

CHRISTCHURCH TOWN COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 October 2021 at 6.00pm at Homelands Hall, Kings Avenue, Christchurch, BH23 1NA

Present:-

Chairman: Cllr A E Coulton

Vice-Chairman: Cllr G R Jarvis

Present: Cllr Mrs S Bungey, Cllr V Charrett, Cllr L Dedman, Cllr S McCormack.

Also in attendance: Cllr P Hilliard

Apologies: Cllr Gardiner, Cllr W Grace and Cllr Mrs S Spittle.

Officers present: Daniel Lucas, Town Clerk
Susan Roxby, Democratic Services Officer

Members of the Public present: 5

Members of the Press present: 0

204. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

205. Public Participation

A representative from Christchurch Food Festival spoke in relation to Minute No. 207 (Christchurch Food Festival 2022).

206. Public Questions

There were no questions from the public on this occasion.

207. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 August 2021 were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

Proposed: Cllr S McCormack

Seconded: Cllr L Dedman

Voting: unanimous

The Chairman provided Members with an update of a Geophysical Survey being carried out by the Christchurch Antiquarians in Druitt Gardens.

208. Public Questions

There were no questions received from the public on this occasion.

209. Mundeford Cricket Pavilion

The Town Clerk updated Members on damage to Mundeford Cricket Pavilion and asked the committee if they wished to consider the option of having shutters installed to the front and side of the pavilion. The police had advised against shutters as this would attract graffiti. CCTV had been ruled out due to low hanging eaves as the lens could be blurred. A witch's hat could be considered on a pole to survey the whole of the grounds, but this would be at considerable cost.

Members felt this was a police matter and not a Town Council issue and enquired what action the Police were taking. The Town Clerk informed the committee that the police recommendations were to remove the wooden railings from the pavilion and have an iron bar installed. They also advised that lighting would not be a deterrent, but recommended to have lighting on a timer, although the lights needed to be protected. The side door also required replacing.

The Town Clerk reported that the Council had arranged leaflet dropping in the area to inform residents of the damage to the pavilion and to report any issues. He considered that CCTV was not an option as it was easy to tamper with. Metal fencing could be placed around the veranda, but this would be a costly action.

Members felt that considerable funds had already been spent of the pavilion and queried it the cost of shutters would actually stop the vandalism.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be delegated to obtain quotations for the installation of shutters at Mudeford Cricket Pavilion for consideration at a future meeting of the Resources Committee.

Proposed: Cllr S McCormack

Seconded: Cllr L Dedman

Voting: unanimous

210. **Tuttons Well Update**

The Town Clerk informed Members on works at Tuttons Well and reported that there was a substantial wooden fence in place and that a grate was not required as the fence was sufficient. An additional bar could be added to the fence with a fine wire mesh going onto it which Cllr McCormack had kindly offered to help with this work. It was a too substantial sub for volunteers to clear the foliage as the reeds were 15ft high. The Council was waiting to hear back from BCP Council for a quotation for a tractor to clear out the culvert.

RESOLVED that the verbal report be noted.

211. **Christchurch Food Festival 2022**

Members were asked to consider giving consent to Christchurch Food Festival for use of the Quomps during the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend.

The Town Clerk informed Members that the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Working Group had recommended this item to be considered by the Community Committee.

A representative from Christchurch Food Festival updated Members on the arrangements for 2022 and advised that they had moved the festival to Platinum Jubilee weekend. Events included a Red Devils parachuting display, the Royal British Legion marching from the church, large screens to be put up to televise the London jubilee event. A street party was proposed on the Quomps and they were asking traders to provide a sharing plater for people to buy and share amongst the community. There would be competitions for children, and plenty of good entertainment including the Jive Bunnies.

The Chairman asked if the stage could be moved further out as it was very cramped at this year's event and was informed that the stage would be moved out to create more space.

Members enquired how many people did they expected to attend the event and were informed that there would be 70 tables with 8 people per table making 560 people in total.

The committee enquired if the Food Festival organisers had contacted community groups to involve them in the event and were informed that this had not been possible yet as date of the event was to be confirmed.

Members enquired details for the setting up and packing up time for the event and were informed that it would be a 3-day build set up and a 1-day breakdown. There would also be a pop-up restaurant, the festival would be between Thursday 2 June 2022 to Sunday 5 June 2022.

Members further inquired if the Food Festival was a commercial firm now and were informed that the structuring of the event had the same percentage of profits going back into local charities.

Members felt that the event was just drawing people to one location and that this would clash with various street parties and asked if it could be held on the August bank holiday weekend. The Food Festival representative advised that this would not be ideal as the income would be 30% down due to other events being held on the August bank holiday.

Members felt that there would be traffic issues if the Town Council held a street party on the same weekend as the Food Festival and that this would stop the Council from arranging a Jubilee Event.

The Food festival representative stated that they would assist the Town Council by undertaking the event management plan for the proposed Council Street Party.

Members debated that Mundeford Recreational Ground or Watermans Park could be used as an alternative venue for the Town Council's the street party.

Members questioned if the street party would have a cost to the Council. The Town Clerk advised that there was the Britain in Bloom budget which could be used for a street party as this budget was unspent this year due to the Covid restrictions.

Cllr McCormack proposed a motion that the Council allows the Quomps to be used during the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend for the Food Festival and a pop-up restaurant with the possible assistance of Christchurch Food Festival for the management of a Town Council event in the High Street. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Dedman.

RESOLVED that the Council gives consent to Christchurch Food Festival for the use of the Quomps to be used during the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend for the Food Festival and a pop-up restaurant with the possible assistance of Christchurch Food Festival for the management of a Town Council event in the High Street.

Voting: 4:2

212. **Town Crier**

Members were asked to consider if the Council should appoint a Town Crier in a voluntary capacity.

The Mayor informed the Committee that she wished to bring back the tradition of the Council having a Town Crier and hoped to hold a competition on 5 December 2021 to select a Town Crier.

RECOMENDED to Full Council that:

- a) **the Town Council seeks a Town Crier on a voluntary basis with the successful candidate to be chosen by way of a contest in Saxon Square determined by a panel of Judges (chosen by the Mayor, Cllr Mrs Sue Bungey); and**
- b) **the outfit and bell to be provided by way of donations/ volunteers with no cost to the Council.**

Proposed: Cllr Mrs S Bungey

Seconded: Cllr L Dedman

Voting: unanimous

213. **Council Notice Boards**

The Town Clerk informed Members that due to the listed building status of the Town Hall and the entrance to Druitt Gardens that pre application Planning Consent would be required for Council Notice Boards. A Planning agent would be required for the pre-applications and quotations would need to be obtained.

Members felt this would be too much a burden to the Town Council and agreed that they should not proceed further with the proposal for Council Notice Boards.

RESOLVED that the Council should not proceed further with the proposal for Council Notice Boards.

Proposed: Cllr L Dedman
Seconded: Cllr S McCormack

Voting: unanimous

214. **Frequency of Community Committee**

The Chairman asked Members to consider whether the Community Committee should meet monthly and not bi-monthly.

Members requested that the impact this would have on officers' time if the frequency was changed to monthly meetings be reported.

RECOMENDED to Full Council that:

- a) the Community Committee schedule of meetings be amended so that the Committee sits on a monthly basis; and**
- b) the impact on officers' time due to the frequency of meetings being changed to monthly be reported.**

Proposed: Cllr A Coulton
Seconded: Cllr Mrs S Bungey

Voting: unanimous

215. **Exempt Business**

RESOLVED that Members pass a resolution to exclude the press and public pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the following matters relating to the personal information of an individual.

Proposed: Cllr S McCormack
Seconded: Cllr L Dedman

Voting: unanimous

216. **Meritorious Awards**

Members received nominations for Meritorious Awards.

The meeting ended at 7.25pm

CHAIRMAN