



Minutes of the Events Committee of Matlock Town Council held on Monday 06 January 2025 at 6.00pm in the Derwent Hall at the Imperial Rooms, Matlock.

Present: In the Chair: Cllr Pat Wildgoose (PW)

Committee members: Cllr Marilyn Franks (MF), Cllr Jason Knighton (JK), Cllr Ashley Orwin (AO), Cllr Sue Burfoot (SB), Cllr Steve Flitter *sub* (SF)

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

Meeting starts at 18:00

028/25 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received

029/25 – VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS AND DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

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

030/25 – REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

No requests for dispensation had been received

031/25 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There are no members of the public present

032/25 – MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: Monday 02 September 2024 & Monday 04 November 2024

SH: The last two sets of meeting minutes are not ready as yet. I apologise.

033/25 – EVENTS UPDATE

VB: Since we last met we have done Remembrance parade and service, Xmas lights but had to cancel the Xmas parade and then we did our Xmas day event.

Starting with Remembrance, the turnout was great, the weather helped. I would suggest we give Pete Hartsthorn the names of wreath layers, he did miss one this time.

SH: As we have that in advance we can do that. And the MP turned up.

VB: Councillor Ed Fordham will be coming every year to lay a wreath for animals.

MF: Just as feedback someone mentioned to me if we could put a notice outside as people turned up on the Sunday who thought there might have been a service. To say what time it is.

SH: The notice board at Park head does tell you when it is.

SF: In regards to Starkholmes we should let the District Council beforehand as the steps were a little dangerous and they need to clear them in advance.

VB: If they were unable to we could use our outdoor team for that.

SF: We need somebody behind to police the one or two disruptive people at the clock tower that were there. I am unsure what it was but it was not good.

VB: I will speak to our PCSO about that.

SH: Sounds sensible. I stood in the same place as last year because we had feedback that the sound wasn't good but I found it to be much better this year. What did everyone else think?

JK: I didn't hear of any problems.

PW: It was much better.

SF: The height of the speakers helped.

JK: And the microphone.

MF: Was the disruption targeted at the remembrance service?

SF: I am unsure but a couple of years ago we had it at Starkholmes. One of the RAF gents stepped in and sorted it. Somebody near the clock tower in future years would be best.

VB: Xmas lights went down well. I have not heard any negativity. The star looks amazing.

SF: I heard no bad things, I thought we would but people actually asked about lighting all 4 trees around the bandstand in future.

VB: We did switch trees as the cherry picker that was provided did not go up far enough to fully light the intended tree and we couldn't get the star on it. A bigger one would be able to do that. The lights should be down later this week. The cherry picker was old and I am not convinced totally safe. We are arranging a different one for removal and for next year for install.

SH: Will we be able to do the bigger tree next year?

VB: Yes we can look at that. It will be more money the bugger it is. We paid £300 for 3 hours or so this time. Are Committee happy to remain where we are at the bandstand.

JK: I think we should stay but can I get an update on the damage that was caused to the lights and bandstand at the Xmas market?

SH: Yes of course. The lights only don't work because the electrics are not switched on as the guttering on the bandstand is damaged and that is up to Dales to fix.

MF: What happened?

SH: A ride for the Xmas market, when being moved into position, hit the bandstand and damaged some guttering.

VB: once the lights are down we will assess what needs to be repaired. Moving on to Xmas trees, we ordered 40 but 10 were unusable and we need to look at a different supplier for next year. John Peach is looking to retire as he has not been well. He did us a favour really.

SH: At some point you may want to consider plastic trees as they would be reusable every year.

JK: I am not keen on that.

SB: Me either.

SH: Financially it makes little difference as we have recouped the cost of real trees every year.

JK: Even this year?

SH: Yes, we sold less but as some were unusable which we didn't have to pay for.

JK: People have mentioned to me that they would like to see lights from the bandstand down Causeway lane to the clock tower as it used to be like that years ago.

SF: It's true it was but Matlock Town Council has resisted funding that as the Victorian and Xmas markets get the most out of that.

VB: In order to facilitate that we would need to add an extra pillar in the park. Should we consider extending lights this year to Poundland?

PW: That would finish everything off.

SB: I think Matlock really puts on a good show in comparison to other places.

SF: We should have a xmas market all the way up Firs parade. Poundland isn't supposed to be permanent and they don't have community benefits in their policies.

SH: They don't seem to be interested when we ask them.

SB: They have charity on their tills don't they?

SF: Yes but do you know where the money is going.

VB: What about lighting up the willow tree?

SF: That has been looked at before and we have agreed to put power in there but hasn't happened as yet.

VB: Due to the severe weather warning we took the decision to cancel the parade but maybe that should have happened the day before as a trader was already on his way. Jason and I came in on the Saturday morning and cancelled everyone except the band who did turn up and we have had to pay. They are coming this year. We also had to pay Derbyshire Light Medical. They were human errors on my part.

SB: That was so difficult and you are not to blame.

PW: Yes please don't blame yourself you do such a great job.

VB: Moving on to Xmas day which was a roaring success. Many volunteers will be returning next year. Simon wants it to be bigger next year.

SH: Simon likes to facilitate the grand plan Vicky. We are looking to hire and use the Members room up at County Hall for next year as we can serve up to 80 people there and service would be smoother and quicker as its' next door to the kitchen. We would have a more traditional service that would be easier for everyone.

VB: We played some games on the day, including Bingo. Bakewell community transport will be volunteering next year and that will be more suitable for the elderly users. 53 served on the day. We had a volunteer email and complimented the day. We also had a letter from another person who came on the day. I am going to add volunteer participation prior to the day next year which will make my workload easier as it is a struggle at Xmas because we have so much on.

AO: Vicky you did so well. The amount of people was extraordinary.

SF: The Church in the Peak rooms could be used in the future as the car park is better and they have a good kitchen. They might be worth an ask as I think the County Council will no doubt charge us for the use of the members room.

SH: How many people can you fit in the dining area?

SF: I would say there were around 100 delegates at the conference I attended.

SH: We will check that out.

No resolution was made

034/25 – VALENTINE BINGO

PW: What day is this on?

AO: Will be on Valentine's day, the 14th. It's a Friday.

JK: We should go with the 15th, the Saturday, it'll be better attended.

PW: No. I disagree. If Valentine is on the 14th it should be then.

SH: we may receive complaints if we call our night 'Valentine's Bingo' and it's not on Valentine's.

PW: Can we have it on the 14th. More posters and advertising this time would be good.

SH: Are we happy that the format is the more or less the same as last time?

VB: Will we be having a raffle?

SH: It may be a struggle to get donations. Why don't we have a cash prize for the bingo games which will mean smaller prizes initially and then build up to a big prize for the last game in order to keep people at the event until the end.

VB: We still have beers and the Prosecco went down well and top it up if necessary.

JK: Will the tables be decorated?

VB: yes, that's the plan.

PW: What time will it start?

AO: 7pm

SH: This will be more heavily promoted than last time.

JK: Do we need volunteers from Golding Grange?

VB: We will ask them to come at the very least.

MF: Do we want a ukulele group this time? If so I will ask.

JK: Yes please.

SB: The hard of hearing group will want to attend.

JK: When will promotion start?

SH: From tomorrow.

Proposed: Cllr Pat Wildgoose, seconded Cllr Sue Burfoot

Resolution: To hold the Bingo night on Valentine's night, 14th February 2025 and to issue cash prizes for winners of Bingo games. The price of entry, including a book of tickets to be £5.

Agreed unanimously

035/25 - CIVIC SERVICE

JK: On 16th March at St Giles at 3pm is when it will be. I have been to a few and I want Matlock Town Council to stand out. I remember when Paul Cruise did it he put entertainment on.

VB: Highfields helped out that time.

SH: We are here to facilitate what you need Jason so tell us and we will try and make it happen.

MF: What about the community choir?

VB: They will be here tomorrow so I can ask them.

JK: Does the budget come out of the Mayor's fund?

VB: It does.

JK: Do we know what has been spent so far?

VB: We can check.

SF: You could ask the rock choir or the Churches together choir.

PW: So we are asking Vicky to find some entertainment.

JK: What about a card machine to take electronic donations?

SH: We will have that option soon but unlikely before the Civic service.

SF: There would be a tray like in church and contributions can be out that way and then the Town Council pay it in to the mayoral fund.

VB: That would be better at church in case not everybody comes back here to the Imperial Rooms.

SB: What about food?

VB: Lumsdale Cheesecakes are opening a café and would be interested in catering for it.

SF: How many will you have Jason as the cost of catering is not going to be cheap.

JK: I am unsure.

VB: We need to do official invites, that way we will have exact numbers.

SB: Would you invite regular users of the rooms?

JK: I would like to, yes.

SF: Be careful who you invite from each group as you want the ones who actually do the work.

AO: The retailers who contribute.

VB: Pete Hartsthorn.

JK: Other Town Mayors.

SH: Jason why don't you come in to the office and we can make a list between us. We could self-cater.

JK: that could be a lot of work.

No resolution was made

036/25 - EASTER

JK: I don't think we need to change anything from last year. It worked really well. The inflatable was great.

VB: Rotary bought a jumble, brick-a-brack stall. We asked for a craft stall.

JK: There were craft stalls all around the room. It got parents to bring kids out and the Easter egg hunt around town was connected to the day. We had a few extra Easter Eggs but they were distributed to local care homes.

MF: Some people thought that the egg hunt was too hard.

SH: We will be asking Deception rooms to make it simpler this year.

VB: Critical Hit would have been interested in doing it this year but the owner has just opened a new store and is very busy.

SH: The shops are on board. They loved it.

JK: Yeah even parents were struggling with the difficulty. Have we got the leftover rabbits?

VB: Yeah we kept them so it'll not be as costly this month.

SF: Are you looking to get some money for the Mayoral fund because Easter is too late for that. The cut off is April 1st.

JK: Then we can use any additional monies for the upkeep of the rooms.

SH: There will be another meeting of this Committee before the Easter event.

JK: And the event itself will be on the 19th?

VB: Yes that's the Saturday.

JK: What about judging Easter bonnets. Are we doing that again?

SH: We got the bigger eggs from various supermarkets around Chesterfield and this time I am hoping Aldi will contribute some as they didn't last year. The food provision on the day should be tea, cake, biscuits.

Proposed: Cllr Pat Wildgoose, seconded Cllr Jason Knighton

Resolution: To hold our Easter event on Saturday 19th April, Easter egg hunt, inflatable and a simplified menu. In addition to that the magician and make the whole thing as close as possible to the last one.

Agreed unanimously

037/25 – COUNCIL PUBLICITY: Website, social media, newsletters and news releases

AO: I am going to speak to local papers about Xmas day and forthcoming events.

SH: The Committee need to be aware that there are 3 people who attended the Xmas day event who we will not be inviting back this time due to their behaviour on the day.

Proposed: Cllr Ashley Orwin, seconded Cllr Pat Wildgoose

Resolution: To promote the Easter event on social media and our website for longer and more often

Agreed unanimously

The meeting closed at 19:10

Events Committee meeting 06.01.2025



Simon Hosmer
Town Clerk

CHAIRMAN:

DATED: