



Regeneration and Community Committee Meeting

Tuesday 10th September 2024 at 1pm

Meeting held at Pye Green Community Centre, Bradbury Lane, Hednesford, WS12 4EP

Present:

Cllr Ann Turville (Chair)
Cllr Debbie Cartwright
Cllr Ron Turville
Cllr Alan Pearson
Cllr Arthur Roden
Cllr Shirley Pearson

Chair of Hednesford Town Council informed that all Cllrs were able to attend the Committee meeting but that only Committee members were able to vote

In attendance from Hednesford Town Council:

Lindsey Smith - Chief Officer

Members of the Public:

0 MOP present

1. Apologies:

Cllr L Harrison – prior commitments
Cllr S Cartwright – unknown
Cllr G Samuels – childcare issues
Cllr P Jones – working

2. Declaration of Interest

No declaration of Interests were raised

3. Planning for Christmas Light Switch On Event

Following full council meeting on 3rd September, the termination of the service level agreement by Hednesford in Partnership to deliver the Hednesford Christmas light switch on event, and subsequent resolution for Spotty Dog to coordinate an alternative event, the Regeneration and Community Committee are requested to

convene an extraordinary meeting to agree and advise Spotty Dog on plans going forward. To include actions to manage expectations for the 2024 event

Funds available for event delivery - £3,500

Christmas Tree and lighting infrastructure is accounted for from a separate budget

A discussion took place about managing the public expectations but yet still wanting to ensure the event was worthwhile and essential requirements for the event were shared

It was stated that all Cllrs should endeavour to attend and support the event where possible and that a joint statement with HTC and HIP needs to be issued once draft proposal for the event is known from Spotty Dog

Committee felt that the grant funding should be given to Spotty Dog and that Spotty Dog will manage the budget and provide as much as possible with the amount available

A further discussion took place about potentially no longer needing to close the entirety of Market Street

Committee requested:

- Fairground ride for young children
- Father Christmas to be present – provide a small gift of sweets to each child
- Wish for schools to be involved - suggestion is for Community Officer to work with Spotty Dog and the 5 local primary schools and for each primary school to nominate a pupil who has gone above and beyond or showed determination or personal success through the year – and for these 5 to turn on the lights
- Stage and PA
- Music or Christmas activities throughout the day and evening
- Any publicity for the Light Switch on to be joint between HTC and Spotty Dog

Committee informed that Hednesford Town Council:

- Provide a small prize for each child turning on the lights
- Oversee the best dressed window competition for local businesses
- Arrange and cover cost of any road closure change – be that times or area
- Provide funding for sweets if current grant does not permit this
- Provide Officer support to liaise with primary schools or any other element of the Light Switch on

Proposed: Cllr A Turville

Second: Cllr D Cartwright

Agreed: 3

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Action: Grant fund to be forwarded to Spotty Dog Events following receipt of event proposal, in line with requirements from HTC, and for Spotty Dog to coordinate the Christmas Light Switch on with support from HTC Officers

Cllr A Pearson informed that a relative who runs a radio station has offered the use of a PA system and stage area free of charge for the event previously and that Cllr A Pearson will follow this up again

Telephone number provided to Chief Officer to pass onto Spotty Dog for this to be explored

Meeting closed: 1:45pm

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Tuesday 22nd October 2024 at 630pm

The meeting closed at 1:45pm

Signed:

Date: