

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE **EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE** HELD ON **WEDNESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2019** AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE TOWN HALL, GREAT WESTERN HOUSE, 9 DEVON SQUARE, NEWTON ABBOT

**PRESENT** Councillors Ms L Roberts (Chairman) Presiding  
Mrs J A Jones (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors	Mrs C Bunday	R Jenks (Dep Mayor)
	Mrs J Cleave	M Joyce
	C Coyle-Moore	C N Parker
	R Hayes	K Purchase (Mayor)
	M Hocking	M Ryan

In attendance: Natalie Hicks– Events Co-ordinator  
Sally Henley – Town Development Manager  
Alexandra Robinson - Committee Administrator

**E24. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors David Howe and Mike Pilkington.

**E25. INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED**

Councillors M Ryan, Mrs C Bunday, M Hocking, Mrs A Jones, C Parker and K Purchase gave notice of their intention to declare personal interests in Minute E28, Newton Abbot Carnival 2019.

**E26. MINUTES**

The minutes of the Events Sub–Committee meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018 were received and signed as a correct record.

**E27. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

**E28. NEWTON ABBOT CARNIVAL 2019**

The Chairman invited the Chairman of the Carnival Committee, Councillor Mike Ryan to update the Sub-Committee on the plans for the 2019 Carnival. Councillor Ryan thanked the Vice Chairman of the Carnival Committee, Councillor Mrs Bunday, for providing a thorough update to Members at the previous meeting. Councillor Ryan reported that the Carnival Committee was due to meet on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019 whereupon they would agree the plans for the forthcoming Carnival and he would be pleased to report in more detail at the next Events Sub-Committee Meeting which would be held in March.

Councillor Ryan reported that the Carnival Committee were able to give a cheque for £1000 to Dyrons Journal Talking Newspapers, their chosen charity and he invited Councillors to suggest charities which may be eligible for support from this year’s Carnival Events. Members congratulated Councillor Ryan and the members of the Carnival Committee for their tremendous efforts. Councillor Ryan added that they had had an excellent Carnival Queen and Attendants over the last few years and that this had raised the profile and popularity of the event so that there would be a competition mid-April to select the Carnival

Queen and Attendants for 2019. An article would be included in the next edition of the Newton Cryer due for despatch at the end of March 2019.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Ryan and the members of the Carnival Committee and all those involved in the preparations for this year's forthcoming Carnival on behalf of the Town Council for their continued efforts in providing an excellent Carnival for the town.

*Councillors M Ryan, M Hocking, Mrs C Bunday, Mrs J A Jones, C Parker and K Purchase having declared personal interests in the item took part in the discussion.*

## E29. **EVENTS UPDATE**

The Chairman invited the Events Co-ordinator to update Members on the 2018 Christmas events. Mrs Hicks raised the following points:

**Christmas Light Switch On** – The event had received very positive feedback, attracting large crowds despite the poor weather conditions and it was noted that the inclusion of the DJ from Breeze Radio was very popular therefore Mrs Hicks would look into the possibility of rebooking for the 2019 event. The Fireworks worked well from the St Leonard's Tower and Councillors offered their sincere thanks to all those who supported and assisted the event including those from the Town Council, the Carnival Committee and local volunteers.

**Victorian Evening** – This was reported to be one of the most successful for stall holders in recent years and it was noted that the change of location for the Choir had been highly successful.

**Lantern Parade** – A very successful event, which involved eight local schools and produced an amazing array of beautifully creative lanterns delighting a huge number of visitors to the town. Councillors noted that it was a costly event to provide but it was agreed that it demonstrated the essence of what the Town Council delivered to the wider community. Councillors discussed the implications of the recent closure of Hannah's at Seale Hayne and requested that Mrs Hicks investigate whether it would be possible to source an alternative venue for the production and storage of Lanterns for the 2019 event. Mrs Hicks would make enquiries and report to the next meeting of the Events Sub-Committee in March 2019.

**Santa's Grotto** – As in previous years, Santa had a Grotto on the three Wednesday evenings and two Saturday's prior to Christmas and had proved to be very popular among the younger visitors. Over £250 had been raised in donations for the Mayors' Charity and Mrs Hicks thanked everyone involved in making it so successful.

## E30. **WWI 1918-2018 100 YEAR COMMEMORATION**

The Chairman referred to the Notes of the 'Wash Up' meeting held following the WWI 1918-2018 100 Year Commemoration Event, previously circulated and invited the Events Co-ordinator to comment on the event. Mrs Hicks reported that there had been very positive comments following the event which had been attended by much larger numbers of people than in previous years. This had been anticipated but it was noted that there could still be improvements made to the Public Address system and overall sound system to convey to the larger audiences. Councillor M Joyce suggested that consideration be given to providing someone to 'sign' the service for those hard of hearing. Councillors welcomed the involvement of all the Clergy and encouraged this for future events. Members acknowledged the efforts of all those involved and those who had assisted on the day; in particular, they noted the efforts of the Council's Handyman Mr Dore and Mr James Northcott.

The day's events concluded with the lighting of three Beacons and Councillors were pleased that these events were also well attended given their location and it being a dark winter's evening.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their efforts and involvement in the service to mark the centenary of the end of WW1.

### **E31. TOWN DEVELOPMENT MANAGER UPDATE**

The Chairman invited the Town Development Manager, to update Members on the Christmas Street Fayres and events in the lead up to Christmas. Mrs Henley reported that Newton Abbot had provided events in the town from the Christmas Light Switch-On at the end of November through to Christmas Day and this should be commended.

Mrs Henley highlighted the key events which included the late night Street Fayres; these often presented some logistical issues but were of great benefit to the town's community. The Salvation Army and Spectrum Orchestra had performed under the newly installed glass canopy in Market Walk and a number of local schools had performed carol services during the weeks leading up to Christmas. There had been a vintage bicycle parade and Mrs Henley had organised a number of 'character walk-about' on the Saturdays, including Star Wars characters; the Squirrel Nutkin family; fairy princesses and even 'Newton' all of whom were very popular for families shopping in the town. The positive feedback received demonstrated the popularity of these events in the town and their contribution to the festive atmosphere in the lead up to Christmas.

The Councillors discussed the efforts in promoting the town and the positive effect the events had in drawing visitors from beyond Newton Abbot by coach or for shopping. Mrs Henley concluded in thanking the Town Councillors; Carnival Committee; Father Christmas and all the volunteers who gave considerable amounts of their time and effort at such a busy time of year.

The Chairman thanked everyone involved in the events for their contribution of time and effort.

### **E32. BAND CONCERTS 2019**

The Chairman introduced the summary table, previously circulated, which provided details of the forthcoming Band Concerts booked for 2019 and invited the Events Co-ordinator to update Members. Mrs Hicks reported that the Mayor's Secretary, Mrs Winsborrow had booked all but one of the band concerts for 2019 and that she was awaiting confirmation on the remaining booking. Sponsorship had been received for three of the events and Councillors noted their appreciation for the support. Members welcomed the variety of bands and expressed their thanks to Mrs Winsborrow for her organisation of these popular events.

**RESOLVED** that the Mayor's Secretary prepare an updated summary for the next meeting of the Events Sub-Committee to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

### **E33. ACCOUNTS/INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENTS**

The Chairman referred to the Income and Expenditure statements for 1<sup>st</sup> April – 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 for the Events Sub-Committee, previously circulated, and advised Members that no questions had been received in advance of the meeting. The Chairman invited any further queries to be raised at the meeting.

The Events Co-ordinator advised that the remaining budget had been allocated to the end of the financial year but suggested that if the budget allowed; that the Council may

purchase an additional Christmas illumination to be hung above the door to St Leonard's Tower as an attractive addition to the festive lights. Members discussed the budget allocation whether there were other assets required. The Events Co-ordinator would update Members at the next meeting of the Events Sub-Committee.

**RESOLVED** that the Income and Expenditure Statements for Events Sub-Committee be hereby noted and accepted.

E34. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

As the Chairman closed the meeting, she thanked Members and all those involved in the events for their continued effort and support.

The next meeting of the Events Sub-Committee would be Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

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Chairman