



# FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Date of publication: 29th September 2022

**AGENDA** 

Meeting: Community Services Committee

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Time: **6.45 p.m.** 

Place: Town Council Offices, Town Hall, 1-2 Guildhall Street, Folkestone.

To: The Community Services Committee

(All other Councillors for information only)

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** to attend a meeting of the Community Services Committee on the date and at the time and place shown above to transact the business shown on the agenda below. The meeting will be open to the press and public.

Any member who wishes to have information on any matter arising on the agenda which is not fully covered in these papers is requested to give notice prior to the meeting to the Town Clerk.



Jennifer Childs
Town Clerk

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive and approve any apologies for absence.

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of either personal or prejudicial interest that Members may wish to make.

#### 3. MINUTES

To receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022 and to authorise the Chairman of the Committee to sign them as a correct record.

#### 4. FOLKESTONE MUSEUM REPORT CS/22/319

The committee is asked to receive, note and consider the recommendations in the attached report.

#### 5. COMMUNITIES & EVENTS OFFICER REPORT CS/22/320

The committee is asked to receive, note and consider the recommendations in the attached report.

#### 6. PLAY PARKS – TREES REPORT CS/22/318

The committee is asked to receive, note and consider the recommendations in the attached report.

#### 7. PENTANQUE AT RADNOR PARK

Local residents have been liaising with F & HDC and Town Ward Councillors further to fund raising for an area to be dedicated for playing Pentanque on Radnor Park. Members are asked to consider if they would be minded to support this project in allocating some funding from the Local Projects budget subject to the project being agreed as viable by F & HDC upon conducting further surveys and additional external funding sources being identified.

#### 8. BUDGET 2023/24 - POTENTIAL GROWTH ITEMS

At this juncture the Committee is asked to consider proposals for possible growth items and non-recurring revenue expenditure for community projects and initiatives for next year. The Finance & General Purposes Committee will consider the full list of proposals put forward by all Committees at its meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

#### 9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

9<sup>th</sup> February 2023 @ 6.45pm (TBC)

#### FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held at the Town Hall, 1 – 2 Guildhall Street, Folkestone, CT20 1DY on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 7pm.

Present: Councillors Ann Berry (arrived at 7.02pm), Peter Gane, Nicola Keen, Michelle Keutenius and Roger West.

In attendance: Vicky Deakin, Communities & Events Officer

#### 1190. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies from Councillor Paul Bingham were received and approved.

#### 1191. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That Councillor Roger West be appointed as Chairman of the Committee for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane Seconded: Councillor Nicola Keen

Voting: F:4, Ag:0, Ab:0

#### 1192. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That Councillor Michelle Keutenius be appointed as Chairman of the Committee for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.

Proposed: Councillor Nicola Keen Seconded: Councillor Peter Gane

Voting: F:4, Ag:0, Ab:0

Cllr Ann Berry arrived at this juncture.

#### 1193. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

# **1194. MINUTES**

The Committee were asked to receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and to authorise the Chairman of the Committee to sign them as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022 be received and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane Seconded: Councillor Nicola Keen

Voting: F:3, Ag:0, Ab:2

#### 1195. REVIEW OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

In line with the Town Council's adopted standing orders, the Committee were asked to consider the terms of reference for the Communities Services Committee.

RESOLVED: That the Terms of Reference be re-adopted without any changes.

Proposed: Councillor Nicola Keen

Seconded: Councillor Michelle Keutenius

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

# 1196. WORKING GROUPS

The Committee were asked to approve nominations for membership to the 2022/23 Working Groups.

RESOLVED: To adopt the following working groups and that the C & E Officer write to all Town Councillors inviting them to join any they wish to be a Member of:

**Community Events (Volunteers)** 

Museum (Ambassadors)

**CCTV** 

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Michelle Keutenius

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

#### 1197. COMMUNITIES & EVENTS OFFICER REPORT CS/22/312

The committee were asked to receive, note and approve the recommendations of the report.

RESOLVED: That Report CS/22/312 be received and noted with a vote of thanks recorded acknowledging the continued hard work on and development of Council Services and Events.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane Seconded: Councillor Roger West

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

# **RESOLVED:**

To approve the release of the funds from the following budgets:

- £700 Youth Facilities to deliver Kwik Cricket Tournament
- £2,500 Tourist Information / Visitor Services for production, design and print of second edition tourism guide
- £3,800 Air Show / Armed Forces Day to support the delivery of the formal Armed Forces Day 2022 Lunch.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Michelle Keutenius

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

#### 1198. CCTV REPORT CS/22/313

The committee were asked to receive and note the report.

RESOLVED: That Report CS/22/312 be received and noted with a provision that questions raised at the meeting by Members will be forwarded by the C & E Officer to the Town Clerk for a response in due course.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Michelle Keutenius

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

#### 1199. FOLKESTONE MUSEUM REPORT CS/22/315 & PRESENTATION

Further to receiving a presentation by Darran Cowd – Museum Curator, the committee were asked to receive and note the attached report.

RESOLVED: That Report CS/22/315 be received and noted with a vote of thanks recorded acknowledging the dedication and continued hard work of the Curator and all Museum Officers with Folkestone Museum and its associated projects and initiatives.

Proposed: Councillor Michelle Keutenius

Seconded: Councillor Roger West

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

## 1200. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

4<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7pm

Meeting concluded at 7.25pm

This report will be made public on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022

# Folkestone Town Council



Report Number: CS/22/319

To: Community Services

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Responsible Officer: Town Clerk

Subject: Museum

#### **SUMMARY:**

This report provides an update on Folkestone Museum's work covering the period 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022 to 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

#### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:**

The long-term agreement (2020-2040) between the Town Council and National Lottery Heritage Lottery (principal funder) to deliver its heritage objectives: to preserve and enhance the town's heritage through the provision of Folkestone Museum.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. To receive and note report CS/22/319
- 2. To approve the use of £25,000 of Museum Reserves as outlined in item 6

Aims and Objectives – Maintaining an accredited museum Financial Implications – Meeting the requirements of NLHF & Council within budget Equal Opportunities – Access to all

#### 1. Introduction

The Museum continues to open on a five-days-per-week basis alongside the Town Hall and visitor information service.

The Museum has seen an increase of 2,000 visitors for the equivalent period in 2021-2022 demonstrating growing visitor confidence post-pandemic.

#### 2. Exhibitions

The exhibitions and displays referred to in the last Museum Report (CS-22-315); Colonel Smart, Platinum Jubilee and 'Point of View', continued through to mid-July. Later the same month a temporary display of childhood games and puzzles from the Museum was put on display as part of the summer holiday programme.

At the time of writing a new celebratory exhibition in the Temporary Exhibition Room was being installed. 'Our Screen Heritage' is a project led by Folkestone and Margate Pride organisation working alongside the Screen South Archive, seeking and saving East Kents LGBTQIA+ heritage that exists on film and video; the exhibition officially opens on the 1st October.

#### 3. Outreach and Education

Following Mundella School's 'Museum of Me' display the Museum has gone on to work with St Eanswythes Primary School as a 2<sup>nd</sup> participant of the Artswork funded schools partnership project. St Eanswythes display, 'Seaside Stories' is currently in the schools case on the lower ground floor.

During the reporting period the Museum hosted 20 school visits, covering everything from dinosaurs to World War Two. In addition, the Collections Access & Development Officer held a further four workshops on the theme of Bronze Age and Iron Age Folkestone for home-educated children from across the district could meet each other.

The 2022 summer holiday programme ran from 27th July to 31st August. A total of 765 visitors (327 adults and 438 children) attended one or more of the workshops available and there was a high percentage of regular or returning visitors. The first two weeks of the programme showed the most variation in attendance. From week three (Nature) the numbers steadied and increased particularly for dinosaur week, always the most popular topic whenever it features in the programme. Overall, children recorded a high level of satisfaction with the sessions offered. A breakdown of children's feedback for individual topic weeks is available if required but the numbers generally follow the trend, with over 95% satisfaction.

The Museum's involvement in the Kent wide Wheels of Time museums trail continues to bring families from other parts of the county as well as from within Folkestone. It is very pleasing to note that Museum has been chosen as the venue for the awarding of bronze, silver and gold badges to children following the trail, but most especially a platinum badge to one young Folkestone resident who is the first person to have visited all 53 museums in the scheme!

The Curator has continued to work with the Leas Lift Charity, with a joint teacher's consultation group being run between the Museum and Charity in mid-October.

# 4. Collections Development & Care

The ongoing work to ensure a suitable environment for the collection to be displayed and stored in has moved from the control system to the plant itself. Metromec Ltd. are now under contract to provide preventative maintenance for the heating & ventilation systems; this should also increase system efficiency and lead to saving on energy consumption.

The volunteer led project to document the Folkestone International Folklore Festival archive is progressing extremely well, with over 600 items now indexed for addition to the main catalogue. The ability to search archive has already meant that the Museum has been able supply images for a forthcoming exhibition about Kent's famous hooden horses at Maidstone.

The bulk of the finds archive from the Dance Easy site on The Bayle have now been deposited with the Museum, some of the highly diagnostic ones, such as a an Anglo-Saxon thread beater are to follow. The Museum team would like to thank the members of Folkestone Research & Archaeology Group (FRAG) for volunteering their time to process the archive.

# 5. Volunteering

In addition to the volunteering noted above a new volunteer has joined the Museum as a recent archaeology graduate, they will be working in that area of the collections assisting with repacking of some of the more fragile material and its documentation.

Work now turns to recruiting volunteers to assist with formal and informal workshops, exhibition work and social media.

#### 6. Museum Reserve Budget

A number of projects that have been reported on are now ready to move to completion, subject to funding. It is therefore requested a total of £24,000 from the Museum Reserve be made available to see these projects completed, in line with the original grant giving body's grant conditions (Heritage Lottery Fund and Queen Victoria Memorial Foundation); the total reserve stands at £175,000.

- £17,000 completion of the Prehistoric and Roman display cases; to include bespoke artefact mounts, wall graphics, caption panels, scale model of East Wear Bay Roman Villa and some artefact conservation (repair). Touchscreen kiosk for the Maritime and Frontline display on the ground to allow for more layered information about this aspect of the towns history to be made available
- £3,500 museum explorer backpacks for special educational needs audiences and family groups; see appendix 1 for the outline project proposal

- £2,000 art & craft mobile module/cart for use in the education room, main galleries and as an offsite museum pop-up at local events
- £1,500 capital investment in exhibition equipment to include Cricut Maker for in-production of vinyl graphics, cut-outs and activity packs, associated accessories and display tools

# 7. Corporate Plan KPI Performance 2022-2023 Financial Year

KPI	Quarter 1*	Quarter 2	Year to Date
D9	6,176	7,679	13,855
No. of visitors to the Town Hall			
D11	5,916	6,841	12,757
Website visits (Museum only)			
D12	6,487	38,690	45,177
Facebook reach	,	,	
D13	750	660	750
Twitter followers			
M1	1	2	2
Exhibition room bookings			
M2	120	220	360
Volunteer hours			
M3	17	13	30
No. of school visits			
M4	2	4	6
No. room bookings			

<sup>\*</sup>full quarter figures as opposed to April-May 2022 in CS-22-315

Folkestone Museum Instagram account also has 1,759 followers (up from 1,731 reported in CS/22/309)

# **Appendix 1 Museum Explorer Backpacks**

The Audience Development and Outreach Officer proposes to create a suite of gallery resources that will promote accessibility and extend engagement with the museum galleries.

It is proposed to create a number of backpacks/satchels (with purchasing of spare parts and extras), targeting three groups: a sensory backpack for children and young adults visiting with sensory processing sensitivities (For example autism spectrum disorder (ASD), a backpack targeted at families with Early Years members and a general 'explorer' backpack targeted at families with children who would like to extend their time in the galleries.

These backpacks will include objects, stories and activities that are linked to the museum collection. This project should also include the development of a sensory map and visual story of a visit to the museum, resources that can be downloaded by families and schools from the museum website prior to a visit to the museum.

The project will include consultations with representatives of these three groups and ongoing evaluations as the resources are developed. It is requested that we draw funds from the museum reserve to fund this project, with the budget to include consultation fees with Samantha Bowen, the developer of the SEND in Museums website and an inclusion campaigner in museums, and for a designer of the sensory map and visual storyboard.

An example of a visual story:

https://scarboroughmuseumsandgalleries.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Scarborough-Art-Gallery-UPDATED-JULY\_final.pdf

An example of a sensory map:

https://scarboroughmuseumsandgalleries.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Rotunda-Museum-Sensory-Map.pdf

Examples of backpacks:

http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/articles/d/designing-museum-activity-backpacks-for-families/

https://www.euansguide.com/news/what-to-put-in-a-sensory-backpack/

https://gem.org.uk/resource/museum-of-londons-early-years-toolkit/

Tara Cleary, Heritage Support Officer

This report will be made public on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022

# Folkestone Town Council



#### **REPORT NUMBER CS/22/320**

To: Community Services Committee

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Responsible Officer: Town Clerk

Subject: Communities and Events Officer Report

#### **SUMMARY:**

The report provides an update on the delivery and development of services and events led by the Communities & Events Officer covering the period from June 2022 to September 2022.

#### REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

The Town Council is committed to the continual development of its services and events.

To identify what aspects of our Community Services within Folkestone Town Council require priority development and to consider the provision of additional services to enhance existing resources. Therefore, there is a need to show evidence of current provision and those to be considered for the future.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. To receive and note Report CS/22/320
- 2. To approve the release of £1,200 from the Youth Facilities budget to support the delivery of the Councillors Cup Football Tournament.
- 3. To approve the proposed Christmas event programme.
- 4. To approve the release of £12,000 from the Christmas Festivities budget to deliver the 'Switch On' event, Festive Lantern & Light Parade and Fireworks Display Finale.

Aims and Objectives – *To enhance the current services to the community* Financial Implications – *Services Budget 2022/23* £80,900 Equal Opportunities – *Access to all* 

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The intent of this report is to summarise the development and delivery of projects, events and initiatives from June 2022 to September 2022.

#### 2. FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

- 2.1 FTC are once again working in partnership with Charlton Athletic Community Trust (CACT) who will assist in coordinating Folkestone Primary Schools Councillors Cup Football Tournament which has become a key fixture in the school's events calendar as we enter the eleventh year.
- 2.2 The tournament will be held at Three Hills Sports Park mid-November (date TBC pending school responses) from 11 3pm on the large outdoor 3G pitch (divided into 3 pitches to allow 3 games to be played simultaneously).
- 2.3 This competition is for year 5 and 6 pupils.
- 2.4 Folkestone Academy Secondary have confirmed that they would like to be involved and will be bringing Year 12 / 13 student Sport Leaders to assist with refereeing matches seeing FTC supporting hours being achieved for student's sport leadership awards.

#### 3. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING AND FESTIVITIES 2022

- 3.1 The Communities and Events Officer will update the Committee in respect of developing plans for 2022 including details on the following:
  - Festive Lantern & Light Parade, Entertainment Programme & Fireworks Finale.
  - Christmas Market

# 4. VISITOR INFORMATION SERVICE AND VISIT FOLKESTONE & HYTHE WEBSITE

4.1 The C & E Officer continues to work in partnership with F & HDC and other stakeholders to promote and enhance the visitfolkestoneandhythe.co.uk tourism website. FTC are distributing a mailshot to continue engagement with local tourism providers in seeking new content, images, event details etc. and support of these businesses in profiling and featuring them on a rotational basis.

#### 5. ARMED FORCES DAY

5.1 FTC hosted a formal lunch in the Marco Pierre White restaurant at The Clifton Hotel on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2022 for local military and civic dignitaries (including Geoff Miles – Deputy Lieutenant of Kent), Veterans, Cadets and Military charity representatives to acknowledge this years Armed Forces Day.

- 5.2 All 68 attendees were most grateful for the gesture of thanks whilst acknowledging our serving personnel, past, present & future and sharing the Armed Forces Day Message, #SaluteourForces.
- 5.3 The event was enjoyed by all attendees, many of whom expressed their personal thanks to FTC for organising something different this year which provided them opportunity to socialise with their counterparts in a relaxed, high standard, vibrant and less formal setting.

# This report will be made public on 29 Sept 2022

# Folkestone Town Council



#### **REPORT NUMBER CS/22/318**

To: Community Services Committee

Date: 6 Oct 2022

Responsible Officer: Town Clerk

Subject: Play Parks - Trees

#### **SUMMARY:**

The report outlines urgent work required at 3 of Folkestone Town Council Parks.

#### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:**

Additional funds are required for urgent tree work and fence repairs at Firs Lane, Downs Road and Coniston Road Parks.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. To receive and note Report CS/22/318.
- 2. That the Committee agrees that the work should proceed and releases the necessary finance.

Aims and Objectives – Continuing to improve the appearance and quality of the environment in which we live.

Financial Implications - Parks, Gardens & Recs - Play Areas has a budget of £35,000.

Equal Opportunities – Access to all

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Communities and Grants Officer has received several complaints from local residents that live on the perimeter of Firs Lane, Coniston Road and Downs Road parks. The complaints refer to trees that are overgrown and encroaching on their property. In some of the cases the trees have been allowed to grow out of shape and too large for their location to nearby properties, resulting in falling debris and branches.

There has also been a complaint made from a resident in Dolphins Road, who backs on to the park enquiring about replacement fence panels.

#### 2. CURRENT PROVISION

The Town Council has an annual budget of £35,000 in place for grass and hedge cutting, repairing faults and replacing parts, litter picking and weekly RoSPA checks. This budget is spent in full each year.

Below are the set costs for 2022/23, excluding any repairs required.

Location	Annual grounds	RoSPA Weekly	Litter pick x 10	Litter pick x 8	Total Payable
	maintenance	Checks x 50	May-Sept (1x	Sept-April (1 x	(per annum)
		weeks	every 2 weeks)	per month)	
Naseby Av	£1,940.00	£750.00	£250.00	£200.00	
George Gurr	£2,625.00	£750.00	£250.00	£200.00	
Firs Lane	£2,000.00	£750.00	£250.00	£200.00	
Downs Road	£2,250.00	£750.00	£250.00	£200.00	
Roman Way	£2,565.00	£1,000.00	£250.00	£200.00	
Southern Way	£2,315.00	£1,000.00	£250.00	£200.00	
Pine Way	£1,940.00	£1,000.00	£250.00	£200.00	
Coniston Road	£2,750.00	£750.00	£250.00	£200.00	
Totals	£18,385.00	£6,750.00	£2,000.00	£1,600.00	£28,735.00

#### 3. TREE WORK REQUIRED

#### Firs Lane:

Several trees in the park have become out of shape and overly large for their species. The trees that have been identified as needing urgent attention are:

1953	Firs Lane	Alnus cordata	50% reduction
1954	Firs Lane	Alnus cordata	50% reduction
1955	Firs Lane	Betula pendula	Removed
1957	Firs Lane	Fraxinus excelsior	50% reduction
1958	Firs Lane	Alnus cordata	50% reduction
1959	Firs Lane	Fraxinus excelsior	50% reduction

Upon inspection there are also 4 Willow trees that have been previously cut down, due to their proximity to local properties, unfortunately they are sprouting again, these are located between 1958 and 1957.

#### Coniston Road:

1749	Coniston Road	Betula pendula	25-50% reduction
1750	Coniston Road	Quercus cerris	25-50% reduction
1751	Coniston Road	Acer campestre	25-50% reduction
1752	Coniston Road	Fagus sylvatica	25-50% reduction
1753	Coniston Road	Fraxinus excelsior	25-50% reduction
1760	Coniston Road	Alnus cordata	25-50% reduction
1782	Coniston Road	Betula pendula	25-50% reduction

Trees in Coniston Road park are in generally healthy condition but just need reducing.

#### Downs Road:

1806	Downs Road	Fraxinus excelsior	Removal
1807	Downs Road	Fraxinus excelsior	Removal
1808	Downs Road	Fraxinus excelsior	Removal
1810	Downs Road	Fraxinus excelsior	Removal
1816	Downs Road	Fraxinus excelsior	Removal
1815	Downs Road	Acer campestre	25% reduction
1818	Downs Road	Acer campestre	25% reduction

There are many Ash trees in Downs Road that unfortunately are not in the best of health, it has been recommended that these trees are removed. The Town Council needs to consider replacements for these trees.

## 4. REPLACEMENT FENCE PANELS

There are currently 4 fence panels missing from the perimeter fence on Downs Road. The fence is not the only boundary, as there is also a wall at the end of the gardens. We have been quoted to replace the 4 fence panels, it was noted that the remaining fence was in a bad state of repair and this should also be replaced, however, not all the fence is the responsibility of the Town Council and the remainder is the District Council. I have contacted the District Council to inform them of the fence condition.

#### 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The remaining Parks and Maintenance budget of £6,265 is set aside for repairs, graffiti clearance, and other unforeseen costs. The estimated cost for the above urgent work required is £10,000.

Although it was suggested that the Tree budget was allocated, there may be a significant underspend, as many of the sites proposed in the draft 2022/23 planting schedule are not viable due to underground services/utilities or being unable to create pits in hard surfaces in the locations specified. It will be recommended to the relevant Committee that this budget is used to provide replacement trees for those that have been removed and the possible planting of additional trees in the park at Naseby Avenue to create a barrier preventing unauthorised vehicles from easily entering the grassed area.

After assessing all available budgets, there is currently £11,600 in the Youth Facilities budget and £3,000 in the Local Projects budget. There are currently no projects planned that require these budgets. With that in mind;

The Parks Working Group requests that the Community Services Committee release £2,000 from the Local Projects budget and £8,000 from the Youth Facilities budget, for the urgent tree work and fence repairs, subject to the virement approval of the Finance and General Proposes Committee.