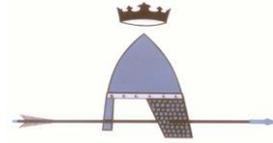




Battle Town Council



MINUTES of a COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING held on TUESDAY, 3 JANUARY 2012 at The Almonry, High Street, Battle at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Mrs S Pry - Chairman
Cllrs R Bye, R Jessop, Ms ML Neill and R McDonald.

1. Apologies for Absence – Cllrs J Boryer, J Eldridge, R Harris and M Palmer.

2. Disclosure of Interest

Cllrs Jessop and Ms Neill declared their personal interests in relation to Battle's Big Event, as the Council's representatives on the Steering Group. Cllr Jessop similarly expressed his personal interest in the Scarecrow Festival.

3. To Sign the Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 27 September 2011. Cllr McDonald proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr Ms Neill. This was agreed and they were duly signed.

4. Matters Arising from the Previous Meetings

*Cllrs Jessop and Ms Neill repeated their personal interest in **Battle's Big Event** and reported that, whilst detailed plans are still evolving, the likelihood is that the bulk of the costs qualifying for financial help from the Council will fall into 2012-13. These will relate mainly to a marquee hire for the opening weekend of 29 June – 1 July and marketing costs including the programme of events. The Committee agreed that the Council should assist in promoting the event through articles in the newsletter and by adding a link on the website to that being set up by the Big Event team. The April newsletter would be the appropriate one to include full coverage including the timetable and list of events. Cllr Jessop confirmed that the plans for the **Scarecrow Festival** would be put into the context of the Big Event programme. Cllr McDonald agreed to join the Big Event team.*

5. Battle Flag

Following Cllr Hussey's resignation Cllr Harris had reviewed progress and is in touch with the preferred flag maker regarding the details identified at the previous meeting. The Committee agreed that the aim should be to have the flag(s) available in time for the Parish Assembly on 9 May.

6. Diamond Jubilee Events

Cllr Jessop said that, at this stage, the preferred option for the Big Lunch is to encourage communities based on adjoining streets to combine and to attend a joint event at the recreation ground. It would be helpful if individual Councillors could facilitate this process. Each group would provide their own food etc but the Council would provide the infrastructure such as a marquee, tables and chairs and possibly entertainment. The marquee will probably require overnight security arrangements, although Councillors should be prepared to act as stewards on the day. At this stage Cllr Jessop anticipates costs of about £2500 in respect of which he will apply to Rother for a grant. He will also prepare a promotional item for the next newsletter. Cllr McDonald agreed to join Cllr Jessop's working group.

7. Newsletter

The next addition is due to be circulated by the end of the month. As recorded above, this should include a preview of the forthcoming events associated with the Big Event,

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Diamond Jubilee and Scarecrow Festival but with particular focus on the Big Lunch. Cllr Harris will provide his usual Chairman's Introduction and an SLR update. Other items agreed were an update on the completion of the Mansers Shaw scheme; promotion of a Youth Community Award and confirmation of Parish Assembly arrangements. As previously discussed, young people should be invited to design a poster for the Assembly. Cllr Ms Neill agreed to produce the criteria to be used in judging. There will be 3 age groups with an award for each.

8. Budget Report 2011-12

The attached report was noted. In the light of the discussions under items 5 and 6 above it was accepted that the Olympics heading would probably underspend but that spending on the Battle Flag would need to be brought forward. It was therefore agreed to leave total expenditure unchanged.

9. Budget 2012-13

The confirmed budget for next year was noted.

10. Matters for Information and Future Agenda Items

Cllr Ms Neill will further develop her thoughts for engaging young people. In this context Cllr Mrs Pry tabled a document about a British Youth Council initiative called the Local Councillor Shadowing Award. This appears to be aimed at Principal Councils, though it includes some useful tips which could be adopted by the Town Council.

11. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 13 March 2011

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

CLLR MRS S PRY
Chairman

