

Melksham Town Council

Minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting held on Monday 23rd January 2023

PRESENT: Councillor P Aves (Chair)
Councillor G Ellis (Vice-Chair)
Councillor J Crundell
Councillor C Houghton
Councillor S Mortimer
Councillor S Rabey

OFFICERS: Linda Roberts Town Clerk
Patsy Clover Deputy Town Clerk

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: No members of the public or press were present.

64/22 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Mortimer.

65/22 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

66/22 Minutes

The minutes of 5 September 2022, having previously been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair, Councillor Aves.

67/22 Melksham Maypole

Councillor Aves recommended that, in view of the lack of enthusiasm from the groups/schools consulted, the idea of purchasing a community maypole was not to be pursued. She requested that the Community Development Officer and Communications and Events Officer liaise with Aloeric School regarding holding a maypole event at the coronation celebrations.

68/22 Events Working Group

The notes of the Events Working Group meetings held on 1 September 2022, 6 October 2022, 3 November 2022, and 12 January 2023 were received.

69/22 Community Arts Projects

It was proposed by Councillor Price, seconded by Councillor Aves and

RESOLVED to take the following projects forward:

Underpass
Yarn Bombing
Arts Festival

Grant funding is to be investigated for the underpass project as concerns were raised about the costs involved. Councillor Rabey emphasised that modern graffiti art should be embraced when working on the underpass. Councillor Aves said that she would arrange a meeting with the Community Development Officer to discuss the yarn bombing project and the Art Festival. Councillor Hubbard suggested that early promotion and publicity would be essential in making the project a success.

It was also noted that the Town Hall would be used as a location for the Peacock Arts Trail in the autumn.

70/22 Virtual Hub

Councillor Houghton explained that the Virtual Hub Working Group were considering quotes and options currently.

Councillor Hubbard was concerned that any quotes obtained now would be obsolete by the time that the Town Council had the budget to progress the project especially as complex projects, such as this, couldn't be developed overnight.
Need to be clearer re spec.

The issue of ensuring that the specification for the virtual hub was exactly what the Council wanted was raised by Councillor Aves.

It was proposed by Councillor Aves, seconded by Councillor Houghton and

RESOLVED to continue investigating possibilities for a virtual hub in the future and to investigate whether there was any grant funding available.

71/22 Coronation of King Charles III

Councillor Houghton explained that plans to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III were in the very early stages and that the Events Working Group were looking for more ideas.

Councillor Rabey suggested applying for a road closure notice for the Market Place, involving local businesses, and holding a street party. The 5k run proposed by the Town Clerk could lead into the street party.

Councillor Price thought that it would be a better idea to hold events on Sunday 7 May and screen the actual coronation on Saturday 5 May. He suggested that help could be provided to residents with their own road closure applications.

The Town Clerk explained that grant funding opportunities were available for coronation events, subject to any criteria specified, and that there may be more flexibility regarding road closure applications for the coronation.

The Community Development Officer recommended holding a small consultation with the community to make sure that the Town Council were delivering what the community wanted.

Councillor Hubbard suggested that the Town Council could hire Melksham Community buses for the day to bring people to the events. Those who were housebound could be brought to the Assembly Hall to watch the coronation on the big screen with afternoon tea.

It was proposed by Councillor Price, seconded by Councillor Houghton and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to check the availability of Melksham Community buses and the hire costs.

When councillors were asked for their top five/ six ideas, the following were suggested:

- Screening the coronation on a big screen
- Street party
- 5k run
- Morris dancing
- Majorettes
- Shop windows competition
- Bunting

Councillor Houghton suggested asking councillors for their ideas at the Full Council meeting to be held on 30 January.

72/22 The Breastfeeding Welcome Scheme and Signage

It was proposed by Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Price and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to install breastfeeding welcome signage at all Melksham Town Council properties, land and facilities, and to contact every single business in town to encourage them to sign up to the Breastfeeding Welcome Scheme.

Meeting Closed at: 7.46 pm

Signed:

Dated:

