

Hetton Town Council



Minutes of Events & Special Activities Committee meeting held on 19 November 2019 at the Hetton Centre

Present:

Councillors R Coulson, T Dodds, D Geddis (Chairman), S Quigley, D Turner, S Waterston and C Willis.

In attendance:

G Keedy, Town Clerk (TC)
Councillor K Pearson
1 x MoP

1) Apologies for absence

An apology for absence had been received from Cllr M Thornton (family commitment). Committee resolved to approve the apology.

2) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3) Public Participation

Committee resolved to approve a period of 10 minutes.

There were no comments made.

4) Remembrance Commemoration

TC reported that feedback he had received had been positive.

TC advised that he had not been aware that attendees would already be at the War Memorial when the parade arrived. Consequently there were insufficient Orders of Service available. TC was informed by several attendees that more wreaths than usually expected were laid. Although the wreath laying had gone without incident, TC expressed concern at the random nature of this aspect. He undertook to establish what protocols, if any should determine the order of wreath laying.

TC advised that liaison with the organiser of the Easington Lane 10 November event had indicated there was little expectation of, or involvement by HTC and that it was organised entirely independently. This was in contrast to suggestions otherwise by Members and had led to some confusion on the part of TC.

TC had arranged appropriate road closures and traffic management with SCC as directed, only to be advised by Easington Lane organiser that none were necessary.

Committee resolved to clarify at a future meeting any role for HTC in the organisation of the Easington Lane Remembrance event.

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5) Christmas celebration

TC advised that this meeting provided a final opportunity to discuss any outstanding issues ahead of the 29 November event.

Cllr Geddis reported that the "Puffing Billy" attraction was undergoing essential maintenance and unfortunately it would not be available for 29 November.

He added that he was in discussions with the Showman's Guild about the availability of fairground style attractions; and was additionally trying to source refreshment vans.

Cllr Waterston reported on the availability of S Claus who was quite busy, and it was noted that Full Council had approved expenditure of up to £70.00 for the purchase of a costume. She added that arrangements were in place for Houghton Brass band and Eppleton and Lyons school choirs to attend.

Committee resolved that TC source and purchase confectionary and tangerines for issue to children on 29th.

Cllr C Willis reported that she had been able to source 6 x stallholders interested in attending the event.

Members reported that adverse comments had been received from residents about the quality of Christmas trees installed at East Rainton and Hetton.

Committee resolved that Cllrs Geddis and Waterston undertake imminent site visits to the two locations and Moorsley to make an assessment.

Discussion took place about an event venue for Christmas celebration 2020. Committee resolved that TC make a provisional booking with Hetton Town Trust for The Hetton Centre for 20 and 27 November 2020.

6) Date and time of next meeting

Committee resolved that the Chairman would discuss with the TC early in 2020 a date for the next meeting.

GK 11 Dec 19

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Date: