



Minutes of the Community Engagement Committee meeting held on 22nd June 2022 in the Skyrm Room commencing at 1pm.

29. PRESENT: Cllr. Rachel Goode, Cllr. Robin Cheeseman, Cllr. Craig Monks, Cllr. Terry Beswarick, Cllr. Nigel Corbett and Samantha Pearce (Assistant Town Clerk), Stefan Nikolov (Head Groundsman/Maintenance Manager).

30. APOLOGIES
Apologies for absence were received from Mr Dominic Faulkner.

31. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN
Cllr. Monks nominated Cllr. Rachel Goode, seconded by Cllr. Corbett, there being no further nominations Cllr Goode was duly elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

32. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN
Cllr. Monks nominated Mr Dominic Faulkner, seconded by Cllr Corbett, there being no further nominations Mr Faulkner was duly elected Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.

33. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS & DISPENSATIONS
No declarations of interest or dispensations were received.

34. MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MEETING HELD ON 20TH APRIL 2022
The minutes of the Community Engagement Committee meeting held on 20th April having previously been circulated were confirmed and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

35. SCARECROWS AND STAKEPARK

Scarecrows

The Scarecrow event would run from the 1st -31st August. The competition can be entered in two ways, firstly build and display a scarecrow and secondly to walk the Scarecrow Trail. The best scarecrow would be judged at 10.30am the morning of Saturday 3rd September. The scarecrow event is to be organised and managed by Beaminster Town Council.

AGREED the prize for the Best Scarecrow would be a £50 voucher to spend in the town, the chairman would also give a Scarecrow prize and prizes for the trail would be 2 x £25 vouchers to spend in the town.

Cllrs. Goode and Monks would contact individual volunteers and groups/organisations to arrange for volunteers to attend a briefing on 8th July. It was suggested that the creation of the scarecrows would take place during week commencing 18th July, the Scarecrow Competition would have a British Icons theme. Each volunteer group would then be responsible for erecting their Scarecrow at the agreed location/time, maintenance and the disposal after the judging.

Bowl Jam at the Skatepark

The Bowl Jam at the Skatepark would run from 12-4pm also on the 3rd September and hosted by Maverick.

Beamin' Family Festival

Both the Scarecrow Judging and the Bowl Jam will form part of a wider event on the 3rd September called **Beamin' Family Festival** taking place in the Memorial Playing Field and hosted by Poundbury Events.

Responsibilities on 3rd September

Craig Monks explained that the management of the stalls, live music and evening event would be the sole responsibility of Poundbury Events. The stalls to be available to provide, food/drinks, a bar and entertainment throughout the day.

In addition to hosting the Scarecrow Judging, it was suggested that Beaminster Town Council would potentially need to provide Security, First Aid, toilets, bins, assistance with electrics and the pavilion for the day. This would be discussed with the Town Clerk.

Maverick would deliver the bowl Jam which includes MC, Skate Displays, music, Competitions etc.

Considerations

Stefan reminded the committee that care needed to be taken when using the pitches for this event, it was important to consider the drainage when driving on the pitches as damage could easily occur. Stefan also urged the committee to consider a wet weather plan as the tractor could possibly be used in this instance. It was agreed that Stefan would be consulted on the plans for the event.

Publicity

Discover Beaminster (BTC), Maverick and Poundbury Events would promote their events individually but link them into all being part of the Beamin' Family Festival day.

36. COMMUNITY PAGES OF THE WEBSITE

A sub group of the Community Engagement Committee had been working together to develop the new web pages. The Web Developer had made some initial recommendations from the feedback and a meeting would be arranged following some consideration of the initial ideas.

37. MONTHLY RESIDENTS NEWSLETTER

Cllr Goode put forward the suggestion to create a monthly newsletter for residents. The newsletter could be issued via email, posted online and printed. The aim is to reach those who do not use social media and the newsletter would have a feature 'Tell Your Neighbour' to encourage word of mouth in the town. It was **AGREED** to pursue this idea.

38. SOCIAL MEDIA – DISCOVER BEAMINSTER

Sam Pearce informed members how successful the Jubilee Social Media Campaign had been. Traffic to the website had significantly increased and many residents attended the town's events. It was **AGREED to RECOMMEND** to continue working with the Council's Social Media Consultant on larger projects and the monthly newsletter.

39. MISSION STATEMENT UPDATE

Sam Pearce reported how very little progress had been made towards the creation of a Mission Statement for the Town Council. Two workshops had been held with staff and Councillors but had not proved that successful. It was **AGREED** to form a sub group of Cllr Rachel Goode, Cllr Craig Monks, Dominic Faulkner, Cllr Daniel Biggs (to be invited) to move the process forward.

40. EVENT VOLUNTEERS

Cllr Goode had previously submitted to Council a report outlining a volunteer Loyalty scheme. It was **AGREED** to work with Sam Pearce to inform the volunteers used during the pandemic and to explain the remit of the volunteer scheme and invite them to join should they wish to. The scheme would use the volunteers to assist with Council led events such as Christmas Lights, Scarecrow Competition etc. The scheme would offer a coffee loyalty card to use in the town and each Warden would also be given a hi-vis tabard, id card and lanyard.

41. THE MEETING

The meeting which commenced at 1.00pm ended at 2.42pm.

Chairman