



Battle Town Council



MINUTES of the EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND TOWN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE held on TUESDAY, 4 JULY 2018 at The Almonry, High Street, Battle at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs M Kiloh (Chairman), V Cook, G Favell and D Wheeler.

In attendance: Cllr J Boryer, Carol Harris (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence – Cllr Furness.

Cllr Davies was absent.

2. Disclosure of interest – None.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2018 were agreed by Members and duly signed by Cllr Kiloh.

4. Battle Visual Arts Development Committee and Finance sub Group

The minutes had been circulated, as attached. The Clerk confirmed that commitments for part of the approved scheme would result in an overspend of the grant funding. This will, in time be offset by the sale of the Children's Activity Book which is already being sold by retailers in the town. Cllr Favell reported that, due to ESCC procedures and costs involved, it is now proposed to site the markers at Cherry Gardens and Lake Meadow once approval has been obtained. The project will be officially launched in September.

5. Matters arising from previous minutes, not on this agenda

The Clerk confirmed:

- that the quotes for the wildlife signs are being confirmed;
- designs have been received for Christmas light 'strings' and prices are awaited;
- defibrillator training at the Netherfield Village Hall has been agreed for Wednesday 1 August between 19.00 and 21.00 and that the trainer will also be advising on appropriate equipment for installation at Marley Lane. Secamb will also consider ongoing maintenance;
- Emails have been sent to the lead persons on the TIME Working Group and a response is awaited

Cllr Kiloh reminded members that it had been agreed to incorporate the **TIME working group** into the Almonry Community Heritage Centre WG. However, it was clear that there was not enough detailed information available to include into the HLF bid for the August deadline. Members discussed the benefits of the interactive street furniture and Town Model exhibit and the Clerk was asked to speak with Olivia Post and Mike Dawes about how to take these items forward again. The Clerk was asked to invite Mr Jempson to the next meeting to discuss possible long-term management of the Market Square.

6. Action plan

Members agreed to discuss Objective 1 and consider additional objectives at subsequent meetings.

It was noted that objection 1 requires a complete reconfiguration. Members agreed that a database for residents to receive regular email updates, similar to the Rother Alerts, could

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inform on events and news on a more personal level should be created. As requested at the Parish Assembly, a regular 3 monthly Councillors drop-in service prior to the Full Council meeting was agreed. These items to be added to the Action Plan.

7. Writing competition Working Group

The notes of the **meeting held on 18 June** were noted, as attached. It was suggested that a budget for medals to be issued to the winners should be included for the next financial year.

8. Advertising rates for Battle Newsletter from September 2018

The current income from advertising and newsletter expenditure was noted. It was agreed that annual renewals should be encouraged and that rates should remain the same as the current year. The Clerk highlighted an item in recent Battle Marketing minutes stating that the Events cards had been sent out “free due to advertising on the back about the Heritage Trail”. Members noted that this had not been approved and **agreed that an invoice for £300 should be issued to the Battle Marketing Group.**

9. Events sub Committee

The minutes of the meetings held on 22 May and 12 June were noted. **Members agreed the recommendations:**

- **to contribute £225 (Remembrance Day 4496) for the beacon;**
- **a budget of £250 (Hospitality 4475) for the Battle in Bloom event.**

10. Wildflower Meadow Working Group

Cllr Furness had submitted a written report advising:

- a successful fundraising event had been held raising £500 towards Yellow Rattle seeds;
- a bank account had been opened for these funds;
- 15 volunteers conduct audits of verges;
- ES Highways and Keith Datchler attend meetings;
- nearby Councils are considering following Battle’s example.

Cllr Boryer confirmed that a meeting will be held tomorrow. He emphasised that the main areas of activity are Virgins Lane and Caldbec Hill. He expressed concern at the practicalities of the grass cutting regime and the division of responsibility between the Environment and ER&TD Committees. It was agreed that: the Working Group are advising on land owned by ESCC and the Environment Committee continue to manage its own or licenced land; and the grass cutting should be discussed with ESCC. The Clerk reminded Members that Council will be considering action in relation of grass cutting for 2018/19 during budget considerations later in the year.

The Clerk highlighted that some activities being carried out by the group do not fall within the remit of a Working Group. Members agreed that, whilst not wishing to impact on the enthusiasm of the group, it should be asked to consider if they wish to remain a Working Group and set up an appropriate Terms of Reference and produce how objectives will be met or set up as an external group.

11. Heritage Policy Working Group

Cllr Kiloh reported that the next meeting will be held on 17 July. She confirmed that at the previous meeting the objectives had been agreed and individual members assigned areas to report. 2 members are to produce a Heritage Policy for recommendation to the Committee.

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12. Battle Resilience Plan

Members agreed to the proposed Terms and Objectives for the Working Group, as attached. It was noted that a third Member, to act as Convener, would be sought at Full Council.

13. Gunpowder Mortars

As there is no firm proposal for these items, it was agreed to leave on the Action Plan and discuss further.

14. Marketing

The minutes of the latest meeting were noted as attached.

15. Placing of A boards and troughs on the High Street

Members noted that ESCC have requested licences from all businesses requiring items to be placed on the highway (pavement). The Clerk confirmed that one licence is required for all the Council's flower tubs in the High Street. **It was agreed that the Clerk should arrange for the licence.**

16. Financial matters

The budget report to 31 May 2018 was noted, as attached.

17. Matters for information / future agenda items

- **Great British High Street** – invite Battle Chamber of Commerce President

18. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 4 September 2018

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.47pm.

CLLR M KILOH
Chairman