

SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Community and Environment Committee held at 7.00pm on Wednesday, 9 October 2019 at the Sandbach Literary Institution, Hightown.

PRESENT Councillors: D Jack (Vice Chair, in the Chair)
M Muldoon (Town Mayor)
R Hoffmann
M Lea
S Broad
L Crane

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors: K Flavell
G Merry
G Price Jones

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There being no members of the public in attendance, the Vice Chairman did not adjourn the meeting for questions.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held 13 June 2019 are approved as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1 Events Sub Committee – Christmas Lights

Lead: Cllr Jack

Resolved: that:

- i. Spend of up to £1850, the balance of budget line 110/4508 from Council resolution of 15.8.19, is approved for the delivery of the Christmas Light Switch on Event, including package provided by Silk 106.9.
- ii. Delivery of the event to be delegated to the Town Clerk.

4.2 Events Sub Committee – Christmas Carol Concert – 20 December

Lead: Cllr Crane

Having received an initial request from a local band seeking Council's support of their plans for a festive brass band concert on the Cobbles, unfortunately, Members were advised that the band and original event organiser were no longer available to attend. As such several Members had made numerous enquiries to seek alternative local bands and groups to join a similar community event though, to date, due to the time of year and busy pre-booked schedules, none had been able to assist.

Members confirmed that they would not yet give up on the idea of a festive community brass band concert on the Cobbles and that they would continue to make enquiries.

Resolved: The search for bands continues and, in due course, as necessary, should plans be able to proceed Members will formally seek Council support and relevant funding.

5. SUMMER EVENTS UPDATE

Lead Vice Chair

The report on Council's busy schedule of popular summer events was received and reviewed, with members extending their congratulations to all involved for the event successes and budgeting achievements.

Resolved: the report is received.

6. TOWN RANGER

Deferred to next meeting.

7. HANGING BASKETS

Lead: Assistant Town Clerk

It was reported that a swift audit of hanging baskets had been completed, just ahead of their efficient end of season removal. On review of ANSA's quote for 2020/21 provision of baskets further information on potential cost-saving alternatives was briefly discussed.

Resolved: that:-

- i. Cllr Jack provide like-for-like quotes to future meeting.
- ii. ANSA costing of £7986 + vat for Hanging Baskets (Incl. Watering) for 2020/2021 is noted.

8. WW2 – VE DAY

Lead: Cllr Jack

Resolved: that this Committee supports the event in principle and gives permission for the Event's Sub-Committee to continue gathering information in order to submit a full report, including costs and responsibilities of the Council, to the next Community and Environment meeting.

9. YOUTH ENGAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

Lead: Cllr Crane

It was reported that, due to school summer holidays, the first meeting had not yet taken place but was scheduled for later in the month. All Secondary schools in the Town were invited to attend, with responses awaited.

A full report following the first meeting will be provided for the next Community and Environment Committee Meeting.

10. COUNCIL WEBSITE

With the Council's new website up and running, the Assistant Town Clerk reported that feedback received, both directly to the Admin team and via social media, is very gratefully received to enable the team to make necessary corrections and changes. Most responses to date had been very positive, particularly surrounding ease of use and vibrancy of the site. Updates continue to be made by staff and pages will be reviewed to keep the information up to date and relevant.

11. WHEELIE BIN STICKERS – SPEED AWARENESS

Lead: Assistant Town Clerk

Following Council resolution in April 2019 there had not been any uptake in requests for wheelie bin speed restriction stickers. The Committee discussed the initiative and, whilst speed awareness is agreed to be key throughout the town, members were concerned that siting of the bins may result in pedestrian and vehicle highways implications.

Resolved: Cllr Crane to support Operational Staff in producing an advisory leaflet to accompany the stickers.

12. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Town Ranger

Hanging Baskets

WW2 - VE Day

Youth Engagement Working Group

Tidy Town Sub-Committee

13. DATE/TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held Thursday, 21 November 2019 at 7pm in the Sandbach Literary Institution.

Meeting closed 7.29pm

Cllr D Jack, Vice Chair, in the Chair.

KP.