully attract people to the market area, again we need to try this.*

*So in conclusion my feelings are that we need to carry on with twice monthly markets to see if we can improve on numbers of traders.*

*Many of you trade at different markets perhaps you could help by encouraging them to try our Saturday markets ?*

*I intend to visit other markets to see if I can encourage traders to give us a try.*

**Anne Marie Ricketts**  
**Vice Chair of communities committee**  
**Vice Chair of HTC”**

In response to some of the traders’ queries, B. Pratt advised that he does advertise on social media. He also advised that the Farmers’ Market cannot go on Vicarage Field as Wealden Council would not allow their food stalls to trade there.

Members discussed the Working Group which will be formed to review the twice monthly markets and it was agreed to form the Working Group in October.

It was agreed to keep the markets to twice a month for the time being and review later in the year.

50.1 **RESOLVED** that:

- i) The street markets to remain at two markets a month, on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of the month, for the current time
- ii) A Working Group will be formed in October, to review the street markets

51 **Youth Service**

Members noted that the Youth Service events and programmes are now under the remit of the Communities Committee and this item would be on the agenda for an update at the meetings.

K. Giddings advised that the Youth Service have planned open days in September, which will be advertised in due course, and they will be sending a formal invitation to the Council shortly. Members also noted a table of events for the Youth Service.

Members also noted a project called The Amber Mark Project, which one of the staff members of the Youth Service is running, with funding from East Sussex Violent Crime Duty.

52 **Street Art**

D. Chapman, T. Biggin and K. Blundell Smith stated they would work on this project together along with Councillor S. Murphy.

53 **Hailsham Forward**

K. Butcher reported that Hailsham Forward are looking at possibly re-branding or re-launching Hailsham Forward.

They are also involved in the discussions regarding the Health and Well Being Hub.

K. Blundell-Smith left the meeting at 7.00 pm

54 **Hailsham Festival**

T. Biggin advised that the brochures are almost ready. They will also be showing the film "Lee" at Hailsham Pavilion. This is a special preview.

Hailsham Festival will be organising a light show to music, in St Mary's Walk.

T. Biggin left the meeting at 7.05 pm

55 **VE Day Event 2025**

K. Butcher reported she has booked a 1940's singer for the event and is speaking to a dance academy that may be involved on the day.

The local cafes will be approached to see if they are interested in getting involved in the event.

56 **Stand Proud Event**

There was no further update

57 **Christmas Light Switch On 2024**

K. Giddings stated that the Community College has confirmed the pupils will be attending the

switch on event, singing carols.

7 market traders are booked in for the event so far.

58 **Christmas Market**

K. Butcher confirmed Vadar's radars are attending the event and the Lions may be able to provide roasted chestnuts at the event.

59 **Community Forum**

There was no further update

60 **Bonfire Society**

D. Chapman reported the torches are almost ready for the Bonfire event in October.

Members discussed the Flaming Fun Day event for 2025, and it was agreed to book this at Western Road Recreation Ground on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June.

61 **Hailsham Lions**

There was no further update.

62 **Hailsham Farmers' Market**

B. Pratt advised that Hailsham FM will be broadcasting live from the Market. He further advised he is speaking with the Post Office Manager to see about advertising in the Post Office.

63 **Hailsham FM**

There was no further update.

64 **Hailsham Parish Church**

There was no further update.

65 **Remembrance Sunday**

Members noted the Committee are looking for a Piper for the event as the 1066 Marching Band are no longer available.

66 **Stand Proud Event**

K. Giddings advised that subject to Council support, the event will be held on Saturday 28th June 2025 at The White Hart Pub, Lower Horsebridge.

She advised that M. Laxton will work with T. Hall, the Town Council's Communications Officer, on communication and advertising providing Council has approved the budget.

Members noted M. Laxton's thanks to S. Harper, the Town Council's Finance Assistant, for processing invoices for both events in a very efficient manner.

67 **Hailsham Run**

K. Giddings reported that next year's Hailsham Community Run will be on May 18th 2025

The Run will go live for registration on 1st September 2024. A road closure will be in place 9.am -12.30 pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.10 pm

The next meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024  
Global/Minutes & Agendas/Communities