

# Hetton Town Council



## Minutes of the Events & Special Activities Committee meeting held remotely on Monday 12 October 2020

### Present:

Councillors R Coulson, T Dodds, R Elvin (from Item 4), D Geddis (Chairman), S Waterston (from Item 3) and C Willis.

### In attendance

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

### 1) Apologies for absence

No apologies for absence had been received.

Committee resolved that the absences of Cllr M Thornton and Cllr D Turner be recorded as unapproved.

### 2) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

### 3) Public participation:

Committee resolved that up to ten minutes be allocated for this item.

Cllr K Pearson queried if feedback had been received from Cllr Turner re Fellowship of Churches event. TC replied that he did not recall having received a response, but added that information recently received from SCC may have an impact.

Cllr Geddis added that an imminently expected announcement from the Prime Minister may subsequently have an effect on recommendations made by the Committee.

### 4) Remembrance Day 2020

TC introduced the item and provided a summary of information recently received from CDALC (x 2) and SCC. He highlighted the SCC information which stated that Remembrance activities could not take place on Council owned land or highways.

After a full discussion, Committee resolved to recommend that:

Clarity be sought from Sunderland City Council relating to permitted Remembrance Day activities by individuals at Hetton Mini Park;

An enquiry be made to Northumbria Police about their arrangements for wreath laying at Hetton;

Local schools be invited to share details with Town Council of their Remembrance activities for promotion on the Council website;

Town Clerk to explore an-online book of remembrance;

and

An item be included on the agenda for the Town Council meeting on 19 October to enable an update to be reported and views considered.

**1 of 2**

Signed:

Date:

## **HTC E&SA Committee 12 Oct 20**

### **5) Flag poles in Hetton**

TC reported that he had contacted the 3 x potential suppliers and had received confirmation from each that their earlier quotations provided remained valid. All had indicated a short delivery time. However, if they were required to install, this period could be increased to several weeks.

TC advised that if Members wished local contractors to carry out installation, they would need to be on "standby" at short notice. TC added that he intended to take quotations to Full Council on 19 October for consideration.

He added that he was continuing to explore the necessary permissions required of SCC to proceed.

TC was requested to seek details of how each supplier could vandal-proof the poles.

Cllr Geddis advised that the Town Council had been donated two flags by a local Colour Sergeant of the Coldstream Guards.

Committee resolved to recommend that:

The Town Clerk's update and his intention to seek Full Council consideration of the quotations received be noted;

and

Town Clerk formally write to thank the benefactor of the flags.

### **6) Christmas Celebration 2020**

TC reported that he had received costings from SCC for the 3 x Christmas trees and was in dialogue with Balfour Beatty to establish cost for the illumination of the trees. He added that it was intention to bring costs for both aspects to Town Council on 19 October.

Cllr Geddis advised that he and TC had made approaches to SCC for improvements to lighting in the mini park including tree "wraps".

Cllr R Elvin suggested that Town Council fund an additional tree for installation and illumination in Hetton Mini Park.

During general discussion, concerns were expressed about the outdated Christmas Illuminations in Hetton town centre.

Committee resolved to recommend that:

A Christmas tree be purchased and illuminated for siting in Hetton Mini Park;

and,

Town Clerk establish the availability of SCC funding for improvements to Christmas Illuminations.

### **7) Date and time of next meeting**

Committee resolved that TC and Chairman liaise re the date and time of the next meeting.