

GAINSBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY SERVICES Committee held at Richmond House, Morton Terrace, Gainsborough on Tuesday 18 December 2012 at 7:00pm

Present: Councillor William Parry (Vice Chairman)

Councillor Norman Dinsdale
Councillor Lesley Rollings

In Attendance:

Acting Clerk to the Council
Events Officer
Two PCSO's

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND REASONS GIVEN

Councillor Sandra Goacher
Councillor Isherwood

RESOLVED that the reasons for absence were accepted.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

3. MINUTES

Meeting of Community Services Committee - Tuesday 20 November 2012

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 20 November 2012 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

RESOLVED to vary the order of the agenda to enable agenda item 6 to be taken first to allow the PCSO's to leave the meeting.

6. COMMUNITY ISSUES

The PCSO's explained that in total there were 9 PCSO's covering Gainsborough which included 2 for town south, 2 for the up hills area, 2 for rural south and 3 for the town and rural north. In addition there was a Community Beat Manager for each of these areas.

The Mayor took the opportunity to explain a number of initiatives currently being undertaken by the Town Council and referred to the Hustings Event held recently and advise that a Councillor had asked the Police Commissioner to do a walkabout in Gainsborough in the New Year.

In addition the Town Council had been approached by a resident of the Gainsborough South West Ward Action Group regarding vandalism at the old Lea Road School who was asking what could be done to assist in that area. Also the new Town Partnership was taking shape and the intention was for that Partnership to intermesh with a number of sub-groups and hopefully those groups would work with West Lindsey's new Town Centre Warden post which had recently been filled. In this respect the question was asked as to how these new initiatives could tie in and work with the PCSO's.

The Members noted that each of the areas had a Community Panel which met quarterly and these panels were in need of volunteers and it would be extremely proactive if a Town Councillor could attend each meeting. It was confirmed that there was no restriction on numbers and there was a huge amount of publicity regarding the dates and the times of the quarterly meetings.

Members generally considered that Town Councillors should be involved in such panels. In summary it was agreed that the dates and times of the panel meetings be forwarded to the Acting Clerk to enable these to be publicised at the meeting of Council with a view to generally encouraging Town Councillors to attend. In addition the Acting Clerk undertook to email the wards and Councillors to the PCSO's.

It was further suggested that it would be useful to invite the PCSO's from the different wards to attend Council on a regular basis.

The Mayor thanked the two Officers for taking the time to attend the meeting that evening and expressed the hope that Council and the PCSO's could work together.

4. REPORT FROM THE EVENTS OFFICER (Paper A)

Members considered Paper A from the Events Officer which detailed progress on a number of events.

1) **Octoberfest**

It was suggested that in future years it would be opportune to have a market alongside the Octoberfest such as a food or craft market.

2) **Christmas Lights Switch On**

A further suggestion was made that every opportunity be taken to expand this event by way of having market stalls on the night and that thought needed to be given to moving the fairground rides out of the Town Centre.

In this respect the Town Partnership was currently forming a sub-group which would look at the provision of Christmas Lights and it was hoped that there would be a meeting early in the New Year to discuss the date of the event and booking of stalls etc.

3) **Christmas Market**

As requested the organisers had forwarded a balance sheet with regard to expenditure at that event which had been in the region of £2,500, therefore bringing forward a balance of £2,500 into the 2013/14 year. In this respect members indicated that they would not be considering making a contribution to the market in 2013/14.

4) **Riverside Festival**

Reference was made to the difficulties in arranging a meeting in the near future and it was agreed that as a final effort the Officers of the Riverside Festival Committee be invited to attend the Community Services Committee on 15 January 2013 at 7:45pm to move this forward bearing in mind that time was swiftly marching on.

Reference was made to the request to change the date of the 2013 Riverside Festival and that at the meeting held previously with West Lindsey District Council and the Riverside Festival Committee members they had indicated that they would look favourably at changing the dates.

RESOLVED that the report from the Events Officer be noted and the Riverside Festival Committee be invited to attend the next meeting at 7:45pm.

5. UPDATE REGARDING NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

It was noted that the intention was for the Clerk to work on taking forward a Neighbourhood Plan but in the mean time the Town Partnership group was progressing and Councillor Hughes was currently leading on Gainsborough in Bloom.

RESOLVED that the position be noted.

7. GAINSBOROUGH GENERAL CEMETERY FLOWERS (Paper B)

The Acting Clerk reported the receipt of an email from District Councillor Mrs Gillian Bardsley which referred to documentation previously produced by Genna Poole of The Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership advising that the General Cemetery had been designated a local wildlife site and requesting the Council to consider and arrange a sympathetic mowing regime to conserve flora in that area, a list of original species and description had been attached to the report.

Members expressed their enthusiasm and support for conserving the flora in the Cemetery and it was **RESOLVED** that the Acting Clerk be requested to take this forward with appropriate Officers in the New Year.

The meeting concluded at 8:25pm.

Chairman