

Minutes of a meeting of Beaminster Town Council's Community Engagement Committee held in the Cowie Room, Public Hall on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025 commencing at 7.00pm

**217 PRESENT**

Cllr Corbett (Chairman), Cllr Biggs (Vice Chairman), Cllr Anderton, Cllr Gunning, Cllr Gillings and Cllr Turner; also Mrs Christine Bright (Town Clerk) and Mr Ethan Kalemjian (Administrator).

**218 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Tuff, Cllr Watts and Cllr Woods.

**219 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS**

No interests were declared.

**220 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the Community Engagement Committee meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025, having previously been circulated were signed by the Chairman as an accurate record.

**221 VJ-DAY ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION**

Cllr Biggs kindly agreed to manage the temporary traffic restrictions. It was agreed that the timing of the event will impact the size and scope of the event. Cllr Turner highlighted the fact that an official Proclamation has yet to be received from Bruno Peek. Cllr Corbett offered to liaise with Nikki Bareham (Discover Beaminster) to produce a poster for digital and print promotion. **NOTED**

**222 SCARECROW TRAIL**

Cllr Biggs **REPORTED** on the current state of the Scarecrow Trail, and **CONFIRMED** that the hay/straw that was made available to participants on the Memorial Playing Field. Cllr Biggs **SUGGESTED** a tour of all scarecrows by combined Council and office staff, to judge the scarecrows along a few key criteria. The First and Second place winners could receive vouchers for £40 and £20 to spend at the local shops. This method would hopefully allow all participating scarecrows could be assessed on equal merits.

A lively discussion was entered into regarding the judging process and the feasibility of promoting the event, and encouraging wide participation. Cllr Turner **ENQUIRED** about the status of the electronic information screen as another method of promoting the event.

**223 REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE:**

Mr Kalemjian **CONFIRMED** that the Town Clerk had agreed to raise the Council's annual contribution to the Royal British Legion, for the hiring of a marching band to perform at the Remembrance Day Parade from £150 to £200.

It was **AGREED** that the list of previous volunteers should be contacted early and that the contact list could be widened and refreshed.

Mr Kalemjian offered to circulate the provisional schedule for organising the Remembrance Day Parade to all members of the Committee for their consideration. **NOTED**

**224 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was **NOTED** as Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2025.

**225 THE MEETING**

The meeting which commenced at 7.00pm concluded at 7.43pm.

Chairman

21<sup>st</sup> August 2025