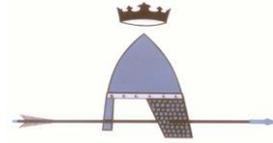




Battle Town Council



MINUTES of a COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING held on TUESDAY, 13 MARCH 2012 at The Almonry, High Street, Battle at 7.30pm

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

- 1. Apologies for Absence** – Cllrs R Bye and R Harris.
Cllrs J Boryer and J Eldridge were absent.
- 2. Disclosure of Interest** – None.
- 3. To Sign the Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 3 January 2012.** Cllr Ms Neill proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr Jessop. This was agreed and they were duly signed.
- 4. Matters Arising from the Previous Meetings**
The Clerk confirmed that the final design of the **flag** had been agreed and an order placed for its manufacture. Delivery is expected within the next 2-3 weeks.

Other than confirming that the opening and closing arrangements for the **Big Event** appear to have been finalised those involved were unable to provide much further information. However, at a meeting of the Battle Marketing Group on 6 March a presentation had been made which indicated that a range of community events are being developed. The main activities over the opening weekend 29 June to 1 July will comprise a barn dance, the Bonfire Boyes Summer Fayre and Carnival, to be followed by a dance and disco and a Battle Light Opera Concert with tea party. The closing ceremony 8-9 September will be a weekend of music, dancing and show casing local produce. As and when further events are confirmed they will be advertised on the Big Event website.

A number of **Diamond Jubilee Events** appear to be emerging. The opening of the Diamond Jubilee garden in front of the ambulance station will be on 1 June. It is understood that the combined churches will be holding a picnic at the recreation ground 27 May and the restaurants and pubs are developing ideas for a “street party” on the Abbey Green on 5 June. Cllr Ms Neill felt that the opportunity should be taken to re-launch the resurfaced tennis courts in celebration of the Diamond Jubilee and Members were reminded that the Council has agreed to present commemorative mugs to local school children.

5. Newsletter

It was agreed that the next newsletter should major on the Big Event and Diamond Jubilee events together with Battle in Bloom related activities. In so doing it should encourage residents to record events in which they are involved with a view to these featuring in the autumn newsletter. In terms of the timetable it was agreed that both the newsletter and Annual Report should be circulated at the same time in the third week of April. Since this will be by post every resident will receive a copy of the newsletter and the opportunity should be taken to ask those who have not previously received it through the hand delivery system to advise the Council accordingly.

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6. Annual Report

The Clerk reported feedback in respect of a number of issues: bigger font would be preferred; more photographs would be appreciated and a brief commentary on the accounts has been requested. The comment about the size of the font also applies to the newsletter. The Committee agreed that changes in all these respects should be reflected in the next Report. The Committee expressed a strong preference for the new flag to feature on the front of the Report. Otherwise the previous format should be repeated though last year's section based on Committee reports could be replaced by a shorter summary of activities focussing on matters not otherwise contained in the Chairman's introduction.

7. Parish Assembly

The Committee confirmed that an invitation should now be extended to local groups and organisations to hold a table display. The St Valery Room has been reserved for this purpose. Otherwise the Committee could see no reason to change the arrangements which have worked well in the past 2-3 years including a Question Time session. They noted that Ch Insp Woolford will be attending and suggested that it would be of more interest if she could speak on a specific topic rather than give a general presentation.

8. Marketing Report

Cllr Palmer gave a brief report of the Battle Marketing meeting held on 6 March. To a large extent this had covered ways of means of increasingly using technology to communicate information about events and activities in the town. As last year, an annual events postcard will be produced for circulation with the Town Council's Annual Report. Plans for a tear-off map are progressing and this should be ready for production before Easter. Confirmation was given that the new Battle Information Point will be located in Yesterday's World. This will be accompanied by a press release and all necessary replacement signage will be in place shortly. As mentioned in item 4 above, there had also been an update on Battle's Big Event. Cllr Palmer added that through the 1066 Marketing Group, and supported by Lottery Funding, a project to create a "mobile museum" accessed through smart phones is being developed.

9. Community Liaison Aspects of Quality Council Re-accreditation

Cllr Ms Neill reminded the Committee of the suggestions made through the Estates Committee. More specifically Cllr Mrs Pry confirmed that Claverham Community College is seeking to develop greater links with the town. They will be entering the Scarecrow Festival and hope to become more involved with "in Bloom" activity. They are also looking at the design of the newsletter with a view to suggesting improvements.

10. Budget Report 2011-12

The attached report was noted though the Clerk highlighted that the anticipated spend on Battle's Big Event (Olympics) is now unlikely to materialise in the current financial year.

11. Matters for Information and Future Agenda Items – None.

12. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 12 June 2011

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

CLLR MRS S PRY
Chairman

