



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Events Committee held in the Council Chamber at Arms Everytne House on Tuesday 24 January 2016 at 6.30 pm

Present:

Councillors: K Nisbet (Chair), A Cartie (Vice-Chair), A Gibbs-Barton, M Parker, R Parker, J R Potts, L Rickerby, A Turnbull

Also Present:

Officers:

J Hughes Town Clerk
M Wilkinson Deputy Town Clerk
A McCabe Office Manager

Invited Guests: 4

Members of the Public: 0

1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Councillors: C Bruce. M Hawthorne, Committee Clerk.
2	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS & THE GRANT OF ANY DISPENSATIONS None
3	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 13 DECEMBER 2016 Committee agreed to ADOPT the minutes.

3.1	MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES None.
4	FEEDBACK FROM A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EVENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 16 JANUARY 2017 Committee noted the report circulated by the Town Clerk.
5	CHRISTMAS LIGHTS Steve Bucknall and Gavin Barlow attended a meeting with officers from the Council to address the issues. It has been agreed that the Officer Manager and ES Officer will meet with Mark Kane. The lights will be catalogued and numbered to avoid the problems that occurred this year. A working group, including Council Officers, will meet fortnightly leading up to the 2017 event. The Chair commented that the tree is still in the market place and the lights have not been removed. Mr Bucknall will look into this. He will also pick up the issue raised by Councillor J R Potts regarding lighting columns not working as part of the street lighting programme and will send an update on the modernisation programme. Councillor R Potts asked if a motif could be put on the building on the end of Waterloo Road. It was noted that permission from the building owner would have to be sought. Mr Bucknall said he is also looking to see which of the old motifs can be refurbished and re-used to help spread the display further. The original idea was to take the lighting off the trees in the market place but on reflection this is not felt to be the best solution. Committee agreed that the lights should be left on the trees but slackened off. Councillor Parker moved the report to be accepted as the way forward and Councillor Gibbs-Barton seconded this. This was agreed by Committee.
6	UPDATE ON NORTHUMBERLAND LIVE Ms Jackson said she has a discussion with Brian Dawson, Blyth Citizens Exchange group about a band participating in the Northumberland Live event. When it was announced that the Undertones are playing Northumberland Live a stadium band, Crisis, made contact and asked if they could participate at no cost to us. Ms Jackson asked if the Council have funds available to send a band to Germany and if so, who would the Council like to send to represent Blyth.

	<p>Councillor Rickerby asked if there were any bands who were self-financing, however, Ms Jackson said she thought this would not be likely. This would cost in the region of £2,500. Councillor Gibbs-Barton commented that visits between Solingen and Blyth take place on alternate years and suggested that the Council send a band in 2018 to coincide with the Blyth visit to Germany.</p> <p>Agreed to discuss this further at the next Events Committee where Ms Jackson will provide costings.</p>
7	<p>BLYTH MARITIME FESTIVAL</p> <p>A presentation was delivered by Karen Walker and Clive Gray. Mr Gray explained that Blyth Development Trust are looking to collaborate with the Blyth Tall Ship to put together event using the facilities on the Quayside in June 2017. The aim is to benefit the population of south east Northumberland and generate income. It is anticipated it will cost £60,000 to deliver. It is hoped the event will attract 30,000+ visitors per day. A programme will be available by the end of January 2017. Budget includes administration, marketing and security. The Trust asked the Council to consider making a financial contribution to this event. The Chair said this request will be considered at a future Events Committee.</p> <p>Councillor J R Potts clarified that it is specifically the Quayside area which will be used for the event.</p> <p>The Chair suggested it may be helpful for the Council's Events Co-Ordinator to meet with the Development Trust.</p>
8	<p>BOAT SEATS</p> <p>The cost for the installation of the seats is £60 each and they will be in place by the spring.</p>
9	<p>BLYTH IN BLOOM GARDENING COMPETITION</p> <p>The Office Manager circulated the notes from a meeting she convened with Terry Garnick, Jimmy Reith and Bob Stephenson. All three will be judges, with the Allotments Officer being a sub-judge. It is anticipated the judging will take two days.</p> <p>The Commercial Community Groups category will cover care homes/pubs/business etc.</p> <p>A draft poster, including judging dates, and entry form was circulated for comment.</p>

	Councillor Rickerby asked that the final poster meets the requirements for visually impaired residents.
10	ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND URGENT BUSINESS The Events Co-ordinator asked Committee to consider an Easter Event in Ridley Park on Saturday 15 April 2017, with traditional family values, to include an Easter Egg Hunt, Easter Bonnet Parade and decorated egg competition, dependent upon the Friends of Ridley Park agreeing to the Council using the park. An alternative would be to hire a marquee, or using the sports centre if the weather is poor. Cost would be approximately £3,500. Councillor J R Potts commented that the market revitalisation opening is also planned for that weekend and Committee will give consideration to this. Committee asked the Events Co-ordinator to contact Neil Brown, Market Manager. Committee agreed to this.
11	DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting of the Events Committee will be held on Tuesday 21 February 2017 at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber.

MEMBERS OF THE EVENTS COMMITTEE

Councillors:

K Nisbet (Chair)
A Cartie (Vice-Chair)
C Bruce
A Gibbs-Barton
M Parker
J R Potts
L Rickerby
R Parker
A Turnbull