

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE **EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE** HELD ON **WEDNESDAY 9th APRIL 2025** AT 7.00 P.M. AT NEWTON'S PLACE, 43 WOLBOROUGH STREET, NEWTON ABBOT.

PRESENT Councillors M Ryan (Chairperson) Presiding

Councillors J Bradford M Joyce
R Buscombe C Parker
C Davieson P Parker
A Hall

In attendance: Natalie Hicks - Events Co-ordinator
Linda McGuirk - Principal Administrator
Pierre Doutreligne – Projects & Strategy Officer
Nigel Canham - Communications Advisor

Also present: One Representative of Newton Abbot Rotary

E23. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors L Cooke and L Wood. Vice Chairperson, Councillor A Ineson did not attend.

E24. INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED

None.

E25. MINUTES

The minutes of the Events Sub-Committee meeting held on the 29th January 2025 were received and signed as a correct record.

E26. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

E27. FROM NEWTON ABBOT ROTARY

The Chairperson, Councillor M Ryan welcomed the representative of Newton Abbot Rotary to the meeting and invited them to give an update regarding the Saturday Party in the Park event. Members were informed that planning for the event was progressing well, with a focus on engaging youth and families. Entertainment and activities will include:

- Community stalls
- Entertainment from the Rock Choir, who are opening the event
- Inflatables
- A dog show
- A mural artist delivering interactive workshops
- Performances by Taiko drummers and local youth bands
- Face painting and circus skills workshops

Chair initials.....

The Mayor was praised for his positive involvement in the 2024 event. It was also noted that the Rotary National Apprentice Youth Challenge had secured ten entries from the area, with two teams reaching the top four nationally. The winning team would be present at the event.

Councillors congratulated the Rotary team on their work to date with members acknowledging the growing success of the event.

It was agreed the Town Council would lend chairs and the gala tent for the event, if required. Members noted £1,000 financial support was earmarked in reserves to support the Rotary event.

E28. BAND CONCERTS 2025

Members received an update on the programme of Band Concerts scheduled for 2025. It was noted that sponsorship would be sought to cover any potential shortfalls, and the Events Sub-Committee may be required to cover costs where sponsorship was not secured.

The Sub-Committee was advised that no ice cream vendor had yet been confirmed for the concerts. A public appeal would be issued via social media to invite interest.

Councillor P Parker informed the Sub-Committee that his business, a local storage company, would be happy to sponsor the final band concert.

Members noted the current list of Band Concerts, as circulated prior to the meeting.

E29. EVENTS UPDATE

The Events Co-ordinator provided an update on upcoming events:

- Old Time Sailors – 14th April: A sell-out event.
- Easter Event – 19th April: Scheduled from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm with 300 chocolate Easter eggs to be distributed in the town centre to children. A request for volunteer assistance was made.
- D-Day 80th Anniversary – 8th May: Commemorative events to include a wreath-laying ceremony, proclamation and bell ringing, followed by the lighting of the beacons in three locations. Discussion took place about music provision at the beacon locations. Cllr A Hall offered to assist with Bluetooth speakers.
- Classic Car Show – 24th May: delivered by Teignbridge Classics, with live music being provided by the Town Council.
- Party in the Park & Band Concert – 13th July: Efforts were ongoing to secure a second youth band for the event.
- Barham Cup – Saturday 26th July: Members were encouraged to form a Town Council team.
- Town Criers Competition – 6th September: A total of 21 criers confirmed. The event to be sponsored by Austins, with refreshments available at the Jolly Farmer. The theme for the second cry is “Chocolate”.
- Other events: The Communications Advisor suggested a Classic Bike Show, if the second Autumn Classic Car Show does not take place.

Chair initials.....

E30. QUEEN STREET OPENING EVENT

The Events Co-ordinator reported that Teignbridge District Council (TDC) had approached the Town Council (NATC) to lead on organising an event to celebrate the completion of the Queen Street enhancement project. Members were advised that TDC had confirmed it would not provide funding or officer support for the proposed event, leaving NATC to take the lead in the organisation, funding and delivery.

Members were hesitant to facilitate an event to celebrate the Queen Street enhancements when the Town Council had opposed the scheme. However, Members recognised the necessity to actively support the Queen Street Traders.

Concerns were also raised regarding the timing of such an event, particularly in light of the number of empty shops, the project not being complete and the overall lack of clarity on the District Council's vision and purpose of the proposed celebration. Councillors also expressed disappointment at the lack of financial support from both TDC and Devon County Council (DCC).

Councillors reported they have raised concerns with the County Council over the lack of dropped curbs, the positioning of the pedestrian crossing, and signage in the area. A request has been made for a site meeting to be held following the upcoming election.

The Communications Advisor urged caution in publicly supporting a project that NATC had previously opposed, particularly as the works were not yet complete.

It was suggested that TDC Officers, District Councillor Palethorpe, and NATC officers form a working party to explore the feasibility of the event, engage with local traders to gather their views then report back to the Events Sub-Committee.

Arising from the lengthy discussion, it was:

RESOLVED that a working party consisting of TDC Officers, Councillor Palethorpe, NATC Officers and Councillors be formed to explore the feasibility of holding an event to celebrate the completion of the Queen Street enhancement project and report back to the Events Sub-Committee with recommendations.

Councillor J Bradford abstained from voting.

E31. INCOME & EXPENDITURE

The Events Co-ordinator referred to the Income and Expenditure report for the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025 for the Events Sub-Committee, previously circulated.

RESOLVED that the Income and Expenditure report for the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025 for the Events Sub-Committee be hereby noted and accepted.

E32. LATE CORRESPONDENCE

Chair initials.....

None.

E33. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairperson closed the meeting and advised the next meeting of the Events Sub-Committee would be held on Wednesday 24th September 2025.

Meeting closed at 20:15 hrs.

Chairperson.....Date.....

Chair initials.....