

EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 25TH JANUARY 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the **EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, **TUESDAY 25TH JANUARY 2022** at **6.00 pm**.

PRESENT:

Councillor Martin Ashcroft (Chairman) and
Councillors Dorothy Bowman, Ian Gray, Mrs Sandra Haigh, Jed Hillary, Joanne Jones, and Carl Robinson

OFFICERS:

Mr D. Austin (Town Clerk)
Mrs J. Thexton (Head of Leisure and Events)
Miss A. Donald (Corporate and Policy Officer)
Mrs R. Goddard (Clerical and Events Assistant)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor Arun Chandran

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Phillip Hawkins, Wendy Hillary, Neville Jones, Ken Robson, Maureen Shelton, and Michael Stead.

2. MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS

No requests for dispensations had been received.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no questions from members of the public.

5. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Jed Hillary, seconded by Councillor Carl Robinson, and

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Events Sub-Committee, held on 8th November 2021, which had been previously agreed, be received.

6. COUNCIL EVENTS UPDATE

The Head of Leisure and Events submitted a report updating members on the Council's community events programme for 2021/22.

Senior Citizens' Excursions

The Head of Leisure and Events had prepared a proposed list of eight potential excursions from which it was requested that Members approve five plus one standby to make up the 2022 programme of Senior Citizens' Trips.

Following discussions, Members agreed on the following five locations plus standby, for the 2022 Senior Citizens' Trips:-

1. Thirsk (to include a trip to James Herriot World)
2. York (to include a trip to the Railway Museum)
3. Eden Camp
4. Ripon (to include a trip to the Black Sheep Brewery)
5. Leeds (to include a trip to the Royal Armouries)

Standby - Morpeth (to include a trip to Belsay Hall)

It was proposed by Councillor Martin Ashcroft, seconded by Councillor Jed Hillary and

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) The Head of Leisure and Events book the 2022 Senior Citizens' Excursions based on the five locations of Thirsk, York, Eden Camp, Ripon, and Leeds, with a standby option of Morpeth, and go ahead with further planning of the event

Fun in the Parks

It was reported that the events staff are currently in the early stages of organising the Fun in the Parks event for the summer holiday period and a further update will be provided to the next meeting.

Skate Fest

It was noted that the Skate Fest was organised in conjunction with a professional skate company, which supplied skaters and a programme for the event. A reply was awaited regarding available dates for the skaters. It was suggested that the event could be postponed until September, when the professional skaters would be more likely to be available.

It was proposed by Councillor Martin Ashcroft, seconded by Councillor Jed Hillary and

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- ii) The event proceeds in September or an alternative time of the year when the skate company and skaters are available.

Big Brass Bash

It was reported that this event was part of a festival organised by Durham County Council. The Head of Leisure and Events has emailed contacts within the County Council regarding the 2022 event, with no response received to date.

Councillor Jed Hillary requested that The Head of Leisure and Events enquires why Durham County Council charges the Town Council to hold this event on land owned by the Town Council.

Fireworks Display

It was reported that the Fireworks Display had taken place on 5th November 2021. The event had been very successful and well received by the public.

Santa Tours

It was reported that the Santa Tours had taken place on 24th December 2021. The event had been very successful and well received by the public.

Santa Letters

It was reported that the Santa Letters service proceeded during the first two weeks of December 2021 and was very well received. It was proposed that in 2022, children receive a key with a message from Santa with their letter.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

The Head of Leisure and Events submitted a report detailing the initial planning for an event to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June, to include a community picnic on Oak Leaf playing fields, with 1950's music and band, food stall, children's competitions, show rides and other attractions, culminating in the lighting of a beacon at 9.09pm.

A number of further ideas and suggestions put forward by members including offering grants to community organisations holding street parties, liaising with the town centre owners regarding a shop window display competition, and ensuring the effective publicising of the event. Following discussion it was

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- iii) Planning for this event proceed as detailed in the report.
- iv) Further consideration be given to a more permanent, lasting memorial of the occasion.

7. EXTERNAL EVENT APPLICATIONS

Cyclocross Event

An event application had been received from North East Cyclocross to hold an event on Sunday 6th March 2022 on the field to the rear of the Oakleaf Sports Complex. Members were also asked to consider if a charge should be levied to cover the overtime cost for the required attendance of a member of Work Section staff.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Carl Robinson, seconded by Councillor Jed Hillary and

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) Permission be given for the Cyclocross event to go ahead on Council land at the Oakleaf Sports Complex on 6th March 2022.
- ii) The works section overtime cost be covered by the Council from the Community Events Budget.

Newton Aycliffe 1st Food Festival and Craft Fair

An application had been received from Junction 7 for financial assistance to hold a Food Festival on 4th and 5th June 2022 in the Town Centre.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Martin Ashcroft, seconded by Councillor Carl Robinson and

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- iii) A grant of £1000.00 would be given to Junction 7, with a condition that any unspent funds to be reimbursed to the Council after the event has taken place

Ayclife Music Festival 2022

An event application had been received from Ayclife Events Ltd to hold a music festival on Saturday 30th July 2022, on the Oak Leaf Sports Complex field. A grant of £10,000.00 was also requested towards the cost of running the event.

Members discussed the event and agreed that it would be of benefit to the town but questioned the level of financial contribution required from the Town Council and the lack of supporting information included with the application. It was agreed that the Council's support for the event taking place be agreed in principle, but that any decision regarding the use of Council land and the approval of financial assistance be deferred pending more detailed information being received from the organiser.

It was proposed by Councillor Martin Ashcroft, seconded by Councillor Carl Robinson and

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- iv) The event application be supported in principle only, pending further detailed information being received from the organiser.

Chairman