



Yeovil Town Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Promotions and Activities Committee of Yeovil Town Council held on Tuesday 16 January 2018 at 7.00pm in the Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil BA20 1PQ

Present: Cllrs J Conway, P Lock, S Lowery, E Potts-Jones, F Purbrick, W Read, D Recardo, and M Roper.

Also Present: T Lock (East Ward Member).

In Attendance: H Ferdinand (Deputy Town Clerk).

There were 3 members of the public, and no members of the press present.

Before the meeting started, the Chair of the Promotions & Activities Committee (Cllr David Recardo) presented a Cup to the Keynes Family for coming first in the Christmas Lights Competition. They also received a trophy, and a voucher for Christmas lights donated by the Brimsmore Gardening Group.

At 7.10pm the 3 members of the public left the meeting and did not return, and the meeting commenced.

9/161. Apologies for Absence and to Consider the Reasons Given

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Smith (conflicting engagement).

Resolved: To accept the apologies with the reasons given.

9/162. Declarations of Interest

Members declare Interests that accord with the Council's adopted Code of Conduct. This does not preclude any later declarations.

There were no declarations of interests at this time.

9/163. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Committee approved as a correct record the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 November 2017.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Promotions and Activities Committee held on 14 November 2017 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

9/164. Jurassic Coast Trust – Artist Commissioned for Milford Hall

Cllr Recardo informed the Committee that Darrell Wakeman had been commissioned by the Jurassic Coast Trust to hold a workshop in Yeovil to celebrate the arrival of Dippy at the Dorchester Museum. He requested suggestions from Members for a creature/scene that could be made at the workshop which the Town Council/community could display. The suggestion of a pterodactyl was considered a good idea as it could be hung from the ceiling in the Town House or elsewhere afterwards.

Resolved: that the workshop should be promoted and suggestions from children encouraged by advertising the event on the Town Council website and Facebook page, and to liaise with the Jurassic Coast Trust to do a joint press release, and to investigate if the event could be filmed by Horizon 51.

9/165. Yeovil in Bloom Minutes

The Committee considered the minutes of the Yeovil in Bloom Steering Group meeting held on 4 December 2017.

Resolved: to note the minutes of the Yeovil in Bloom Steering Group.

9/166. Christmas Lights Competition

Those Members that had been involved with the judging informed the Committee that it had all worked well, and also with the representatives of the other Parish Councils. The only point made was that the winner of the Yeovil competition had also won the Yeovil Without Parish competition, which prompted a discussion about the competition later in 2018 and what plans the other Parish Councils have. It was also recognised that there were only a few entrants from within the Yeovil Town boundary, despite there being many other displays, so the public need to be encouraged to participate.

Resolved:

- (1) to note the report;
- (2) to write to the surrounding Parish Councils and ask what plans for a Christmas lights competition they have for this coming year, and whether they would like to join Yeovil

Town Council and have joint awards, and to report back the responses to the next Promotions and Activities Committee; and,
(3) to report to the next Promotions and Activities Committee recommendations on how to encourage entrants to the competition.

9/167. Christmas Lights Review

All Members agreed that the Christmas lights had been excellent, and agreed that the Christmas tree looked much better with the branches going down to ground level. They also commented that the lights switch-on event had been very good and noted that it was very well attended. Members particularly thought that the children's competition to design a Christmas light was fabulous, and that this must be done again this coming year. The only slight disappointment had been the time it had taken to get all the lights switched on which had been a result of the timers being old and unreliable, and Members felt this issue should be addressed for the coming year's event.

Members then had a detailed discussion about the children's Christmas light design competition and how to encourage more entrants. Suggestions included having different age categories so there would be several winners, sponsorship, and printing Christmas cards. A suggestion was made that the Town Council could work with YMCA Mendip to produce some Christmas cards.

Resolved:

- (1) to note the report;
- (2) to look at ways the lights could be switched on faster at the Christmas lights switch-on event;
- (3) to note the decision that had been taken under Standing Order 51 to have the lights switched on all the time;
- (4) to investigate having new timers for the Christmas lights for the coming year, and to report back to the next Promotions & Activities Committee; and,
- (5) to consider further the eligibility of entrants, and sponsorship, of the Christmas light design competition, and report back to the next Promotions & Activities Committee.

9/168. Customised Souvenirs

Members had many ideas for souvenirs. It was agreed that those chosen should be made with recycled materials, and it was noted that there is a website which offers items such as these.

Resolved: that Members of the Committee pass their ideas to the Deputy Town Clerk (SF) with costings, and a report is brought back to the next Promotions & Activities Committee.

9/169. South West in Bloom Presentations

The Chair, Cllr David Recardo, provided a spread sheet of his draft costings for the South West in Bloom Presentations event on 4 October 2018 providing an approximate figure for the amount that would be raised through the sale of tickets, and the expected expenses. Whilst his draft figures currently show a deficit, Cllr Recardo emphasised that the aim was to hold the event at zero cost to the Town Council, but nevertheless was keen not to 'penny-pinch' as the event would be promoting Yeovil. The final costings will be verified by the Town Clerk.

Cllr Recardo confirmed that he would be working with the Yeovil in Bloom officer to provide information about where to stay and what to see in the area well in advance of the event. A suggestion was made that large attractions in the area should be asked to provide literature for the delegates' pack with discount vouchers, and in return might sponsor the event which would assist in covering costs.

Resolved: to note the draft costings provided for the South West in Bloom Presentations event.

9/170. Financial Statement – October/November 2017.

The Committee considered the Financial Statement for the period 1 October to 30 November 2017.

Resolved: that the Financial Statement for the period 1 October to 30 November 2017 be noted.

Public Comment. There were no members of the public present.

9/171. Exclusion of Press and Public.

Resolved: to exclude the press and public from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 on the grounds that publicity of agenda items 9/159 and 9/160 would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s3

9/172. Centenary of the end of the First World War (Confidential)

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Town Clerk (HF) regarding the centenary of the end of the First World War.

Resolved: that the report be noted; and agreed actions be taken.

9/173. Yeovil Town Guide (Confidential)

The Committee considered the quotations and terms provided by three companies regarding the production of the new Yeovil Town Guide.

Resolved:

- (1) to note the report;
- (2) to form an editorial panel consisting of Cllrs D Recardo and F Purbrick, and an officer from the Town Council; and
- (3) to commission Simon Barber to produce the new Town Guide.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed: (Chairman)

Date: