

PRESENT:

East Ward:

Councillor Mrs J Gubb (Town Mayor)

South Ward:

Councillors Mrs S Langford
Councillor S Inch (Chairman)
Councillor P Lawrence

North Ward:

Councillor D Bushby
Councillor C Hawkins

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs L Dixon-Chatfield, Town Clerk's Asst

032. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received.

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

No declarations were received at this part of the meeting.

034. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

There were no members of the public in attendance.

035. MINUTES

Proposed by Councillor Bushby and seconded by Councillor Lawrence, the minutes of the meeting held on 18th October 2022 were approved and signed as a correct record.

(Vote – For: 6, Against: 0)

036. TO DISCUSS AND UPDATE ON THE IDEA OF BIDEFORD'S GOT TALENT

The Chairman asked if there were any further updates. The subject had been discussed at the informal meeting on 2nd November and the date had been established for the event: Friday 21st July 2023. Basic requirements would be needed; PA, small stage, lights, workshop units in the Market Hall would need to be hidden. Sponsorship of the event, in order to bring in a cash prize. The Clerk explained that she had booked the Pannier Market for the event on 21st July 2023 and had also booked the Friday before (14th) for rehearsals. She added that there would be further progress after the Christmas break.

037. TO DISCUSS THE DETAILS OF THE INFFORMAL MEETING REGARDING BIDEFORD'S 450TH ANNIVERSARY

The informal meeting had taken place on 2nd November and was attended by the Tourism Committee, Councillor Christie and Lucy Lowe.

- It was agreed that Bideford Fair would be the main carrier of the celebrations as the weather and more clement. Starting with a Civic Procession. This would be on Saturday 3rd June 2023.
 - Councillor Christie had arranged for space in the Burton for a Panorama of Bideford's history using records from the PC Record Office.
- Members discussed:
- Getting schools involved in some way, perhaps a competition where they make a picture or a sculpture relating to the Elizabethan times.
 - A history trail

- A re-enactment of the Signing of the Charter by Elizabeth I, involving Sir Richard Grenville – this could be a part for the Mayor. Members further discussed bringing in a troupe of actors. This could be played out at various times during the day in Victoria Park and perhaps Jubilee Square. The Clerk would first speak with Bideford 500 about their members who could be involved.
- To hold a ticketed event in the Town Hall in December, nearer the actual date, with a historical presentation.

The Clerk confirmed she had spoken with most of the main Event organisers and asked them to bring in the Anniversary in their arrangements. This included the Eat:Festival on 1st April.

038. TO DISCUSS UPDATES FOR THE PLANS TO CELEBRATE THE KING'S CORONATION IN 2023.

The Chairman was pleased that a date had been set for Saturday 6th May 2023 followed by a Bank Holiday on Monday 8th May. The Clerk had not heard of any Beacon lighting events and was in doubt as to whether the King had a Pageant Master. Members discussed the King's wish to down-scale the Coronation. Councillor Bushby asked the Clerk to contact the Lord Lieutenant and High Sheriff of Devon to find out if there were any special arrangements.

The Clerk had contacted Northam Town Council about the medals they gave for Jubilee and had received some details but not the prices. She would get back in touch with them.

039. TO DISCUSS AND CONFIRM THE THEME FOR THE PORT MEMORIAL DECORATIVE BED FOR 2023

The Chairman asked if there had been any updates. The Clerk confirmed that she had received quotes for the flowers and the backboard. The Maintenance Supervisor had met with the Merry Harriers supplier of the flowers and how they would be arranged in the flower bed with the wording BIDEFORD 1573 – 2023. The flowers selected would give a very colourful display throughout the summer. The Clerk had received a quote from Jag Signs for a back board of the same construction as the Jubilee, in three sections. She would start on the design.

The quotes came in at:

Merry Harriers – £998.50 (ex VAT)

Jag Signs – £498.00 (ex VAT)

With a total budget of £1,500, this came in just under.

Proposed by: Councillor Inch and seconded by Councillor Bushby, and

RECOMMENDED: That the theme for the decorative bed is celebrating Bideford's 450th Anniversary of its first Charter from Queen Elizabeth I in 1573. And that the quotes received for flowers and the backboard, totalling £1,496.50, are accepted.

(Vote: For: 6, Against: 0)

040. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Members noted that the next scheduled Tourism Committee meeting was to be held on Tuesday 17th January, but the Clerk is on leave and asked if the meeting date could be changed to Tuesday 31st January 2023 at 6.00pm in the Council Chamber. Members agreed.

The business of the meeting having been completed, the Chairman thanked the members for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 6.15 pm.