

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting of the
Events Committee
held on Monday 24th April 2024 at 19:00hrs
in the Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road, Thattham

Present: Councillor Mark Lillycrop (Chairman)
 Councillors Suzanne Adamantos, Tom McCann, Petra Pemberton,
 Ben Schiffer-Harte, Stephanie Steevenson and Val Watts (substituting for
 Mike Cole)

In attendance: John Sackett (Events Manager) and Emily Moseley (Events Officer)
 Councillor Tom McCann
 Kierra Desay and Chris Turner (Thattham 10K Run Committee)

EV/2024/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jeff Brooks, Mike Cole (Val Watts appointed as substitute) and Jay Lunn.

EV/2024/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Steevenson declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item number 5 (EV/2024/17) as a member of the Royal British Legion Thattham Branch.

EV/2024/15 MINUTES PREVIOUS EVENTS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

that the minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2024, having been previously circulated, be taken as read, confirmed, and signed as an accurate record.

EV/2024/16 BUDGET REVIEW 2023/24

The Events Manager explained that all budgets for 2023/24 were on target, and that different staff were eligible to overtime depending on their contracts as well as options of TOIL or paid overtime when servicing events.

EV/2024/17 D-DAY 80

Councillor Adamantos (assumed Mayor Elect) confirmed that, if elected as Mayor, she was keen to attend the evening commemorations at Greenham Control Tower formally. This had been communicated to Greenham Parish Council. The shuttle bus service that would be available to take residents of Thattham to Greenham Control Tower would be free. The Events Manager explained there was a communication strategy for the evening event.

RESOLVED

to support the structure of the service at the Memorial Garden at 11.00am, supporting the Royal British Legion Thattham Branch's commemoration and the evening event at Greenham Control Tower, and to request that all Councillors were informed of event as soon as possible.

EV/2024/18 MUSIC SURVEY- NEXT STAGES

The Events Manager provided an update on a meeting that took place between Berkshire Music Trust (BMT), Councillors Adamantos and Lillycrop and the Events Manager. Proposal to work with BMT on one of their options for Music in the Community Workshops was welcomed by Members. Thattham Town Council funding of £2,500 to be considered by the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 29th April 2024. Further fundraising still required to enable the project to take place.

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EV/2024/18 MUSIC SURVEY- NEXT STAGES continued

Councillor McCann enquired whether there would be future financial commitment beyond 2024/25 that the Council may be required to make if project was successful and the Events Manager explained that the long term view would be for other stakeholders / funding streams to support and develop the project but in the short term there would be a requirement for the Council to support initial development stages. Members supported the outlined approach.

A funding application for the project would be made through The Good Exchange. It was requested that the limit of how much Thatcham Town Council can apply for in a financial year to The Good Exchange for all projects, and what the current amount we had applied for, be provided to Members.

EV/2024/19 RURAL TOURING SCHEME

Members welcomed the planned development, which would provide the following productions between Spring and Autumn; 1 indoor performance of Roald Dahl at the Frank Hutchings Community Hall during May half-term, 2 performances of The Library at the Edge of the World at Thatcham Family Fun Day on 30th June, 1 performance of Emotomatic at KidsFest on 29th August and 1 performance during Thatcham Festival to be confirmed.

EV/2024/20 KIDS FEST THATCHAM

Councillor McCann enquired whether businesses were being invited to be involved in Town Centre Events, and the Events Manager confirmed that businesses were invited and attended a planning meeting which took place in February. Many of their thoughts on content and marketing had been adopted in the plans for both Kids Fest as well as other proposed Town Centre Events. Councillor Pemberton explained that she had also been provided with comprehensive information by the Events Officer (now Community Engagement Manager).

Councillor Adamantos welcomed the different activities for different ages in the 3 different locations. Report and event plans were noted and approved.

EV/2024/21 FAMILY FUN DAY

The Events Manager provided a verbal update on developments and some of the new attractions that had been booked, including the Newbury Pride in Thatcham mini-parade which was discussed in detail. Councillor Steevenson explained the origin of Family Fun Day and the Family/Kids Run and was pleased to see that it had been reinstated this year. Councillor Steevenson queried traders selling alcohol and was happy to see that the offer was a limited one with quality craft traders that the Town Council had worked with in the past and that the consumption of alcohol would be within restricted hours.

EV/2024/22 THATCHAM 10K RUN

Councillor Schiffer-Harte provided an update on what he believed was a very successful event. Target figure of 250 booked was achieved with 216 running on the day. Feedback from participants on how well run the event was and the quality of medals and T-Shirts. Members requested that the Race Committee should all be informed of their thanks on a well-run event.

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EV/2024/23 OTHER EVENTS

Councillor McCann requested that approaches to stallholders and market operators (with quality stalls) should be made as soon as possible if we wished to attract them for this year's Christmas Market.

Councillor McCann suggested that approaches be made to Thatcham Memorial Foundation to ensure that events which may be lost due to the Flood alleviation works, were still retained in Thatcham. The Events Manager explained that this had happened in the case of Lawsons Circus.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:28hrs

Signed: _____ Date: _____