

EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 25TH MAY 2022

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

PRESENT:

Councillors Tony Armstrong, Martin Ashcroft, Bob Fleming, Sandra Haigh, Phillip Hawkins, Jed Hillary, Joanne Jones, Neville Jones, Ken Robson, Anne Woodward, John Woodward

OFFICERS:

Mr D. Austin (Town Clerk)
Mrs J. Thexton (Head of Leisure and Events)
Mrs R. Goddard (Clerical Assistant)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor Arun Chandran
Councillor Carl Robinson

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor Ken Robson, seconded by Councillor Bob Fleming, that Councillor Martin Ashcroft be appointed Chairman of the Events Sub-Committee for the municipal year 2022/23.

RESOLVED – that Councillor Martin Ashcroft be appointed Chairman of the Events Sub-Committee for the municipal year 2022/23.

Councillor Ashcroft took the Chair for the meeting.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor Ken Robson, seconded by Councillor Bob Fleming, that Councillor Phillip Hawkins be appointed Vice Chairman of the Events Sub-Committee for the municipal year 2022/23.

RESOLVED – that Councillor Phillip Hawkins be appointed Vice Chairman of the Events Sub-Committee for the municipal year 2022/23.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Wendy Hillary

4. MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS

No requests for dispensations had been received.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no questions from members of the public.

7. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Jed Hillary, seconded by Councillor Tony Armstrong, and

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Events Sub-Committee, held on the 25th January 2022, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

8. COUNCIL EVENTS REPORT

The Head of Leisure and Events submitted a report updating members on the Council's community events programme for 2022/23.

Senior Citizens' Trips

Members received an update on the planning of the Senior Citizens' Trips.

It was requested by Councillors Neville Jones and Joanne Jones that questionnaires are issued to both attendees and non-attendees of the trips to establish which venues they would like to see on the 2023 trips.

Fun in the Parks

Members received an update on the planning of the Fun in the Parks.

It was requested by Councillor Joanne Jones that consideration be given in future years to holding a Fun in the Park event on a weekend to accommodate working parents.

Skatefest

Members received an update on the planning of the Skatefest event.

Councillor Bob Fleming requested that officers undertake further discussions with the skatepark company with a view to holding the event in September.

Big Brass Bash

Members received an update on the possibility of purchasing Big Brass Bash and Little Brass Bash performances from Durham County Council in July 2022 and were asked to consider venues and the cost of hosting the events.

Councillor Jed Hilary raised concerns regarding the Council having to pay to hold this event when neighbouring areas receive it for free. It was advised that this matter has been raised with Durham County Council.

Following discussions, it was proposed by Councillor Bob Fleming, seconded by Councillor Joanne Jones and

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) The Little Brass Bash be held at Aycliffe Village Park
- ii) The Big Brass Bash be held to the Town Centre Park

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Members received an update on the planning of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Event.

Members were asked to consider locations for a permanent memorial in the form of a small commemorative copse of trees.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Bob Fleming, seconded by Councillor Jed Hillary and

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- iii) The small copse be planted in the Town Centre Park and a plaque be added once trees are established.
- iv) A commemorative tree be planted on Aycliffe Village Green accompanied by a plaque.

Proposed Community Dog Walk

Officers proposed organising a new community dog walk event starting from the Oak Leaf Sports Complex on Saturday 9th July and walking a section of the Great Aycliffe Way.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Bob Fleming, seconded by Councillor Martin Ashcroft and

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- v) The Community Dog Walk Event go ahead on 9th July 2022

Town 75th Anniversary

It was advised that a meeting had taken place with an official from Durham County Council regarding plans for the Town's 75th Anniversary in 2023, and members were asked to put forward suggestions for the celebrations.

A discussion took place and a number of suggestions were put forward for further consideration including family discos, arts projects, a commemorative stone, working with community groups and the town centre owners, and holding an exhibition of photographs and memorabilia. These suggestions will be considered by officers ahead of a further report to a future meeting.

9. EXTERNAL EVENTS APPLICATIONS

The Head of Leisure and Events submitted a report requesting members' consideration of two applications from external organisations for the use of Council land for events they were organising.

Aycliffe Village Queen's Platinum Jubilee Event

An application was received from the Great Aycliffe Village Hall Association to hold a Queen's Platinum Jubilee event on Saturday 4th June 2022 on Aycliffe Village Green.

Following discussions, it was proposed by Councillor Bob Fleming, seconded by Councillor Joanne Jones and

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) the use of the Aycliffe Village Green on Saturday 4th June 2022 be granted to the Great Aycliffe Village Hall Association to hold a Queen's Platinum Jubilee event subject to the conditions set out in the report being met and a licence being signed.
- ii) that Standing Orders be waived to allow officers to immediately advise the Village Hall Association of the sub-committee's decision so they can finalise the arrangements for the event to take place on 4th June.

Durham County Council / Gala Theatre

Members received an application from the Programme Manager at the Gala Theatre, Durham, regarding a family show that is touring outdoor spaces in County Durham this summer, and requesting permission to use the Town Park as the venue.

Following discussions, it was proposed by Councillor Tony Armstrong, seconded by Councillor Ken Robson and

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- iii) Use of the Town Park be granted on 11th August to allow Durham County Council to hold an outdoor theatre production, subject to the relevant risk assessments and other documentation being received, reviewed and agreed by officers.

Chairman