



AYLESBURY
TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Communities Committee held on
Tuesday 4 June 2024, in the Council Chamber, Aylesbury Town Hall,
5 Church Street, Aylesbury HP20 2QP at 7pm**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7.00pm.

In the Chair: Cllr Tim Dixon

Present: Cllr S Bateman Cllr N Mehta
Cllr M Baldwin Cllr M Willis
Cllr T Hunter Watts

Officers: Ruth Mayhew (Senior Communities and Events Officer, Committee Clerk),
Dan Reynolds (Events Officer)
Emily Campbell (Youth Initiative Officer)

1. Apologies for absence

To receive and accept apologies of absence from Town Councillors.

Resolved: To accept apologies from Cllr A Sherwell (Mayoral commitment) and Cllr D Summers (prior commitment).

2. Declarations of interest

No declarations of interest were raised.

The Chairman suspended the Standing Orders at 7:00pm to allow questions from the public and any reports from the councillors.

Representative from St Joseph's Infant School in attendance and answered questions posed by the committee with reference to item 6 - Community Event Fund Application.

Sherrilyn Bateman reported her attendance at Oakgreen School fayre, and that the bouncy castle provided via the Community Event Fund was the busiest activity and highly enjoyed by attendees. Signage was clearly displayed. Noted that if the Mayor is in attendance, for them to be briefed to take note of the provided activity which will negate the need for further councillor or officer attendance.

The Chairman resumed the Standing Orders at 7:07pm.

3. Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Baldwin proposed, and Cllr Willis seconded, to elect Cllr Hunter-Watts as the Vice Chairman.

Resolved: Councillors voted five for the proposal, with one abstention.

4. Minutes

Resolved: The committee unanimously agreed to accept and sign the minutes of Tuesday 2 April 2024 as a true record.

5. Matters arising

The Senior Communities and Events Officer reported on the following items.

Officers thanked Councillors for their email response to further information supplied by Southcourt Baptist Church, which resulted in agreed funding of £380. Following the agreement of funds to Eid Party, this event was cancelled, prior to funds being issued.

Officers are in the process of making a grant funding application to Arts Council England, to support the planned new Illuminated Parade spectacular. ATC funds are available to produce the core required elements, however additional funds are being sought to enhance the offering with extensive school, community and SEND collaboration. Bucks Culture are advising on, and supporting the application, alongside two local production and delivery partners.

No further questions or concerns were raised.

6. Community Event Fund applications

Councillors discussed and reviewed the applications from the Community Event Fund budget. Annual budget of £3,000.

6i St Joseph's Catholic Infant School Summer Fayre, 7 July, £600

Cllr Baldwin proposed, and Cllr Willis seconded, to fund £600 for the provision of a small petting zoo.

Resolved: The committee unanimously agreed to the above proposal.

6ii Councillors reviewed the submitted feedback form from Oakgreen School and were pleased with the response.

Request for officers to add questions to ascertain approximate attendance and activity participation figures to the form.

7. Event evaluation

Councillors reviewed the event evaluation for St George's Day, giving praise to the events team for another great event.

Officers highlighted concerns over low attendance figures at the historical fayre which takes place in the museum, stating that the event structure and format is under review, and is likely to be revised for 2025.

Cllr Baldwin noted the low number of Councillors in attendance at the event, and asked if this could be addressed and pushed with councillors. Cllr Dixon explained that councillors are informed of all event dates at the start of the year, then invited by officers to attend, it is not possible to enforce attendance at events.

No further questions or concerns were raised.

8. Review budget and planned activities

Councillors reviewed the budget and planned activities for Parklife Weekend. Increased costs were discussed, and acknowledgement given that the event is still coming in on budget.

Councillors requested that any deposit payments be shown as a percentage payment on the spreadsheet.

9. Youth Town Council

Councillors received a verbal update from Youth Initiative Officer.

Officer has reviewed the current policies and procedures for the Youth Town Council (YTC) including code of conduct, disciplinary procedures, and induction packs to be submitted to Communities Committee in the near future.

YTC have begun to meet monthly and, last week we held an informative and expressive workshop to explore key areas of their governing document such as aims, membership, structure and scope. Their ideas and opinions must shape the direction of YTC in order to effectively engage young people and to develop YTC.

Membership of YTC has been temporarily paused, we plan to begin recruitment in September once the governance framework review is completed.

Planned Activities for current YTC:

- School engagement fundraiser for PACE
- Fundraising tea and coffee stall for the Mayor's charity in the autumn
- Glitter stall at Parklife

Officer has begun meeting with local secondary schools and youth service providers to build relationships in advance of the recruitment drive, and to gain a better understanding of the current youth offer within Aylesbury. Meetings have also provided a platform to better understand providers successes and struggles in supporting the parish's youth.

10. Budget

The committee reviewed the current budgetary position to March 2024 (month 12).

Councillors did not raise any concerns.

11. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 30 July 2024 at 7pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7:37pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Chairman