

Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of Beaminster Town Council's Community Engagement Committee held in the Cowie Room, Public Hall on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 commencing at 7.00pm

**198 PRESENT**

Cllr Biggs, Cllr Gillings, Cllr Gunning (Acting Chair), Cllr Turner; and Ethan Kalemjian (Administrator).

**199 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Corbett, Cllr Anderton.

**200 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS**

No interests were declared.

**201 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The **MINUTES** of the Extraordinary Meeting dated 24<sup>th</sup> April 2025 were signed by the Chairman as *an accurate record of the previous meeting.*

**202 FEEDBACK FOLLOWING THE VE-80 PARTY OF CELEBRATION ON 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2025**

Cllr Gunning **CONFIRMED** that the provision of waste management post-event was inadequate. This included carcasses from the hog roast.

It was **AGREED** that the next event should have clear guidelines in place for vendors to dispose of waste.

Cllr Biggs commented on previous events, when a skip was hired, and the assessment that waste from such events would be considered as trade. **NOTED**

Following a full assessment of the financial outcomes from the VE event, it would be worth *exploring a more effective means of disposal.* **NOTED**

It was **AGREED** that a simple reference guide should be drafted for Council use that advised on the most important aspects of public events.

Cllr Biggs offered to assist Mr Kalemjian with drafting a template for consideration.

It was **AGREED** that first aid staff should be arranged for events.

**203 SCHEDULE OF FURTHER EVENTS FOR 2025**

It was **AGREED** that Mr Kalemjian would submit Road Closure applications to Dorset Council for the Remembrance Day Parade, as well as for the Xmas lights event.

The rough plan for Xmas Lights would likely be close to the same as 2024.

Cllr Gunning will speak with Beaminster Academy about opening up the Xmas market earlier so that parents could attend both the market, as well as Xmas Lights. **NOTED**

Two Events suggested :

- a.) **Treasure Hunt** (Treasure Trail, a dedicated company) that produce maps/trails tailored to the location. These could be distributed at sites such as Yarn Barton.



**b.) Scarecrow Trail**

Cllr Biggs **SUGGESTED** a theme that is relevant to the local community. This could be accompanied by more of a dedicated event for the judging of the winner.

The Committee **AGREED** that the final theme will be "Farming" with proceeds to support Young Farmers Association.

It was **AGREED** that the Council will provide hay.

**204 WEBSITE**

Cllr Gillings expressed irritation with the lack of user-friendly experience. **NOTED**

Cllr Biggs **SUGGESTED** the entire site be reviewed by the Office staff, with support from Cllr members, to be assessed and approved by the Council.

The Committee **AGREED** to identify the most pressing issues and liaise with Council members.

**205 LITTER PICK ROTA**

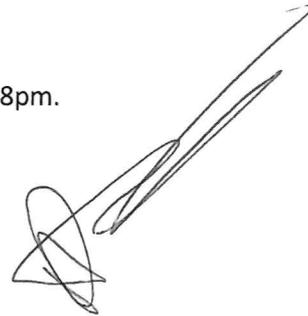
Cllr Gunning offered to host the first Litter Pick on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2025 provided the hours be adjusted to start at 12pm in order to accommodate his role at the Councillors Surgery session scheduled for 10 – 11am, also on the 28<sup>th</sup> June. **NOTED**

Mr Kalemjian will **AUDIT** existing stock of Litter Pick equipment and report.

It was **AGREED** that each Litter Pick will be advertised in advance, but the Council member who will host it can be confirmed at a later date.

**206 THE MEETING**

The Meeting, which commenced at 7.00pm was concluded at 7.58pm.



Chairman

26<sup>th</sup> June 2025