



AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE HELD THROUGH THE ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING SYSTEM ON TUESDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2021

Present: Cllr T Dixon (Chairman)
Cllr A Christensen
Cllr R Lloyd
Cllr S Morgan
Cllr A Morgan (substituting for Cllr R Takodra)
Cllr M Willis

Officer in attendance: Judith Priest (Senior Communities Officer), Ruth Mayhew (Events Officer)

The meeting was called to order at 7.00pm by Cllr Dixon

1. APOLOGIES

RESOLVED: To receive and unanimously accept apologies for absence from Cllr R Takodra (prior commitment).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations received.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15 SEPTEMBER 2020

To receive and agree the above minutes as a true record.

RESOLVED: The committee unanimously agreed to accept and sign the Minutes of 15 September 2020 as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

The Chairman suspended the Standing Orders at 7.02pm to allow questions from the public and any reports from the Councillors.

- Cllr Dixon thanked Ruth Mayhew for her work and involvement with the vaccination centre at Stoke Mandeville Stadium and highlighted the great feedback received from the organisers.

The chairman resumed the Standing Order at 7.03pm

5. GENERAL UPDATE ON EVENTS

- a) Councillors reviewed the list of events planned for 2021 and discussed the viability of the events in terms government guidelines, time frame to arrange events, capacity and influx of people for those events taking place in the latter part of the year and possible alternatives the Council can offer to engage with the community such as virtual events.

After a lengthy discussion Cllr Christensen proposed, seconded by Cllr Willis that St George's Day Celebrations and Soapbox Derby to be cancelled for this year and that decision on the remaining events are to be made at the meeting in April.

RESOLVED: Councillors unanimously agreed for the first two events of the events calendar are to be cancelled and the remaining events to be reviewed in April and decision to be made in line with government guidelines.

- b) Councillors reviewed the event evaluations received in advance of the meeting for the Christmas events and were very happy with the success of each event and how they were run. Councillors were keen to continue with the Council's involvement in the Community Radio Toy Box Appeal.

6. DUCK TRAIL COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

The committee discussed and reviewed the proposal received in advance of the meeting to produce commemorative booklets for the nominees, winner and Council archives.

Cllr Dixon proposed, Cllr Christensen seconded for 80 booklets to be produced and for the booklets to be given to the nominees, winners, the artist, the Town Council archives and also to the Buckinghamshire Archives and Buckinghamshire County Museum as they reflect a particular time in the history of the town and the social impact it had.

RESOLVED: Councillors unanimously agreed for 80 booklets to be produced and to be distributed to the nominees, winners, artist and archives. The production cost to come from the Communities budget.

7. FEEDBACK FROM FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS EVENTS

Councillors noted the detailed feedback received from the organisers of the Festival of Light event in advance of the meeting.
No further questions were asked.

8. AYLESBURY IN BLOOM

Councillors considered to ring fence up to £1,500 of the Communities budget for the organisation of the Aylesbury in Bloom competition 2021, if it can go ahead in line with government guidelines.

The committee also discussed alternative ways of having the competition without the need to visit each garden e.g., receiving photos of gardens.

Cllr Lloyd left the meeting at 8.02pm

Cllr Hunter-Watts proposed, Cllr Dixon seconded for up to £1,500 of the Communities budget to be ring fenced for the organisation of the Aylesbury in Bloom competition 2021.

RESOLVED: The committee unanimously for up to £1,500 of the communities' budget to be ring fenced for the organisation of the Aylesbury in Bloom competition 2021 and for alternative ways to be explored for the competition to go ahead, if it cannot go ahead in its usual format.

Cllr Lloyd returned to the meeting at 8.05pm

9. AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL 20TH ANNIVERSARY - 2021

Councillors considered and discussed the proposal of a "Meet and Greet/Community Engagement" in Market Square, to engage with the public and celebrate the Town Council's 20th anniversary.

Cllr Dixon proposed, Cllr A Morgan seconded, that the 20th anniversary should be marked with the Town Council having a Market stall one Saturday in the summer where Councillors engage with the public and that £500 be set aside for this occasion.

RESOLVED: The committee unanimously agreed that the occasion of the Town Council's 20th anniversary should be marked with the Council having a market stall one Saturday in the summer, which will allow Councillors to engage with the public and highlight the work of the Council. The date is to be confirmed after the elections and further arrangements are pending COVID-19 regulations at the time of the planned date. £500 to be earmarked in the communities' budget for the occasion.

10. BUDGET

The committee reviewed the current budgetary position to December 2020 (month 9).

No recommendations are to be taken to full council.

11. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next planned meeting is on Tuesday 13 April 2021 at 7.00pm

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:15pm.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Date: _____