

PRESENT:

East Ward:

Councillor Mrs J Gubb (Chairman)
Councillor J Hellyer

South Ward:

Councillor S Inch
Councillor P Lawrence

North Ward:

Councillor D Bushby

West Ward:

Councillor C Hawkins

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs L Dixon-Chatfield, Town Clerk's Asst
Councillor K Hind

046. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

None

047. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillor Mrs Gubb (Chairman) declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 029 – D-Day 80 – her son is providing the outside PA system.

048. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

There were no members of the public in attendance.

049. MINUTES

Proposed by Councillor S Inch and seconded by Councillor Hawkins, the minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2023 were approved and signed as a correct record.

(Vote – For: 6, Against: 0)

050. TO UPDATE ON THE TICKETED EVENT FOR THE 450TH ANNIVERSARY CHARTER ON 16TH DECEMBER 2023.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to update on the event. The Clerk advised members that 75 were booked in for the evening and that some had paid in advance. Members were pleased with the numbers and the Chairman was happy to cut off the bookings at that number. Councillor Bushby asked if the top gallery could be used but the Clerk aired her concerns for safety on the top gallery and explained that the audio and visual would not be that great. She would work out a seating plan with the Maintenance Team. The digi screens would be needed too and positioning of those would need to be thought through with the numbers of seats.

The Clerk advised that the Town Clerk had sourced a card reader and that now payments could be taken electronically or by cash. Although for speed it would be quicker to take cash on the night in order to avoid a queue.

She was waiting to hear back from Prof Horton and would try contacting him again.

Councillor Bushby offered to get some raffle prizes for the interval.

Councillor Lawrence informed members that he would not be available that evening.

The Clerk noted that 4 members would be available to help with the evening arrangements and pointed out to them that stewarding would be the most important task and answering any questions.

Councillor Lawrence advised that he had been in touch with Ms Hinton regarding the appearance of Queen Elizabeth I and Sir Richard Grenville at the event, and it was hoped that either both or one of them would be in full costume.

051. TO DISCUSS AND RECEIVE UPDATES FOR THE D-DAY 80 BEACON LIGHTING ON 6TH JUNE 2024 AND CONTINUE FORMING A PLAN.

The Chairman advised members that the meeting held at the Pollyfield on 22nd November had been very helpful and that notes had been circulated to them. (Notes form part of these minutes).

The Chairman explained that it had been discussed to use the Skittle Alley as an Exhibition room – members agreed for permission to be obtained from Full Council to transport the War display cabinet and the two Rolls of Honour to the Pollyfield Centre, dependent on the advice from the Insurers. This would be on the next full Council agenda.

Councillor Bushby noted the comments regarding the fish and chips. He had been in touch with the suppliers who had advised him that they could serve 100 portions of fish and chips in an hour, then would have to wait before doing the next 100. As this is one of our events where we do not ticket it, we have no idea of numbers attending.

Some members were of a mind that it would be quiet because it is a Thursday, others felt the opposite as there would be free food!

After more discussion, members agreed that they would discuss the provision of a buffet with the Pollyfield Centre, but would be firm about numbers, presentation, second showing of food and quantity. They agreed a budget of up to £1,000 should cover the potential numbers attending.

Councillor Bushby, who had not attended the Pollyfield meeting was reassured by the notes regarding the service of alcohol as he did not want the same problems that were encountered at Jubilee.

The Chairman advised members that another meeting would be set up for a lighter evening in the early Spring to look at the outside set up and involve the Town Cryer and Mr Harper.

052. TO DISCUSS UPDATES TO THE LITTLE AMERICA INFORMATION PANELS

The Clerk apologised to members that she had not progressed this any further and would prefer to concentrate on the events coming up before splitting her time. Members were understanding.

053. TO DISCUSS AND RECOMMEND PROCEEDING WITH THE PROVISION OF THE CHRISTMAS ICE RINK EVENT 2024

Councillor Bushby explained that because of circumstances beyond his and the Town Clerk's control, the visit planned to the Bath Ice Rink was postponed. A visit was intended next week.

The Clerk had circulated to members the feedback received from Affinity.

Councillor Lawrence had received some feedback from Tarka as had the Town Clerk both reports were noted by members.

054. TO DISCUSS IDEAS FOR 2024 AND LOOK AT WAYS OF UTILISING THE PANNIER MARKET HALL

- Roller Skating – no further update.
- Annual events and a Christmas Party – no further update.
- Wedding Receptions – Members asked if there were photographs of the Wedding Reception held in September. The Clerk would make enquiries.
- Pancake Day activities – The Clerk would look to see what was available in the files the former Market Development Officer.
- Cream Tea Festival or a Bake Off event – no further update.

Councillor Bushby concluded that he had not ask received any further information regarding the Climbing Wall idea.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 6.00pm.

The business of the meeting having been completed, the Chairman thanked the members for their attendance, and the meeting concluded at 6.45 pm.