



## Minutes of the Events, Tourism and Development Meeting

Held at the Westgate-on-Sea Town Council Office

78 St Mildreds Road, Westgate-on-Sea CT8 8RF

on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 6.30pm

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### Present

Cllr Thomason (Chair of the Events, Tourism and Development Committee)

Cllr Wallin (Chairman of the Town Council)

Cllr King

Ms Nabila Yakub – Interim Town Clerk

Ms Emma Dublin – Community Engagement Officer

2 x Members of the Public

### ETD/24/15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Scott, Cllr Fenning and Cllr Worrow.

### ETD/24/16 Declaration of Members' Interests

None.

### ETD/24/17 Public Participation Session

It was suggested to use a WhatsApp channel to communicate and update residents, as well as new methods such as QR codes to engage the community.

The comments were acknowledged.

### ETD/24/18 Update on 'Westgate Tiles of Joy'

Sarah Gibbon of Westgate Galleria gave a presentation on the 'Westgate Tiles of Joy'.

In collaboration with Jayne Wright from JAW Ceramics CIC, the Galleria had held a workshop which was well attended by the public. Ms Gibbon was now seeking a permanent location in Westgate where a total of 80 tiles could be displayed. The Committee discussed possible options, which included one of the Town Council owned public shelters and the Community Centre.

Ms Gibbon suggested that a meeting be held between interested parties to discuss the best location(s).

It was agreed to investigate further and arrange a meeting of interested stakeholders.

**ETD/24/19 Litter pick**

Ms Dublin said the first litter pick was on 3<sup>rd</sup> August involving mainly councillors and their families and was undertaken in conjunction with the Rotary Club. 10 full bin bags of rubbish were collected from different areas of the town centre and seafront. Positive feedback had been received from residents.

**ETD/24/20 Remembrance Sunday 2024 and VE and VJ days 2025**

The Chair said that the focus would be on Remembrance Sunday and that VE and VJ days 2025 would be discussed at a later meeting. The Clerk provided an update on Remembrance arrangements and said that everything was now in place. The only outstanding issue was a First Aid presence, but providers were currently being contacted for the purpose.

The Chair asked if either Cllrs Wallin or King would be the project lead for Remembrance Sunday. Cllr Wallin volunteered to undertake the role.

There was a discussion on decorating the town with poppies and it was recommended to focus just on the memorial and the procession route.

**ETD/24/21 Councillor Surgeries**

The Chair said the first surgery was recently held. There were only two visitors, however it was hoped there would be more involvement from local residents once the surgeries were promoted.

**ETD/24/22 Coat swap**

Ms Dublin provided an update and proposed that the coat swap took place during the main school half-term of 28-31 October between 10am and 12pm, Monday to Thursday at the Town Council offices. A social media post would be put out in the week prior requesting donations. It was proposed to donate any coats left over to local organisations or charity shops.

**ETD/24/23 Town Council Magazine**

Emma said the copy deadline was 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024 with a final copy deadline of 4th November 2024. She had reserved a page to include the Remembrance event prior to the actual publication date.

**ETD/24/24 Christmas plans**

Cllr Thomason (Chair) said she would continue to progress previously agreed-upon actions. There was discussion over the lighting of the tree and the illumination of the traders' shops and who was now responsible for the Christmas lights and associated costs. The Chair referred to timelines and said that all the Christmas lights had to be in place and ready for 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024, and the tree sourced and ordered as soon as possible.

**ETD/24/25 Date of next meeting**

**30<sup>th</sup> October at 6.00pm**

**Signed:** *Nabila Yakub*

**Interim Town Clerk**

**Westgate-on-Sea Town Council**

**Dated: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024**

