

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting of the
Events Committee
held on Monday 6th November 2023 at 19:00hrs
in the Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road, Thattham

Present: Councillor Mark Lillycrop (Chairman)
 Councillors Suzanne Adamantos, Jeff Brooks, Mike Cole, Ben Schiffer-Harte, Jay Lunn, Petra Pemberton, Simon Pike (substituting for Jeff Brooks), Christine Rice and Stephanie Steevenson

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

EV/2023/35 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Jeff Brooks (Councillor Simon Pike appointed as substitute).

EV/2023/36 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Lunn declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item number 7 (EV/2023/41) as owner of Picture It Framed, a town centre business. Councillor Schiffer-Harte declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 5 (EV/2023/39) as promoter of the proposal.

EV/2023/37 MINUTES

RESOLVED

that the minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2023, having been previously circulated, be taken as read, confirmed, and signed as an accurate record.

EV/2023/38 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

EV/2023/39 THATCHAM 10K RUN

RESOLVED

to allow members of public to speak.

RESOLVED

Councillor Schiffer-Harte, Kierra Desay and Chris Turner presented a progress report on the proposed Thattham 10k Run. to support the event and affirm the agreement of Full Council (FULL/2023/91) to underwrite the cost of potential losses up to £5,000.

Kierra Desay and Chris Turner left the meeting

EV/2023/40 BUDGET REVIEW 2023/24

Members noted income and expenditure costs for Events cost centres for the year to date.

EV/2023/41 EVENTS WORKING PARTY

i. Minutes

Committee noted the information regarding plans for D-Day 80 on 6th June 2024.

RESOLVED

to adopt the Minutes of the Events Working Party meeting held on 18th September 2023.

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- EV/2023/41 EVENTS WORKING PARTY continued**
- ii. Rural Touring Theatre Schemes**
Committee supported a proposal presented by the Events Officer regarding development of a rural touring theatre scheme in 2024, which would be considered further during the 2024/25 budget setting process.
- iii. Summer Town Centre Event**
Committee welcomed a proposal from Councillor Lunn and the Events Manager regarding a town centre event in summer 2024, and recommended that it be developed further following consultation with Town Centre businesses and considered at the next Events Working Party.
- EV/2023/42 THATCHAM INTRODUCING PLATFORMS**
Members of the Town Council's Youth Working Party expressed the Working Party's support for the report and its recommendations. This was endorsed by Committee and would be considered further during the 2024/25 budget setting process.
- EV/2023/43 THATCHAM FESTIVAL**
Councillor Cole left the meeting during this item
- a)** The Events Manager reported on Thatcham Festival which took place between 6th and 15th October 2023. Members commented that they felt the Festival was a success and noted the hard work that went into putting the Festival together, not just the events team but through supporting Council Officers.
Members considered the suggestion of making the Festival more of a specialist 'arts' based Festival, reducing it in size and creating a new Spring Festival. There was agreement that the current Festival's variety and duration were its strength. It was also felt that, if a spring festival was to develop, this should happen organically.
The research undertaken through the Festival was welcomed.
- b)** The Events Manager agreed to incorporate more opportunities for the public to book tickets at 'physical' locations as per the request from Councillor Steevenson.
- EV/2023/44 ARMISTICE DAY SERVICE & REMEMBRANCE PARADE**
- a)** Committee noted that Armistice Day would be observed at the War Memorial Garden at 11:00hrs on Saturday 11th November. All Councillors were invited to attend.
- b)** Committee noted that this year's Remembrance Parade would be held on Sunday 12th November, leaving from Thatcham Broadway at 10:30hrs. All Councillors were encouraged to Parade.
- EV/2023/45 FESTIVE EVENTS**
The following updates were noted:
- a)** Plans for Warming up for Christmas, with the installation of decorations and the celebration of this on Friday 1st December, were progressing smoothly.
- b)** Plans for a Festive Market on the Broadway Green on Saturday 2nd December were ongoing.

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EV/2023/45 FESTIVE EVENTS continued

Councillor Schiffer-Harte left the meeting

- c)** Thatcham and District Rotary would be managing their annual Santa Run on Sunday 3rd December.
- d)** The Mayor's Civic Carol Service would take place at St Mary's Church on Sunday 10th December.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21:04hrs

Signed: _____ Date: _____