



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Events Committee held in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, Quay Road, Blyth NE24 2AS on Tuesday 2nd July 2013 at 6.30pm.

Present:

Councillors:

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

Also in Attendance:

R Parker (Mayor)

Officers:

Sue Noddings – Town Clerk (Corporate Services)
Liam Forsyth – Committee Clerk

Also Present :

Steve Bradley – Blyth Town Team
Michael Nicholson – National Marker Traders Federation
Mike Wade – Royal Northumberland Yacht Club
Alan Hoyle – Aspire to Achieve
Jim Fraser – Friends of Ridley Park
Alison Walton- Robson – Headway Arts
Frances Castle – Headway Arts

Members of the Public : 1

011/13/1: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies of absence were received from Councillor A Turnbull.

012/13/2: DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST AND GRANTS OF DISPENSATION.

None.

013/13/3: MINUTES FROM EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28TH MAY 2013

Councillor J R Potts enquired as to whether there are any updates regarding the Market Place and the DVD of the Summer Fair. The Events-Co-ordinator informed the Committee that he had expected feedback before today's meeting however this had not been forthcoming and is to be chased up and the result circulated to all Councillors. **Action: PT**

The Chair commented that if no progress was made, if the Town Clerk (Corporate Services) could get in contact to make sure all objectives have been met.

The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) commented that she had been informed that the Market Place Banners had been removed and provided to the Town Centre Manager, Malcolm Hutchinson. It was also outlined that the removal of the banners will and has caused problems for the arrangement of improvement and replacement. Councillor J R Potts noted that it was his belief that a decision must be made before the Summer Fair regarding the display of the banners.

The Chair enquired regarding the Renewables Event organised by BVAL. The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) informed the Committee that she had been in contact with the Port of Blyth regarding potential funding for the event. The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) noted that money cannot be paid retrospectively and that it was suggested that a bid be placed for the next event which would include a review of the Renewables Event.

Councillor J R Potts sought an update regarding the investigations into the Town Council's ability to grant 'Freedom of the Town'. The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) commented that following previous conversations with Andy Thom at the County Council that the Town Council was unable to confer this honour. Councillor J R Potts commented that it was key to know the procedure involved. **Action: LF**

It was **AGREED** that the Minutes were an accurate representation of the meeting. This was proposed by the Chair and seconded by Councillor A Gibbs-Barton.

014/13/4: MATTERS ARISING

4.1 Olympic Legacy Event

Councillor J R Potts commented that this proposal had been received late to the Community Grants Committee, it was noted that the next Committee would take place after the Event and thus the proposal is being brought to the Events Committee.

Alan Hoyle provided a presentation of his proposal. He noted the background and outlined considerations made such as the event to take place in September as the Schools were keen to promote team building initiatives early in the School Year. It was therefore outlined that the focus would be on team sports. The event is also to include a mini torch relay which will involve a sub event where the participants would make their own torch.

In order to reach as many children as possible and embrace all aspects of the Olympic legacy, performances would be encouraged and there would be a promotion of health eating and drinks. Alan also noted that the proposal was to consist of two events representing the Olympic and Paralympics. For all the events he would be seeking engagement with community and disability forums with the focus being on upholding and representing the Olympic values. It was outlined that the Olympic Event was to take place in the Blyth Market Place with the target location for the Paralympic Event would be the Briardale Community Centre.

Councillor J R Potts enquired as to the exact costing of the whole event. Alan Hoyle responded that the event was costed at £6,976.

Councillor A Gibbs-Barton asked which day the events were planned to take place on. Alan Hoyle responded that after research he had chosen Sunday as this allowed for the greatest accessibility and access to private buses for groups and participants.

Councillor L Rickerby asked whether input had been sought from the Council for Disabled Youngsters. Their potential input throughout the process it was noted that Councillor Rickerby believed could enhance the Event.

Councillor A Gibbs-Barton enquired as to whether Alan Hoyle had any other source of funding. Alan Hoyle replied that he had previously received support from the Town Council but had not received funding from elsewhere for this event. Councillor A Gibbs-Barton asked including the full pre-training what would be the cost. Alan Hoyle commented that it would be circa £8,000. Steve Bradley from the Blyth Town Team noted

that they now have charity status, and that a Meeting is scheduled to take place next Tuesday and that there may be potential for a joint big.

Councillor J R Potts noted that as the Coaching was separated that it was effectively 2 bids. The Events Co-ordinator noted that there was enough within the Events Budget for this bid.

Councillor L Rickerby enquired if the bid was planned to become an annual event. Alan Hoyle stated that this was his wish to carry out the event on a yearly basis. The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) noted that another potential tie in could be with the Royal Northumberland Yacht Club and a sailing legacy.

It was **AGREED** that this bid was to be approved and with the support of partners.

Councillor J R Potts commented that the BVAL Olympic Legacy Event was a good event and the Children seemed to have thoroughly enjoyed. Councillor L Rickerby wished to reiterate the comments of Councillor J R Potts' comments and noted that all the children supporting each other across the board had really made the day.

015/13/5: EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR UPDATE

5.1 Summer Fair 20th & 21st of July 2013

The Events Co-ordinator commented that now all acts had been booked. He noted that there was a £5,042 underspend.

The Emergency and Event plan was circulated to all Councillors. It was announced that 4 boards were to be displayed providing the running order for the associated events around the Town and that a closure had been arranged for Church Street which would allow for the extension of the Community Stalls if required.

Further updates were provided regarding poster distribution and solar signs. It was also noted that Koast Radio are to stream the event and that advertising would use social media and be present in School buses in order to reach as many people as possible.

The Events co-ordinator also outlined that the event if to be set up on Thursday night and the plan was therefore to allow the Market to set up along Market Street with the potential as mentioned to expand into Church Street. Paul announced that he was to meet with the Market Manager Pat Walsh tomorrow to further discuss the event and he noted that the Police Service had passed the plan.

Councillor C Bruce enquired as to whether any income is to be generated from the event? The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) responded that at present there are no targets for income and outlined previous issues experienced regarding the Market Traders. The Events Co-ordinator responded that although no income was to be generated from the Summer Fair that he is to seeking funding for the Halloween Event.

Councillor Rickerby enquired as to whether the circulated list of stalls was to be the only food and refreshment stalls available. The Events Co-ordinator commented that there would be refreshment providers out with those designated a stall.

5.2 Halloween and Fireworks 3rd November 2013

The Events Co-ordinator informed the Committee that the fireworks company for the event had been booked. It was also noted that the Events Co-ordinator was to meet with various forums regarding the project including the Port of Blyth and Royal Northumberland Yacht Club.

Paul Taylor also stated that he was hoping to tie in the event in with Ridley Park and the Quayside and would be seeking to involve those associated. Councillor Carol Bruce stated that she believed this to be a good idea and would be interest in further engagement.

5.3 Christmas Festival 24th November 2013

The Events Co-ordinator commented that he hoped that this event would develop further after the Summer Fair. It was suggested that potentially the events would develop into a smaller lights event with weekly events before Christmas.

Councillor J R Potts commented that he believed that this was a good idea and would allow for the changeable weather.

Councillor Carol Bruce enquired whether this is planned to have extra costings. Paul Taylor replied that it has been costed within the Budget and would involve spreading the costs rather than a large 2 day event.

Steve Bradley from Blyth Town Team informed the Committee that the Town Team are planning an Official Launch and Victorian Market around this time which could be potentially tied in to the Christmas events. Councillor K Nisbet commented that she was supportive of tie-ins and hoped that the Council and Town Team could work together on future events.

Councillor A Gibbs-Barton noted that potential event fatigue should be considered. The Events Co-ordinator commented that this would be a consideration but the plan would be to have smaller events such as Santa's Grotto and noted that he believed a link with the Town Team would help to bring people into Blyth.

016/13/6: ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND URGENT MATTERS.

6.1 St Cuthbert's Blyth – Public Festival September 2013

The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) provided an update regarding the festival associated with the Lindisfarne Gospels. It was noted that the event which is education focused will involve illuminated version of the Gospels and interactive displays. The organisers had enquired whether the Town Council would like its logo on the publicity in return for a small donation.

Councillor J R Potts commented as to the amount the organisers would be looking for. The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) stated that the figure would be circa £500.

Councillor R Parker enquired as to whether this could go to the next Community Grants Committee. Councillor L Rickerby commented that it was key to follow protocol and the event would actually take place before the next meeting of the Community Grants Committee. Councillor Kath Nisbet noted that the Summer Fair had presented an underspend and could thus be used if required by the Committee.

Councillor J R Potts proposed that the allocation from the Summer Fair. Councillor A Gibbs-Barton seconded this providing that it was viewed as a one-off. The Chair reiterated that it key to get applications in on time and that actions should be conducted to make sure that the information is clear and accessible.

Councillor A Gibbs-Barton enquired as to whether this event will be tied in with the Phoenix Theatre. The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) stated that she believed that there would be as a week of Events were planned.

6.2 Northumbria in Bloom Update

The Chair, Councillor K Nisbet provided an update to the members of the Committee regarding the progress of Northumbria in Bloom. It was noted that it was the Chairs opinion that the planting by Blyth Town Council enhanced and greatly improved upon the wider planting of Northumberland County Council. It was also outlined that issues regarding concerns which have arisen, concerning the Traders on the Market Place damaging and setting stalls against the New planting. The

Chair noted that she is to contact Jimmy Reith regarding this to ensure the planting is best displayed.

The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) asked Michael Nicholson whether the tarpaulins issued were in use by the Market Traders, Michael Nicholson commented that he wasn't sure of the exact numbers but that he had noticed some were using them.

Councillor C Bruce commented that she had seen bikes placed on the newly presented plant displays. Cllr K Nisbet noted that there was a need for all involved to be proactive and enforce the regulations related to the Market Place.

The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) commented that the judging was arranged for the 23rd July 2013. Cllr K Nisbet also stated that she hoped to re-launch Blyth in Bloom following its previous success.

Councillor J R Potts enquired regarding the tour process and the scale and requirement criteria for Northumbria in Bloom. The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) outlined that a preliminary visit had taken place and that the plan was to revisit those sites following on from advice received from Northumbria in Bloom. It was noted that Jimmy Reith has been heavily involved in working with the Council and supporting on the Town Council's Planting Day Event. A portfolio is also being created by the Administration Clerk with plans for ongoing developments at the Community Hospital, the Briardale and Athlone Court. **Action: AMcC**

The Chair wished to thank all of those involved in the Community Planting day including the support received from the local community including representatives from Riverside Resource Centre, the Community Support Officers, Traffic Wardens, Silx, the Briardale Centre, the support from Jimmy Reith and others from the County Council Support Team.

Councillor R Parker discussed Lamppost Style Columns and raised the example of Hexham. The example from Hexham outline their provision which carried the street name but also could be used to display the Union Flag and other flags. The Mayor noted that he was hoping to tie this proposal in with the Events Committee and was interested in potential for the hanging of Banners across prominent roads in Blyth. It was noted that Cllr Parker was seeking ideas and support from the Events Committee.

Councillor A Gibbs-Barton commented that he liked the idea of sconces for other purposes than the current Christmas arrangement however not that there may be issues with provision on privately owned buildings.

Councillor Parker noted it was his intention and hope to make a plan to present to traders throughout the Blyth Town area. Alison Walton-Robson from Headway Arts commented that an avenue that could be explored would be to get local people involved in the banner making process. Councillor L Rickerby commented that this could be tied in to the non sporting legacy of the Olympic Events by incorporating local schools in the Banner making and potential for a competition was also discussed.

The Chair commented that she supported the Headway tie in and Councillor A Gibbs-Barton mentioned that potential could be found with the winner of a banner completion.

It was **AGREED** that this would be taken forward.

017/13/6 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next Meeting of the Events Committee is to be held on Tuesday 23rd July 2013.

MEETING CLOSED AT 7.55pm

Confirmed as a true record

And signed by the Chair

Date.....