

FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held at the Town Hall, 1 – 2 Guildhall Street, Folkestone, CT20 1DY on Tuesday, 6th February 2024 at 7.45pm.

Present: Councillors Abena Akuffo-Kelly, Bridget Chapman, Peter Gane, Liz McShane and Roger West (Chair).

In attendance: Toni Brenchley – Town Clerk
Vicky Deakin - Communities & Events Officer

1250. Apologies were received from Councillor Lucy McGirr

RESOLVED: To accept the apologies from Councillor Lucy McGirr

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Abena Akuffo - Kelly

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1251. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

1252. MINUTES

The Committee was asked to receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 3rd October 2023 and to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign them as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd October 2023 be received and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly

Seconded: Councillor Peter Gane

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1253. ANNUAL KWIK CRICKET TOURNAMENT

Further to the success and positive response from all schools involved with the last Primary Schools' Kwik Cricket tournament in 2022, Members were asked to consider if they wish for this annual sports event to be organised for 2024 and their views were sought for a proposed date in May with the event to be funded by the Youth Facilities budget (Code 4881).

RESOLVED: That the Annual Kwik Cricket be organised and scheduled for a date in May that is the most popular for schools to facilitate best attendance.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Liz McShane

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

Members asked that the C & E Officer pursue the potential for additional annual primary schools new sports competitions for delivery by FTC.

1254. COMMUNITIES & EVENTS OFFICER REPORT CS/24/357

The committee were asked to receive, note and consider the recommendations in the report with the C & E Officer also updating Members in respect of 'ReferKent', an online referral system for organisations who support Kent residents with the aim of strengthening referrals across Kent for adults and families.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To receive and note Report CS/24/357**
- 2. To approve the proposed draft Armed Forces Day event programme.**
- 3. To approve the release of £25,000 from the 2024/25 Armed Forces Day budget to deliver the event.**

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane
Seconded: Councillor Bridget Chapman
Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

RESOLVED: That FTC apply to ReferKent to join as an agency.

Proposed: Councillor Bridget Chapman
Seconded: Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly
Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1255. FOLKESTONE MUSEUM REPORT CS/24/358

The Committee was asked to receive and note Report CS/24/358.
Noted

1256. HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Communities and Grants Officer has contacted Kent Highways who has asked that the Town Council take part in producing a much-needed Highways Improvement Plan (HIP) for Folkestone.

RESOLVED: That this Item be deferred to Full Council to consider if FTC should be involved with producing a Highways Improvement Plan for Folkestone.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane
Seconded: Councillor Liz McShane
Voting: F: 7, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1257. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON EVENT, LIGHT & LANTERN PARADE AND FESTIVITIES 2023

The Communities & Events Officer updated the Committee in respect of post event feedback including key organisational elements that were considered at the debrief meeting in December.

1258. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING SCHEMES REPORT CS/24/356

Members were asked to consider the existing Christmas lighting infrastructure in the Town Centre and Cheriton and potential development of the schemes.

RESOLVED:

1. To receive and note report CS/24/356
2. That this Item be deferred to the next meeting with a Report to include details of quotes from external contractors for the supply, installation and maintenance of new Christmas decorations (including digital installations) in concentrated areas only, near to where the Christmas lights switch on events are held, directly outside the Town Hall and in the shopping area to the left and right of Community Network on Cheriton High Street.

Proposed: Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly

Seconded: Councillor Liz McShane

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1259. PUBLIC TOILET FACILITIES FOLKESTONE

Folkestone Town Council often receive complaints via its Customer Service desk that, public toilets in Folkestone are regularly closed, in a poor state of repair and are at an unacceptable level of cleanliness.

Members views were sought and asked if they wish for the Town Clerk to write to F & HDC seeking an update in respect of this provision including details of any scheduled improvement works.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk write to F & HDC requesting details of how the public toilets are managed in Folkestone and the operational / opening schedules for individual sites.

Proposed: Cllr Peter Gane

Seconded: Cllr Bridget Chapman

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1260. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 2nd April 2024 at **7.45pm** (TBC)

The meeting concluded at 8.20pm

Chairman.....

Date.....