

FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held at the Town Hall, 1 – 2 Guildhall Street, Folkestone, CT20 1DY on Tuesday, 3rd October 2023 at 7.45pm.

Present: Councillors Abena Akuffo-Kelly, Peter Gane, Lucy McGirr and Roger West (Chair).

Absent: Councillor Bridget Chapman

In attendance: Vicky Deakin - Communities & Events Officer

1240. Apologies were received from Councillor Liz McShane.

RESOLVED: To accept the apologies from Councillor McShane.

Proposed: Councillor Lucy McGirr

Seconded: Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly

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

1241. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

1242. MINUTES

The Committee was asked to receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 6th June 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 6th June 2023 be received and signed as a correct record subject to the record of voting being added.

Proposed: Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly

Seconded: Councillor Lucy McGirr

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

1243. HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN – THE LEAS

Folkestone Town Council have been approached by The Leas Residents Association and other groups in the area of The Leas in respect of whether it can lead on a Highway Improvement Plan. The C & E Officer briefed the Committee regarding proposals.

Members were asked to consider if they wish for FTC to establish / examine whether it can lead on and support a Highway Improvement Plan consultation and application for traffic calming measures on The Leas.

RESOLVED: That the C & E Officer further research the criteria of submitting an application for a Highway Improvement Plan in liaison with F & HDC and The Leas Residents Association with a report of findings to be brought to the next Community Services Committee to facilitate a decision as to whether FTC should pursue this initiative.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane
Seconded: Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly
Voting: F: 4, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1244. COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE AND CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

At its meeting before the Community Services Committee meeting, the Climate & Environment Committee were asked to consider merging with the CSC and Best Practice Terms of Reference being created whilst determining the working practices of the future.

Members resolved that the committees should not merge and that the meetings be held on consecutive weeks on a Tuesday or Thursday subject to a review of the Schedule of Meetings by Full Council.

RESOLVED: That the Community Services Committee supports not merging with the Climate & Environment Committee and the proposal for meetings to be held on consecutive weeks on a Tuesday or Thursday.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane
Seconded: Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly
Voting: F: 4, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1245. 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 Community Services Committee. Any changes the Committee resolved to make must be approved by Full Council at a future meeting.

RESOLVED: That the following existing committee Terms of Reference be removed and added to the Planning Committee as the appropriate body for their responsibility, review and management:

To exercise the powers and duties of the Town Council on the following highways and transportation matters:

- a) Policy procedure and legislation*
- b) Road traffic regulation and enforcement*
- c) Highways management and maintenance*
- d) Parking*
- e) Road signs and signposting, including street naming*
- f) Footway and street lighting*
- g) Traffic orders*
- h) Traffic calming measures*

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane
Seconded: Councillor Lucy McGirr
Voting: F: 4, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1246. FOLKESTONE MUSEUM REPORT CS/23/344

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

RESOLVED: That an expression of thanks to all Museum Officers be recorded in respect of their continued hard work and dedication, particularly acknowledging the success of the summer programme in delivering exhibitions, educational sessions, workshops and events.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Lucy McGirr

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

1247. COMMUNITIES & EVENTS OFFICER REPORT CS/23/345

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 the developing plans and proposed programme for the Christmas Lights Switch On event.

Councillor Peter Gane updated Members in respect of the Cheriton Christmas Lights Switch On event being held on Saturday 25th November.

RESOLVED:

1. To receive and note Report CS/23/345
2. To approve the proposed Christmas event programme.
3. To approve the release of £12,000 from the Christmas Festivities budget to deliver the 'Switch On' event and Festive Lantern & Light Parade.

Proposed: Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly

Seconded: Councillor Lucy McGirr

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

1248. BUDGET 2023/24 – POTENTIAL GROWTH ITEMS

The Committee were 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 14th December 2023.

RESOLVED: That a proposed increase of £20,000 for the Christmas Lights budget be submitted to the Finance & General Services committee.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Lucy McGirr

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

1249. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 6th February 2024 at 7.45pm (TBC)

The meeting concluded at 8.20pm

Chairman.....

Date.....

DRAFT