

EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 12th AUGUST 2020

Minutes of the meeting of the **EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, and virtually, on **WEDNESDAY 12th AUGUST 2020** at **6.00 p.m.**

PRESENT

Councillor M. Iveson (Chairman) and
M. Ashcroft, Derek G. Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, Bill Blenkinsopp, B.A. Clare, B. Hall, Dave Hardaker, Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary and Paul Symons

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor R.S. Fleming

OFFICERS

Mr A. Bailey (Town Clerk)
Mrs C.A. Walton (Corporate and Policy Officer)
Miss A. Donald (Town Clerk's PA)
Mrs J. Thexton (Head of Leisure and Events)
Mr S. Cooper (Works and Environment Manager)
Miss B. Mason (Clerical/Events Assistant)

49. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors Mrs M. Dalton and Mrs S.J. Iveson.

50. MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS

No requests for dispensations had been received.

51. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

52. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no questions from members of the public.

53. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp, seconded by Councillor M. Ashcroft, and

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Events Sub-Committee, held on the 17th February 2020, be confirmed as a correct record.

54. REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE

The Town Clerk submitted a report updating members on the Remembrance Day arrangements. It was unsure at the present time what form the event would take with the restrictions currently in place for Covid-19. Further information was awaited from other organisations involved in the organisation of the event.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the report be received.

55. EVENTS UPDATE

The Head of Leisure and Events submitted a report updating members regarding the Council's events schedule and requesting members to consider options for each event going forward.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) The report be received.
- ii) Fireworks Display – given the present circumstances and restrictions, the event should be cancelled for this year.
- iii) Santa Tours – given the considerable degree of uncertainty regarding the effects of Covid-19 through the winter months, and current restrictions, arrangements for the Santa Tours continue to be progressed where possible, pending further developments and government requirements.
- iv) Fairground – the tentative request to hold a fairground at Moore Lane later this year should not be accepted.
- v) Senior Citizens' Excursions – given the considerable degree of uncertainty regarding the effects of Covid-19 through the winter months, and the vulnerable nature of many of the participants, the excursions be cancelled for next year. The budget for the event to be retained for consideration of a possible substitute event at a later date.
- vi) Sedgefield Schools Partnership – that the use of the playing fields at the Oakleaf Sports Complex on the 9th June 2021 be agreed in principle, should restrictions be lifted by that date.

56. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report advising members of additional requirements highlighted by Durham County Council in their guidance notes regarding festive lighting on street columns and over highways.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) The report be received.
- ii) Officers investigate possible extension of the display along Central Avenue to the A167 junction for future years and seek permission from Durham County Council.

57. GARDEN COMPETITION

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report updating members regarding proposed amendments to the annual Community Enhancement Awards Garden Competition.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) The report be received.
- ii) The budget for prize money be increased to a total of £600, to be allocated across the various categories in the competition as appropriate.

58. GRANT

Members were advised that a previously issued grant for the Aycliffe Radio Music Festival, scheduled to be held in June 2020, had been returned to the Council following cancellation of the event.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the information be received.

Chairman