



HEXHAM TOWN COUNCIL

I GIVE NOTICE that an online meeting of the Community Engagement Committee will be held on Wednesday 9 September 2020 at 6.00pm when the following matters will be considered:

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To receive minutes of the Community Engagement Committee meeting held 23 July 2020, enclosed.
3. Matters arising (if any).
4. Councillors' declarations of interest (see enclosed).
5. To consider content for the Hex-press.
6. To consider the promotion of Tourism in Hexham.
7. To agree a date and time for the next meeting.
8. Any urgent matters at the Chairman of the meeting's discretion (*matters to be raised under this item should be written out (if possible) and handed to the Chairman of the meeting or the Clerk before the meeting begins*).

Jane Kevan
Town Clerk
3 September 2020

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Hagenda0920CommunityEngagement

HEXHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 23 JULY 2020

596.	PRESENT: Councillor T Pearson in the Chair and Councillors R Hull, S Ball, J Ord, T Dodds, T G E Gillanders, C Hanley and T Cessford.
597.	CHAIRMAN: It was AGREED that Councillor Pearson be re-elected Committee Chairman.
598.	COMMITTEE MEMBERS: It was NOTED the 2020/21 Committee members are Councillors Hull, Ball, Pearson, Gillanders, Ord, Hanley, Cessford and Dodds.
599.	No APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received.
600.	MINUTES of the meeting held on 4 March 2020, having been circulated, were AGREED.
601.	<p>MATTERS ARISING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. HEXHAM BELLMAN COSTUMES (minute 586a and action log refers). Councillor Ball advised that the costume designs have been received and that the Courant will launch a competition for interested people to audition at the bandstand. A representative from the Association of Town Criers will be a judge.b. SOCIAL MEDIA TRAINING (minute 586c refers). It was noted that the training scheduled to take place on 19 March had been cancelled because of Covid-19 and will be rescheduled.c. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TENDER (minute 586f refers). It was noted that this had been awarded and a quote for new/replacement lights had been received. The quote was considered and it was AGREED to address the lights in the trees, to split the supply in the feeder pillar and to have lights covering the whole of the Shambles roof in the Market Square. It was further AGREED to consider replacement of the festoons in the Sele and possibly adding lights from the Bandstand to the Skatepark and at Hallgate Bank for next year.d. HEXHAM FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL (minute 590 refers). It was NOTED that this event will not take place in 2020 but may be held next year.e. BONFIRE NIGHT (minute 591 refers). It was noted that this event will not be held this year.f. NORTHUMBERLAND DAY FLAG RELAY (minute 586k and action log refers). It was noted that a meeting at the Racecourse regarding possible involvement had been arranged but been cancelled due to Covid-19.g. VE75 PICNIC IN THE PARK (minute 589 and action log

	<p>refers). It was noted that this event had been cancelled due to Covid-19. It was further noted that the Town Council had won a competition run by English Heritage for lindy hop dancers to attend an event in every County in England and that this was now offered for a VJ Day event in Hexham. It was AGREED to request this for an event next May if possible.</p> <p>h. ARMED FORCES DAY (minute 589 and action log refers). It was noted that this event had been cancelled due to Covid-19 but that an event will be planned for 2021.</p> <p>i. TOWN WIFI AND FOOTFALL CAMERAS (minute 592 and action log refers). It was noted this had been referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee which had agreed not to purchase it.</p>
602.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: No declarations of interest were made.
603.	HEXPRESS: It was noted that a Lite edition had been issued during the Covid-19 lockdown. It was AGREED to arrange an editorial meeting to consider the next edition.
604.	STEWARD AND BAILIFF AWARD CRITERIA: Suggested criteria attached to the agenda was considered and AGREED, with an addition that any special case may be considered on its own merits.
605.	PUBLIC SECTOR BODIES (WEBSITES AND MOBILE APPLICATIONS) ACCESSIBILITY REGULATIONS: The website accessibility statement attached to the agenda was considered and AGREED.
606.	NEW/ADDITIONAL EVENTS: It was AGREED not to hold a Mayor's reception this year but to plan a low key Christmas lights switch-on event and to arrange the usual activities nearer the time if possible.
607.	REMEMBRANCE EVENTS 2020: It was noted the Council usually arranges a laying of poppy crosses ceremony at the Cemetery on the Saturday and a parade preceding a service at the Abbey and hosting a lunch on the Sunday. It was further noted that the Royal British Legion are not supporting any public fundraising or sales of poppies this year but will still sell wreaths. It was AGREED that the poppy cross ceremony still go ahead but not the usual parade or the lunch. A wreath laying ceremony is to be confirmed after written confirmation of RBL plans and a Remembrance Day Sub-Committee meeting will then be arranged.
608.	TOURISM IN HEXHAM: It was noted that a recovery plan is needed to move forward post Covid-19 and that a formal HSHAZ announcement is still pending. It was further noted that others, including Hexham Community Partnership, are working on tourism but a master plan is required. It was AGREED that the Council will work on a draft tourism strategy and arrange a working party for this.

609.	NEXT MEETING: It was AGREED that the next Committee meeting will be held online on Wednesday 9 September 2020 at 6.00pm.
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Action Log

Progress the Hexham Bellman auditions and costumes (minute 601a refers)	Councillors Ball and Hanley
Rearrange social media training (minute 601b)	Clerk
Arrange the Christmas lights work (minute 601c)	Clerk
Respond to English Heritage (minute 601g)	Clerk
Arrange a Hexpress editorial meeting (minute 603)	Councillors Hull, Pearson and Ord
Add to the Steward and Bailiff Award criteria (minute 604)	Clerk
Add the website accessibility statement to the website (minute 605)	Admin Officer
Advise on the RBL update and arrange a R Day Sub-committee meeting (minute 607)	Councillor Gillanders/Clerk
Work on a draft tourism strategy (minute 608)	Working party to be agreed

Chairman

HEXHAM TOWN COUNCIL - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Under the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council on 3 September 2012 Councillors must declare if they have a disclosable interest in any matters under consideration.

To do so Councillors should use one of the following statements:

1. "I have a disclosable pecuniary interest
in..... (for example) Agenda item 3,
Planning application number 13/1234".
(NOTE: Code of Conduct paragraphs 11&15 apply).
2. "I have a disclosable personal interest
in..... (for example) Agenda item 4,
Grant aid application by Hexham Youth Initiative
(NOTE: Code of Conduct paragraph 13 applies).

Councillors should familiarise themselves with the Code of Conduct regarding the definitions of (A) pecuniary interest and (B) other personal interest and their obligations when declaring any such interests.

To ensure Councillors interests are correctly minuted please use one of the above statements when declaring an interest.

NB. Should a Councillor wish to take part in the consideration and voting on a matter or matters in which he/she has a disclosable interest then they may request a dispensation be granted to enable them to take part in the discussion and voting on it but at least 10 days' notice must be given for any dispensation request.