

Penistone Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Events & Leisure Committee held in the Bar Room, St John's Community Centre on Wednesday 13th December 2023 at 6.45pm

PRESENT Cllr. Lisa Cork (Chair), Cllr. Lynne Crisp, Cllr. Jonathan Cutts, Cllr. Catherine Dodson, Cllr. Hannah Kitching, Cllr. Mandy Lowe-Flello (Town Mayor, ex-officio), Cllr. Nick Perkins, Cllr. David Walker

Nigel Bailey – Town Clerk

Elaine Miller – Assistant Town Clerk

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Cllr. Lisa Cork (Chair), Cllr. Rob Blackshaw (Vice Chair), Cllr. Lynne Crisp, Cllr. Catherine Dodson, Cllr. David Greenhough, Cllr. Anita Kimberley, Cllr. Hannah Kitching, Cllr. Mandy Lowe-Flello (Town Mayor, ex-officio), Cllr. Nick Perkins

1. E&L 2023/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from : Cllr Catherine Dodson, Cllr David Greenhough and Cllr Anita Kimberley

1.2 Apologies were accepted with reasons for absence approved.

2. E&L 2023/24 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS

2.1 In accordance with Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 members to declare any disposable pecuniary interests in items on this agenda.

It was **NOTED** and **RECORDED** that there were no declarations of interest.

2.2 The Town Clerk to report any written dispensations in respect of items on this agenda.

The Town Clerk reported that there were none.

3. E&L 2023/25 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC – PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS ACT 1960) S. 1 (2)

Meetings shall be open to the public unless their presence is prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for the other special reasons. The public's exclusion from part or all of a meeting shall be by a resolution which shall give reasons for the public's exclusion in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960.

There were no members of the public and press present. There were no items to be excluded.

4. E&L 2023/26 TO RECEIVE A DEBRIEFING FROM THE COUNCIL'S "PENISTONE CHRISTMAS CRACKER" EVENT ON 2ND DECEMBER 2023 – CLLR. LISA CORK

Cllr Cork reported that the event took place as planned and was extremely well received by the community. The Council has received excellent feedback both during and since the event. People attending the event were very happy to find so many free rides and games available for children; and the events requiring a small entrance fee (children's disco and Santa's grotto) were very well attended and felt to be excellent value. This was the first event of its kind to be organised by the Events & Leisure Committee and all in all it was a great success and has provided many learning points for future events. These learning points are being noted and recorded by the Clerks for future reference.

The Cllrs present congratulated Cllr Cork and Mayor Lowe-Flello who led on the organisation of this event. Cllr Cork wished it to be noted that the event could not have been successfully run without the involvement of many community volunteers who gave up many hours to help both before and during the event. Cllr Cork and the Mayor are presently considering organising an event to thank those who helped; however this will be in the New Year.

Feedback from the town and High Street is that other events and businesses reported that they were more busy than usual, especially cafes and pubs. St John's church held an afternoon tea event which ran parallel with the fete and this was also very well attended. This was held to show that the fete itself, far from taking business and footfall away from the town as a whole, attracted people into Penistone which ultimately benefited everyone.

Cllr Cork further reported that the event came in well under the agreed budget of £3,000, with the net cost to the Council being £2,669.

The Christmas lights switch on for 2024 has already been booked for Saturday 30th November; full Council we be informed at the Ordinary Town Council meeting on 18th December 2023.

5. E&L 2023/27 TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR THE PENISTONE GALA 2024 WITH RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

Cllr Cork reported that she, the Mayor, Cllr Rob Blackshaw and the Asst Clerk attended the last Gala Committee meeting on 6th November 2023. Most of the Committee members from 2023 are seeking to step down or step back and take a less active role as they have many years of service. Cllr Cork has volunteered to act as Treasurer and Cllr Blackshaw volunteered to act as Chair. A member of the Ladies' Circle was acting a Secretary but the Ladies' Circle has since withdrawn from the Committee.

Cllr Cork reported that there was some discussion at the November meeting about the format of the Gala for 2024; with the PTC representatives supporting the proposal of a different "PenFest" event based on music which would be held earlier in the year. Some of the Committee members however preferred to keep the traditional Gala format with a themed parade followed by the usual stalls, displays and funfair on the showground. Some discussion had taken place about combining the Gala with Armed Forces Day but nothing decided.

Cllr Cork reported that one possibility would be to hold the event earlier during the Bank Holiday weekend at the beginning of May. This would coincide with the Beer Festival being organised by St John's Church and the Queen tribute concert already booked at the Paramount. The E&L Committee members were all supportive of this idea, which would take the focus away from the showground and back into the town to support local traders. It would also give the other members of the Gala Committee scope to proceed with

organising the traditional event in June if they so wished.

The next Gala Committee meeting is due to be held in January; a doodle poll has been circulated but no final date distributed yet. The E&L Committee will await the outcome of the Gala meeting but mindful that planning will need to start early in the New Year.

6. E&L 2023/28 COUNCILLORS' ITEMS

Cllr H Kitching requested the late addition of a verbal report on the closed road rally which had been due to take place on 10th December. The rally was cancelled on 15th November due to various factors; including the fact that there was a social media campaign organised against the rally by some people affected by the route. The cancellation was a great disappointment to the many people who had worked for so many months to bring this event to the area.

Cllr H Kitching reported that despite the last minute cancellation the rally organisers have decided to go ahead with planning a rally to take place in the Penistone area during the weekend of 19/20th of October 2024. They have also agreed that the ceremonial start of the rally will take place in Penistone town centre. Further to the last E&L meeting the Town Clerk has already alerted the management of the Paramount cinema that the weekend should be kept free for Council events.

7. E&L 2023/28 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Penistone Town Council Events & Leisure Committee will take place on **Wednesday 7th February 2024** at 6.45pm in the IT Room, St John's Community Centre.

Signed.....Town Mayor, 18th December 2023