

HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **Town Centre and Events Committee** held in the Council Chamber, Bank Place Offices, Holywell, on Wednesday 7th February 2024 at 10.00am.

PRESENT: Councillor E.B. Palmer (Chair).

Councillors: L.A. Carter, I. Hodge, D. Thomas, L. Corbett, and P. Corbett.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillor S. Rush.

IN ATTENDANCE: J. Baker (Clerk), M. Fearnley (Deputy Clerk), and C. Pickstock (Support Officer). R. Byrne, and J. Thomas (Flintshire County Council), B. Bradley, and H. Ryles (Holywell Business Group), and two representatives from the Forgotten Riders Motorcycle Club.

TC39. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None were declared.

TC40. **PRESENTATIONS – HOLYWELL MARKET**

Members received an update from Rachael Byrne and Jonathan Thomas, Flintshire County Council, on their plans for promoting the market in 2024. An Easter Egg trail was planned and there was an ongoing advert with the Market Federation to encourage traders. New traders would be offered a half price pitch for eight weeks. Local bus companies had been contacted for market days but had not shown any interest. A minibus however would be arranged over the summer holidays to bring visitors up from Presthaven Sands to the town centre and Greenfield Valley. Members requested that the town centre is visited first, and this was noted by the County Council staff. The Christmas Market was also confirmed with a suggested date of Sunday 1st December 2024.

Members received an update from Belinda Bradley, Holywell Market Group about the plans for the summer relaunch event, due to be held on Thursday 30th May 2024. Belinda requested notice for the car boot sales if an event was to be held in Tower Gardens. Car parking enforcement on market/event days was raised and flyers could be placed on vehicles which had worked well in the past. The Town Council could supply flyers when needed. Belinda also raised about the placement of market stalls beyond the Tower Gardens sculpture. Access to this area was required to enable market expansion in the future.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Town Council and County Council both contribute the sum of £500 towards the Christmas Market. The Town Council would take the lead with the arrangements.
- 2) That the Chair follow up with the County Council on parking enforcement and request a traffic warden, and also check on the market stall locations.

TC41. 2024 EVENTS PROGRAMME

Members received an update from the Forgotten Riders Motorcycle Club on their upcoming event on Saturday 20th July 2024. There were plans to expand this event and utilise a portion of the Home Bargains Car Park to facilitate additional activities. It was suggested that the event could also involve Middlewich Town Council in the form of a bike rally.

Members considered this year's events programme in line with the budget available. The Deputy Clerk provided a summary of the suggestions from the Events Working Group held on Wednesday 31st January 2024.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Deputy Clerk contacts Middlewich Town Council to confirm interest for their participation in the Forgotten Riders Event.
- 2) That the Clerk writes to Vicky Plant, Flintshire County Council to confirm the Council's support for the Forgotten Riders event, and to request an early resolution to the car park usage.
- 3) That the following events, dates and working budgets be approved. Staff to work through the planning process and report back to the Committee as required:
 - a. **Easter Bonnet & Shop Window Competition.** Judging on Thursday 28th March 2024.
 - b. **Mayor's Tea Party for Town Council at 50.** Budget £500. Staff to speak further with Mayor. Date to be confirmed April/May 2024.

- c. **Food and Drink Festival 10am-3pm on Saturday 4th May 2024.** Budget £1,000. An Activity and Events Grant to be submitted for bus and entertainment. Letters to be sent to relevant businesses.
- d. **Party in the Park on Saturday 27th July 2024.** Budget £4,500. An Activity and Event Grant to be submitted for a Movie Screen to enhance the event.
- e. **D-Day at 80 Celebrations on Thursday 6th June 2024.** Budget £1,000. Phil Rushby to be contacted for event support.
- f. **Well Inn Music Festival on Saturday 14th September 2024.** Budget £7,400. Free fair rides and an Artisan Market. An Activity and Event Grant to be submitted for headline acts, etc.
- g. **Christmas Lights Switch On Friday 29th November 2024.** Budget £3,500. Artisan Market to be held.
- h. **Christmas Market on Sunday 1st December 2024.** Budget £500 (Match fund agreed with Flintshire County Council).

TC42. ITEMS FROM COUNCILLOR D. THOMAS

i. Tower Gardens Layout. Cllr D. Thomas explained that the layout was not viewed as fit for purpose, with the planters and benches not positioned in an optimal manner to make the most of the space available for events.

RESOLVED:

That the matter be discussed with the County Council, at the planned meeting to discuss movement of the newly adopted planters. Deputy Clerk to source quotes for a plaque to list all of the adopted planters.

ii. Llwyn Aled Fence / Bus Stop. Cllr D. Thomas provided some photographs and was concerned at the open aspect to the front of the complex. Some form of boundary fence was requested to provide additional security. A bus stop was also requested to support the elderly residents living in the complex.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk contacts the County Council to request consideration be given to fence and bus stop provision.

TC43. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chair closed the meeting at 3.30pm.

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Chair