



SANDBACH
Town Council

COMMUNITY & EVENTS COMMITTEE

Minutes for the meeting held on Wednesday, 24th April 2024.
Held at 7.00pm in Sandbach Town Hall, Ballroom.

Present Councillors: J Beddows, A Nevitt, G Price Jones, S Broad,
M Hough, J Arnold.

Also present was the Council's Chief Officer, C Lloyd and one member of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies received.

Absent without apologies: Councillors N Cook, D Hegarty, L MacGregor.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Nevitt, Broad and Beddows declared non-pecuniary interest in item 6, as members of the D-Day Working Group and Cllr Price-Jones advised that he has an interest in item 6 as a relative of RBL Member.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The Chair adjourned the meeting to allow questions relating to items on this Agenda from members of the public. There being no questions, the meeting was immediately reconvened.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Resolved: Minutes of the meeting held 1st November 2023 were approved as a true record.

4. COMMUNITY & EVENTS COMMITTEE 2023-24 BUDGET

Resolved: Actuals against budget position, to end of February 2024, for the Community & Events Committee were noted.

5. **YOUNG PEOPLE CONSULTATION FOR PROVISION IN SANDBACH**

The Chief Officer provided a working progress update on the consultation, undertaken in partnership between STC and CEC Youth Services, and expressed her thanks to the CEC Officer and her team. The consultation survey, seeking views on in and outdoor Youth provision, has now closed and had been available online. Detached youth work, including in-person house visits, had also been undertaken in some areas.

Of the ninety-nine responses received, eighty-seven were in favour of the youth club, which Council has previously resolved to provide.

Further consultation responses will be collated and results shared in due course and adverts for the Youth Club staff will be advertised over coming weeks.

6. **D DAY WORKING GROUP**

The Working Group Lead provided a verbal update on the progress of the event, which is now all organised. The group meets every three weeks and is supported by many local representatives and organisations for the preparation of what promises to be a special day; concluding with the lighting of the beacon on St Mary's Church roof.

7. **STC EVENTS PROGRAMME UPDATE**

Having received the circulated copy of the Town Council's 2024/25 Events update, the Chief Officer requested Members note the revised Party in the Park date and commended the new plans for Christmas Lights switch on, which were all arranged within budget. STC hosts events to an excellent standard and, in line with recommendation of neighbouring Council, due to size of event, the 2024 Christmas Market will require security and ambulance on-site support. This is included within the Event Plan and within budget.

Thanks were expressed to Council for supporting very successful Transport Festival, which received great reviews. As a joint venture, everyone involved should be very pleased with what was a very, very, busy weekend for the Town. It was confirmed that Tree of Light will be held on Thursday 5th December 2024.

8. **FESTIVAL OF LIGHT 2025**

To proceed with a 2025 event, in addition to all diarised activities of Council Staff and Volunteers, the necessity of presenting event design, full costing and timetable to Council's June meeting, for all Members to consider, was agreed.

Members also discussed the importance of sharing event information with local shops/venues and reference was made to the lack of local bus provision for any Sunday events due to be held, which can limit event accessibility for some residents living outside of the Town Centre.

Resolved: A Festival of Light task and finish group be formed, with all Members invited, to agree route for preparation of 2025 Event design, costing and timetable, with recommendation to June Council for review/approval.

First meeting Monday, 13th May 2024, 7pm in the Boardroom.

9. CONNECTED COMMUNITIES UPDATE

An update on the two most recent Connected Communities meetings was received, with details of various initiatives hosted for residents, including assistance with phone/IT support, warm hub venues and scam avoidance. Sandbach Hub is due to take place 1st May, with many groups attending to provide support and information and a bereavement group meets in the Literary Institution on Friday's. The Food Partnership continues to go from strength to strength and, since commencement, an astonishing eleven tonnes of food has been saved from landfill and used to support many groups and local individuals. Everybody Health and Leisure, in association with CEC/ANSA, has a Green Spaces for Wellbeing scheme running locally, mainly in the Crewe area, with various classes and activities available.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None received.

11. ITEMS FOR PUBLICITY

The Town Crier competition, during the Day of Dance (Saturday, 1st June).

12. DATE/TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed at AGM.

Meeting closed 7.40pm

Cllr J Beddows (Chair)

KP.