



Minutes of the Events Committee of Matlock Town Council held on Monday 02 September 2024 at 6.00pm in the Derwent Hall at the Imperial Rooms, Matlock.

Present: In the Chair: Cllr Jason Knighton (JK)

Committee members: Cllr Marilyn Franks (MF), Cllr Ashley Orwin (AO), Cllr Steve Flitter *sub* (SF)

In attendance: Simon Hosmer (SH), Town Clerk
Victoria Brooke (VB), Events Co-ordinator

Meeting starts at 18:04

011/24 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Pat Wildgoose – Holiday

Cllr Wain & Cllr Burfoot – prior engagement

012/24 – VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS AND DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

There were no variations to the order of business or declarations of members interests

013/24 – REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

No requests for dispensation had been received

014/24 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There are no members of the public present

015/24 – MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: Monday 01 July 2024

MF: Have there been any further comments from the twinning committee?

JK: No we have heard nothing.

Proposed: Cllr Marilyn Franks, Seconded: Cllr Jason Knighton

Resolution: To approve the minutes of the meeting listed above

AO abstained as has not seen them

SF abstained as was not present at the previous meeting

016/24 – EVENTS UPDATE

VB: I want to mention the next event will be the remembrance parade. All the planning for it is done. Service sheet is complete and there will be a QR code around the park as well as paper copies available and I need to do the invites. Marilyn will be doing the County remembrance on the 10th. Road closure notice has been applied for and we are waiting on that. The bridge will be closed. Derbyshire light medical will be doing our first aid as they worked out well last year at the Christmas parade.

JK: Have you heard from Brian Smith?

VB: No, I have chased him up but nothing so far.

SF: I have names of cadets and will have the union standard conversation this week at legion meeting which will need to be carried and that will require training for a cadet to carry. I also wanted to ask the Committee about wreaths. Are we expecting people to order their own or will the Town Council do that on our behalf. Last year it caused some issues for people who couldn't get them through the websites.

MF: I took part in the Darley Dale remembrance last year and had to pay for my own wreath. It was £15 to £20 each.

JK: Do we buy our own?

VB: We had stock in hand until last year but that is now gone. So yes, we order our own. We have traditionally ordered on behalf of the RBL but when we have invoiced them we have not been paid back. That was part of the reason why we stopped ordering on their behalf.

SF: Now we are fully fledged as a branch of the RBL, we weren't before, we are owed monies from them and can claim them back in December but only then.

MF: Is there not a budget for that?

SF: In what capacity did you go to Darley Dale last year?

MF: I went as a District Councillor and paid for it myself as Darley Dale didn't. They may have paid for their own.

JK: Do other groups ask us to buy them?

VB: We sent letters to each person who has ordered from us before last year and gave them the details of how to order directly from the RBL.

SH: This was part of the decision made by Council last year in order to free up administration time for Council Officers that were doing the work of the RBL.

SF: What wasn't recognised was that secretaries of local groups changed and either they didn't get the message or they didn't understand it.

MF: The first year there will always be mistakes.

SF: People had to pay up front for them when ordering and that wasn't the case historically the groups would pay for them once invoiced which I know is work for the Town Council staff. Some weren't able to do that.

SH: Also payment has to be made by debit or credit card. You cannot send a cheque any more.

SF: No.

SH: Or BACS. That is not possible either.

VB: What do we want to do about the RBL?

MF: Full Council made the decision to amend the process so maybe we should bring this to them?

JK: Money was the big issue?

SH: The biggest issue was the time staff were spending on RBL work.

SF: What did the resolution say?

The Clerk attempts to look up the previous resolution

The Clerk finds the resolution for the Poppy Appeal from 2023

SH: The resolution was 'to move responsibility of counting back to the RBL and for the storage of Poppy stock. To consult with the local branch of the RBL with a mind to them taking on full responsibility next year.'

SF: Nothing about ordering wreaths?

SH: No they weren't mentioned.

MF: So we could order them and get the money back after?

SF: Yes the office would invoice the people.

JK: Ambulance and Fire service get their own. Everyone should be able to but I recognise that some may not be able to. I wouldn't mind people being able to ask Vicky but we have to limit it and make sure it's not too much work in the office.

VB: Most of the people have contacted me once or twice.

SF: The fire service didn't have one to lay as they assumed it would be ordered.

VB: They lay on the 11th, not the 10th. Some of the older manned organisations I guess it's difficult for them to order and rely on us for the ordering. Some people come and bring their own.

JK: Why not send a reminder email to order by a certain time.

SH: Or publicise the number to call and order their own.

VB: Add to that they can call us if they have any queries so we could talk them through the process.

MF: Maybe if we order a couple and keep them as spares in case people do forget.

JK: Will the new sound system be in place?

SH: Even if it's not we will have a PA in the park, not a problem.

SF: The RBL would prefer that the Town Council order our 3 wreaths for us and we sort the money out afterwards.

JK: What about the RNLI local branch. Should they be involved?

SH: We could contact them and see if they want to get involved.

MF: Shall we agree to order some for us and some for the RBL?

VB: We would need 3 solid with badges and 4 hollow ones.

JK: How much are they?

SH: The hollow wreath is £25 plus £2.50 for a badge and £2.25 for a ribbon. The ones the Town Council order are £20.00

AO: Would the RBL like these as a gift from the Town Council?

SF: They will pay if they have to of course. A gift would be great though.

MF: Let's do that then.

JK: It's a contribution from us.

Proposed: Cllr Ashley Orwin, Seconded Cllr Marilyn Franks

Resolution: To order 7 Wreaths for both Matlock Town Council and Royal British Legion at our cost of £81.50

Agreed unanimously with Cllr Steve Flitter abstaining due to his interest in the RBL

017/24 – MAYORAL CHARITY UPDATE

VB: We should move on to talking about the mayoral event. Jason?

JK: For the Mayor's charity I have already shaken buckets at the football match at Matlock town and made £172.78. We are having a bingo night here at the Imperial Rooms. We have invited the care homes as well as the general public. Prizes will come from the money.

SF: You could do a prize bingo, get prizes donated and then keep all the money for the charity.

AO: My business would donate a prize and surely others around the town would as well.

JK: Let's make sure we don't ask the same people we did at Christmas. We would like some entertainment on the night too.

MF: I could ask my ukulele group. It is for charity so they wouldn't charge.

JK: Yes please. Any questions?

MF: I will get back to you regarding the ukulele group.

JK: If we could organise some prizes too.

SF: I won't be able to attend as I am in London.

AO: I will ask local businesses to contribute prizes.

JK: Let's make sure it's publicised well. We need to assess how much to charge.

SF: Is it just an entrance fee or are you selling the bingo books?

VB: We were thinking of doing both and a raffle.

SH: What's the date?

VB: Friday 18th October in the Derwent hall. We have a bingo machine here on site.

No resolution was made

018/24 – TOWN FLAG REFRESH

SH: The feeling in the town is that we need some flags to replace the older, damaged ones. Some may be repairable but getting a bulk of new ones may be preferable and less costly. The outdoor team is checking flag poles as some of them may need repairing or replacing. The regime of changing flags is shown here. A lady called Kate Bond who is a local business owner who has offered to donate £150 of her own money to help us purchase some Derbyshire flags which we don't currently have. That would be £400 in total. Some of the 'Welcome back to Matlock' flags are too heavy for our flag poles and cannot be used. Could we have a discussion about when we put things up and take things down?

MF: One of the earlier Full Council meetings a Councillor asked about Rainbow flags.

SH: yes, some of those are included in this purchase.

JK: What does the rainbow flag represent?

AO: Its diversity and inclusion. It's not 'gay' specific.

MF: It was used to represent freedom after South African apartheid and then adapted through the years.

JK: There is flag bunting up in Ashbourne all year round. We should do that too. The Derbyshire flags are a must in my opinion.

SF: The problem with the 'welcome to Matlock' flags was that the message was confused. They were purchased because it was considerably cheaper than the hanging baskets that became so expensive. Do people recognise the Derbyshire flag?

MF: What does it look like?

VB: Its white with a green cross and a yellow rose in the middle.

SF: My opinion is we have moved too far into the climate change and we need more colour in the town.

MF: The flags in Ashbourne look tired.

SH: That wouldn't work in the town here as there is too much room between buildings and there is a minimum height issue.

MF: What about getting more planters?

SF: Plants are dull these days due to the peat free usage. It doesn't give you bright colour.

AO: There isn't enough colour in the town.

SF: Historically we haven't been allowed to put up new lighting or hanging baskets or planters on the bridge which doesn't make any sense to a Victorian market town.

SH: The outdoor team constantly fill the planters with bulbs. Does the peat free not allow the brighter ones to grow?

SF: We need bigger flowers not small plants. The flags are always wrapping themselves around the poles.

JK: Let's get back to talking about the flags. What do we need?

SH: The report says £350 will be spent from our money to get the new flags.

MF: Let's order more pride flags and less Derbyshire ones.

Proposed: Cllr Ashley Orwin, Seconded Cllr Marilyn Franks

Resolution: To purchase the required volume of Derbyshire and Pride flags within a budget of £500 and to set them out in the town in a diverse and colourful way. The £500 budget needs to take into account any repair costs to the flag poles

Agreed unanimously

019/24 – IDEAS FOR 2025

AO: A Matlock jumble trail. Garage sales all along the town routes. You get a map and can see who is selling while walking around the town.

JK: And we promote it?

MF: Would we charge a fee?

AO: Yes, each seller would pay a fee to be on the map.

SH: You could have a second hand market in the rooms at the same time.

SF: 3 or 4 times a year on a Saturday we used to run a 2nd hand market in the bus station. That went really well. What about open gardens? Villages do that. Could we do it here? The town centre could be the focal point.

JK: What about doing that on park head and keeping the rooms as a back-up in case of bad weather. When would you want to do that Ashley?

AO: In the summer.

SF: Do the District Council charge the Town Council for using the park during the Christmas event?

SH: Yes we have paid that. £50.

JK: We should run the Easter event again.

SH: Simpler so it's easier to complete the trail though.

MF: Did we have summer music in the park?

VB: 6 weekends in the summer.

MF: How did it go down?

SH: Very well from the feedback I have had.

JK: A member of the public asked if we could have a barn dance?

SF: With proper lighting, music and hay bails.

JK: Could we make that happen?

MF: When would you want to do that?

JK: February or March. Valentine maybe?

SH: Let's not forget that Vicky has a workload and we are adding to it here all the time. We may not be able to do everything that you want but we will do as much as we can fit in.

VB: Right now is my busiest time of the year.

JK: How long before you will be able to think about next year?

VB: I will have time beyond Christmas. I also have the Mayoral civic service to organise.

JK: Did we agree that we would come back here for refreshments after the service?

VB: We did.

JK: The lady also suggested something to do with bikes?

SF: Penny farthings race in the park. We did that once and it went down very well.

MF: I remember that being really good fun.

SF: We had nearly 100 penny farthings in the park. It was organised by a national cycling club. We would need to get a licence in the park.

MF: Well that's definitely a few ideas. If we can do some we must make sure they are spaced out.

JK: When do you want to do the garden walk?

AO: May time? When it's warmer.

VB: Could that not be joined up with the Easter event, make a whole weekend of it?

SH: We should talk with Critical Hit on Dale road regarding the Easter trail.

MF: How about bringing back the agricultural show?

SF: The Matlock show, yes that was always good.

SH: Leave it one more year and then bring it back in 2026?

MF: Yes that sounds like a good plan.

SF: The RBL is considering bringing an event with military vehicles onto the park.

AO: I think we have given Vicky enough to think about but we definitely need to think about a Matlock pride. It'll cost.

SH: We can facilitate but not pay for it. Businesses would get involved and would contribute.

SF: Will you be needing a stall from the RBL?

SH: At the parade and light switch on?

SF: Yes.

VB: We haven't organised a Santa's' grotto yet. Have tried to speak to the Café but they aren't forthcoming. We will have stallholders so yes, we will need you please. Lumsdale Cheesecakes are coming and we will charge her this time. A local brewery will be there too.

MF: Do we need a licence?

VB: We have already applied for the licence and got it. We will need a hot food stand too and a raffle.

Cllr Marilyn Franks left the meeting

SF: We will do the raffle then.

JK: RNLI for a stall? Have they been in touch?

VB: Not yet.

JK: I will call them. Are we charging?

VB: We haven't so far over the years.

SH: The grotto costs the Town Council £500 and we power it too.

VB: The generator needs to be monitored because it does fail.

SF: People have complained about using a diesel generator for the noise and the fumes.

VB: A hut would not be cheap.

SF: No but they could be used for other things. There is always a queue for the grotto and maybe not all the kids get seen every year. They sell mulled wine by the cup. They make loads of money in that way.

VB: Someone should do hot chocolate.

JK: Do we have enough stalls?

VB: We do, yes.

SH: A hog roast would be the best thing.

JK: That would cost.

SH: We would ask someone to put it on and sell themselves. It wouldn't cost us.

VB: Jacket potatoes.

AO: I know someone that could do potatoes.

VB: We should get more lights for the tree. I have the prices. In 2022 we paid £1670. This year it's £1750

SH: That is well under budget.

JK: That sounds like a no brainer then.

VB: We have had the vandalised lights repaired too.

JK: People will moan that we aren't at Park head anymore.

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SF: We need lights up at the watchtower at the very least.

SH: We will get prices for the watchtower lights.

JK: So how many stalls do we have?

VB: 9 including a hot food stand.

JK: How many can you get round there?

SH: We will need a plan.

JK: With the RNLI it will be 10 if they come.

VB: We have a problem with finding a marching band. They are very costly. I have 2 left to get back to me but the cheapest quote we have is £480 at the moment. I will get back to the Committee once I have all the prices.

JK: How much did the entertainers cost last year?

SH: They invoiced us for £1750 but we paid just over half of that due to the delay in them turning up.

SF: Are asking the Matlock Bath people?

JK: I have asked Ian Page about why they turned us down last year but he wasn't aware. It was to do with storage of the boat we could have it as long as we sort the trailer and storage.

VB: Dave won't be Santa this year as he has sold his bike.

JK: I will ask my brother to do it.

VB: We will be paying M-vis for electronic signs to show the road closures which will cost £375.00. John from Dove radio is booked as host.

JK: He will need to be able to play music.

SH: We will have a PA system that we hire.

SF: What about having our own?

SH: We have discuss this before and the cost is around £4000 for a modular system that will cover all of Park head or the Bandstand but it won't cover the whole park.

No resolution was made

020/24 – COUNCIL PUBLICITY: Website, social media, newsletters and news releases

SH: Do we want to publicise anything from tonight?

JK: The Bingo night.

VB: We still need a caller. Ashley?

AO: I am doing it at Christmas. I am happy to do it at the Bingo night.

Proposed: Cllr Ashley Orwin, seconded Cllr Jason Knighton

Resolution: To publicise the bingo night on our website and social media as well as posters in town.

Agreed unanimously

The meeting closed at 20:01



Simon Hosmer
Town Clerk

CHAIRMAN:

DATED: