

MINUTES of the COMMUNICATION AND EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL held at Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley on Tuesday 9th February 2016 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr M Wilkinson* Cllr L Marshall Cllr D Tully
 Cllr R Harrison Cllr J Nicholson Cllr W Nixon
 Cllr D McMahan

*Chairman

OFFICERS: Alan Shaw (Town Clerk)
 Nicola James (PA to the Town Clerk)
 James Harper (Community Development Manager)

IN ATTENDANCE: Nick Malyan (DCC Arts Officer)

524 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllrs C Bell and D Mills were accepted by the Committee.

525 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr D McMahan declared a non-pecuniary interest in Moria Con.

526 PROCEDURAL AND APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The Town Clerk noted that Cllr Ron Harrison was recording the meeting.

527 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no written questions submitted prior to the meeting and there were no public in attendance.

528 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the committee approve the amended minutes of the meeting held on 19th January 2016.

529 WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Brass Festival – Members were given an outline of what the Brass festival would consist of if it came to Stanley, by Nick Malyan. For £5000-6000 STC would have workshops in schools, a daytime street performance and an evening performance.

It was proposed by Cllr R Harrison, seconded by Cllr L Marshall and **RESOLVED** that the Brass Festival be brought to Stanley.

Christmas Events – James Harper presented the proposal from the working group to members. It was proposed by Cllr D Tully, seconded by Cllr W Nixon and **RESOLVED** that the working group work on providing a traditional continental market for the week leading up to the tree switch on, and that on the night of the switch on, the Star Wars theme be used. It was also proposed by Cllr W Nixon, seconded by Cllr R Harrison and **RESOLVED** that all Christmas lights be switched on at the end of November, except for the main tree, which will be switched on at the event.

Stanley Fringe – The Town Clerk advised members that the memorial/commemoration of the Burns Pit Disaster will be on 16th February. He also advised that there is an event being organised in the evening at the Beamish Mary.

Armed Forces Day – The Clerk presented an update provided by Brian Hall to members. Arrangements are well advanced and a number of military units and charities as well as funfair rides and food providers have been arranged, more details will be available following the next working group meeting.

Play in the Park Days – The Clerk presented an update provided by Brian Hall to members. A working group meeting was held on 20th January and it was agreed that a program of events should be worked out and events should take place in parks around Stanley. It was felt that as many parks should be used as possible and that events should be inclusive as possible. It was noted that ‘different’ events should be provided as an alternative to football skills etc. The following dates and parks were suggested:

1st April South Moor Park Play in the Park Day – Activities aimed at families with young children involvement with Groundworks and Durham Wildlife Trust with environmental play activities. Healthy Living are also keen to be involved and Brian will have further meetings with Northumbria water, Wear Valley Trust, etc. who may get involved. There is also scope for small rides/bouncy castles, face painting, etc. and food vendors, ice cream van etc.

3rd June Annfield Plain Park Play in the Park Day – (date to be confirmed) Aimed at a wider age group with taster events such as archery, climbing wall, tennis skills, arts and crafts, bouncy castles, small rides, ice cream van, teas, etc.

4th August Oakey Park National Play Day – joint play day with Groundworks play organisers, as inclusive as possible aimed at all levels of ability, balls skills, bouncy rides, ice cream, etc.

Brian has had meetings with Leisure works and Groundworks and is waiting for them to provide a schedule of play events in parks in Stanley so our events complement the current scheduled events.

Cycling Event – The Clerk presented an update provided by Brian Hall to members. Ed Tutty and his colleagues at the Durham Big Ride have been told to proceed. They are now in the process of organising the event. Current working title ‘Stanley Cycling Festival’.

Moria Con – Cllr D McMahon advised Committee that he has a meeting on Thursday to flesh out the programme of events. He asked for officer support in relation to risk assessments for the event.

Community Consultation – The Clerk advised that we had received 405 responses to date, which is a statistically significant sample, albeit not the number that had been hoped for. Around 30 residents completed surveys at the drop in session held at Catchgate on 9th February 2016. Brian Hall is attending an assembly at NDA on 10th February 2016 to discuss the survey with students and encourage them to complete it. Further consultation drop in sessions will be held in Craghead, South Moor and Tanfield Lea over the next few weeks to hopefully encourage further surveys to be completed.

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DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 8th March 2016, 6.30pm, Stanley Civic Hall