



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Events and Tourism
Committee of**

Westgate-On Sea Town Council

on 15th May 2017

Held at

**Town Hall Buildings, 31 St Mildred's Road, Westgate-
On-Sea, Kent CT8 8RE**

Present	Cllr Nightingale (Chairman), Cllr King, Cllr Page, Cllr Pennington	
Also in attendance	Miss Julie Pilbeam (Town Clerk), 2 members of the public	
	To receive apologies for absence Apologies were received from Cllr Cornford with reasons for absence. It was RESOLVED that apologies be accepted.	
	Declarations of Interest There were none	
	Minutes It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 13 th March 2017 be signed and approved as a true record of the meeting.	
	Chairman's Announcements There were none.	
	Public Participation Session A resident addressed the committee to explain the purposes of the music festival for engaging young people. It was discussed that the festival could be run by a charity to provide governance and probity. It was said that it was important to keep the event as a Westgate run community event marketed as a 'jazz festival' to maintain class.	
	Terms of Reference 2017/18 The terms of reference for the committee were noted.	
	Punch and Judy Show The Clerk reported that the event is booked. Cllr King was thanked for initiating this event.	
	Remembrance Day It was reported that the chairman and Clerk are due to meet with the chairman of the Royal British Legion to make arrangements for the forthcoming Remembrance Day parade.	Clerk
	Pancake Races 2018	

	Cllr King reported that the schools will take part and Cllr King will provide the relevant contact details for this.	
	Music By The Sea A possible music festival for Westgate was discussed and a decision was deferred as it was felt more time should be given to consider the item.	
	Annual Westgate Day This item was brought forward on the agenda. Cllr Page explained the proposals and how the local school educators could be involved in setting up projects in advance of the anniversary, anything creative, culminating around the time of the anniversary with prizes at the end. It was agreed that the anniversary should be about engendering good values in people, promoting a clean and tidy town, respect and good manners to all. It was agreed that it would be important to enable different parts of the community to work together such as the youth project with the students from the local schools and inter-generational work. It was suggested agreeing a date is an important early requirement. It was agreed to explore this in more detail at the next meeting	
	WW1 Beacons of Light 11th November 2018 It was RESOLVED to proceed with the Beacon Lighting be progressed as a community event. St Mildred's Bay was suggested as its RAF background. Cllr King reported that he believed the original name for the beacon is a 'tenet' and these tenets were burnt when the Vikings attacked and it is noted that this is where the name ;Thanet; came from. It was noted that the original information about tenets is available on Fort Hill.	
	Flag Pole The committee agreed to pursue the flag pole and flag raising events for the future.	Clerk
	Christmas Lights 2017 It was agreed to cover the cost of the Christmas tree and install additional lighting along St Mildred's Road with uplighters on the blossom trees. It was asked if there could be another Christmas tree and lights on lamp posts on Lymington Road. It was agreed that a Facebook/online survey could be set up to gather opinion and for the Clerk to investigate costs and sponsorship.	Clerk
	Calendar of Events The following event calendar was noted:	

		Punch and Judy Shows	26th-28th August 2017	
		Remembrance Day Parade	12th November 2017	
		Christmas Lights Switch On	3rd December 2017	
		Pancake Races	13th February 2018	
		Annual Town Meeting	30th April 2018	
		WW1 Beacons of Light	11 th November 2018	
		<p>Public Transport Links to Westgate-on-Sea It was agreed to submit a response to the Southeastern train public consultation as follows:- Visitors have to change platforms at Margate to come back from Westgate from London, this causes inconvenience and may put off visitors taking this extra journey There are also issues for those with disabilities crossing the platforms in time to catch the next train back to Westgate If the train is missed at Margate back to Westgate the bus service only runs one per hour which is further inconvenience for visitors. The 'Victorian railway' mentioned in the consultation is the reason for Westgate's past success. The consultation refers to increased population, we can refer to the Neighbourhood Plan and future proposals. Social responsibility – it was agreed that the station needs to be upgraded to allow better disability access particularly on the London bound platform.</p>		Clerk
		<p>Holiday Accommodation The status of the flats at the Walmer Castle was noted. It was also noted that the Clerk had registered the council's interest in partnering with Visit England to become a Tourist Information Board Information centre.</p>		Clerk
		<p>Putting Green It was noted that the discussion to investigate a children's play area on the putting green and some dog walking area was ongoing.</p>		Clerk
		<p>Britain in Bloom Cllr Page reminded the committee to include the horticultural society at the allotments. It was noted to thank Cllr Cornford for her contribution to the planting previously. The Clerk continues to plan the event.</p>		Clerk
		Open Top Bus		

	The open top bus went from Broadstairs to Ramsgate operated last year. It was agreed to write to the provider Stagecoach to extend the route to Westgate.	Clerk
	Isle Magazine It was agreed to write to Isle Magazine to include Westgate.	Clerk
	Tourist Signage It was noted that the investigation into signage for the seafront is being investigated.	Clerk
	Historical Information Boards The Clerk confirmed that the heritage society have been in touch and blue plaques will be investigated.	Clerk
	Coastal Community Team Cllr Pennington reported the latest update from the CCT and the possible plans for improvements to Westgate and finding a home for the Heritage Society.	
	Questions from Councillors Cllr Page asked about the pop-up signs on the grass verge on Canterbury Road. The Clerk will report these to Kent County Council for removal.	Clerk
	Next Meeting The next meeting is 10 th July 2017	
	Meeting Closed at 20.05pm	

Signed.....

Date.....