



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

**Westgate-On Sea Town Council**

**on 23rd January 2018**

**Held at**

**Town Council Offices, 11 Ethelbert Square, Westgate-  
On-Sea, Kent CT8 8SR**

<b>Present</b>	Cllr Nightingale (Chairman), Cllr King, Cllr Mrs H Page	
<b>Also in attendance</b>	Mrs Gill Gray (Town Clerk), 1 member of the public, Cllr M Scott and Cllr Ms S Bambridge	
	<b>To receive apologies for absence</b> Cllr Pennington and Cllr Miss H Cornford sent their apologies.	
	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> There were none.	
	<b>Minutes</b> It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2017 be amended to accurately record the correct name under Section 4 and replace Cllr Penn with Cllr Pennington, minutes can then be signed and approved as a true record of the meeting.	
	<b>Chairman's Announcements</b> Chairman stated that the proposed Events and Tourism Committee meeting for December 2017 had been cancelled due to no clerk being available for the meeting. Chairman added that the Chairman's Announcements would be addressed within the remainder of the meeting.	
	<b>Public Participation Session</b> There were no requests received by the Clerk for public participation at this meeting.	
	<b>Events Update Report</b> <b>1. Remembrance Parade 2017</b> Chairman reported that the event was a success but that there were issues that arose that will need addressing in a timely manner for the 2018 event. Chairman thanked Cllr Mrs H Page for her assistance in helping to sort out some of the problems with him for the event. Cllr Mrs H Page added that the St Saviours Church should be contacted earlier in 2018 to enable the event planning to run more smoothly and have an improved working relationship for the event. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should make contact on behalf of the Council with St Saviours	

	<p>Church before the next meeting.  Chairman added that it may be possible to involve RAF Manston, for example the fire team could be approached; it was agreed that the Town Clerk should make contact with RAF Manston before the next meeting.  Cllr Mrs H Page stated that any road closures and other legislative requirements should be actioned by the Town Clerk before the next meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk  Clerk  Clerk</p>
	<p><b>2. Westgate Christmas Lights 2017</b>  Chairman stated that the event was a great success and thanked the Westgate Lights Committee for their hard work. Cllr Mrs H Page requested that clarification is required and that the Westgate Lights Switch On event and the Christmas Lights provided by the Council were two separate topics. Cllr Mrs H Page requested a report for the next Council meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> February which should include details of all expenditure for the Christmas Lights provided by the Council, why some of the proposed lighting was not achieved and how the arrangements can be improved for 2018 and a review undertaken. It was agreed that the Town Clerk will prepare a report for Council at the 6<sup>th</sup> February meeting. The Town Clerk to investigate if the previous occupiers of the Garden Centre at Westgate are still available to supply assistance for Christmas 2018.  Cllr King stated that the lighting provided by the Council were well received by residents and appreciated. Cllr King added that he accepted that some issues arose due to short notice and that this was mainly due to the Council not having a Clerk in post at the time. It was agreed that the Town Clerk will investigate and secure the services of a qualified contractor for the Christmas Lighting before the next meeting; Cllr King added that the budget for this should be £4000.00 and the Clerk should check this and report to Members at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk  Clerk  Clerk</p>
	<p><b>3. Pancake Races 2018</b>  Chairman invited the Town Clerk to provide an update. Town Clerk confirmed that lots of promotion has taken place including Visit Thanet website, via social media, Kent Online News and word of mouth, posters are in the process of being produced and will be circulated to local businesses in the town. Town Clerk added that first aid provider and traffic management company are arranged for the event. Chairman enquired if Angelo's Delicatessen have agreed to provide the pancakes; the Town Clerk advised that the pancakes for the races will</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

	<p>be sourced from the local Co-Op store in Westgate and that confirmation will be sought that Angelo's will be making pancakes during the event.</p> <p>Cllr King requested that the Clerk should contact Jeanette Bell to ascertain if sweets would be donated as usual for the event.</p> <p>Cllr Bambridge requested that the details in relation to the Pancake Races event be emailed by the Town Clerk.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
	<p><b>4. Summer Event and Possible TDC Funding</b></p> <p>Chairman enquired if the Punch and Judy show concessionaire would be available for 2018; Cllr King stated that the contact details were available from last year and if that particular concessionaire was not available then there were others who were part of the Punch and Judy society who could be approached; it was agreed that the Town Clerk should make contact as soon as possible to enquire if the concessionaire is available for 2018.</p> <p>Cllr King added that the inclusion of an extra 2-3 concessions should be considered, such as Tea Cups ride to provide other attractions for the event; Cllr Mrs H Page agreed that the event should be built on after the success last year.</p> <p>All Members agreed and the Town Clerk should investigate if the TDC funding application period will be open in the next 2-3 weeks and submit an application on behalf of the Council for this event.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
	<p><b>5. Westgate-on-Sea Day</b></p> <p>Cllr Mrs H Page outlined her vision for a Westgate-on-Sea Day, this should be a fun and educational event which acknowledges the town of Westgate whilst highlighting the heritage and community spirit which is unique to the town. This should be an inter-generational event and that 2018 should be the inaugural event to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Cllr Mrs H Page proposed that the Heritage Centre should be invited to open the event to highlight the heritage links with the town and that the Community Centre would need to be booked as soon as possible. Cllr Mrs H Page added that the Coastal Community Team should be involved, local schools and youth groups should be contacted in September 2018 and that they can all be involved for the 2019 event. Cllr Mrs H Page suggested that a Committee should be formed to facilitate the event. Cllr Mrs H Page envisaged that the event would encourage creativity projects including poetry with the Betjeman links and with the foundation of Louis Wain. Cllr Mrs H Page added that future events</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

	<p>could include multiple sites and incorporate Westgate Library for example to ensure different parts of the town are included.</p> <p>Chairman stated that the previous Town Clerk had already made contact with the Betjeman Society and they would be thrilled to be involved in any proposed event. Chairman stated that no society for Louis Wain has been discovered to date. Chairman added that the Westgate train station could be approached to provide an area for displaying artwork produced from the project which demonstrates respect and love for the town.</p>	Clerk
	<p><b>6. WW1 Beacon Event</b></p> <p>Chairman stated that the Town Clerk has now received confirmation from the supplier that the temporary Beacon for the town has been booked and paid for in full. Chairman added that it was proposed that the links with the sea planes and pilots that sacrificed their lives would be honoured by the lighting of the Beacon in St Mildred's Bay. Chairman advised that there is a plaque in the vicinity that requires restoration and this would ideally be carried out by the Council prior to the event taking place; it was agreed that the Town Clerk should investigate the legalities involved and possible grants and report back to Members at the next meeting. Cllr Mrs H Page agreed that this was an important part of history; Town Clerk to contact RAF Manston to enquire if a band is available for the event and also if any Air Cadets are available in the vicinity to attend the event.</p> <p>Cllr King stated that a permanent Beacon was located at Epple Bay in Birchington and that the Council should investigate the bracket that is located on the promenade below the West Bay to enquire if the Beacon existed for Westgate before the renovation of the promenade took place; Town Clerk to contact TDC and KCC to enquire. Cllr King added that a local tradesman could be commissioned to provide a replacement beacon if the original was not located; it was agreed that the Town Clerk to obtain a quotation for the next meeting if required.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
	<p><b>Tourism Update Report</b></p> <p><b>1. Putting Green</b></p> <p>Chairman requested an update should be sought from TDC by the Town Clerk on a proposed asset transfer for this site.</p> <p>Cllr Ms S Bambridge enquired if the Council was intending to purchase the site; Chairman stated that the Council was considering the site for a possible children's</p>	Clerk

	play area and was therefore exploring the options with TDC. The Town Clerk added that the restructure currently taking place at TDC was delaying some non-statutory services.	
	<p><b>2. Westgate on Sea Train Station Cleaning</b> Chairman stated that there was now an attendant in situ manning the station and this was providing a good service during the week but the weekends were appalling and he requested that the Town Clerk contact Network Rail for a response in relation to proposed cleaning carried out by volunteers at weekends.</p>	Clerk
	<p><b>3. John Betjeman</b> <b>4. Louis Wain</b> These items were covered in the previous Events section.</p>	
	<p><b>5. Westgate in Bloom</b> Chairman stated that negotiations had been undertaken with the Garden Centre in Westgate before they moved. Cllr Mrs H Page added that Kent in Bloom had been contacted to apply for official status for town to be recognised; it was agreed that the Town Clerk should make contact with Kent in Bloom to ascertain current position in the application process. Chairman added that baskets on the dual carriageway did not appear to be maintained and it was agreed that the Town Clerk should ascertain if this was TDC of KCC responsibility and check status to report to Members at the next meeting. Cllr King stated that any planting proposed at the train station would require agreement from Network Rail as there were health and safety implications; Town Clerk to contact Network Rail to enquire about including the station in a proposed planting programme. The status of Westgate train station is not deemed high enough and this should be clarified and checked by the Town Clerk.</p>	Clerk  Clerk  Clerk  Clerk
	<p><b>Questions from Councillors</b> Cllr King stated that a flag pole could be sited in the same location as the Memorial at the bottom of St Mildred's Road, there is a possibility that there may be one available from the Port of Ramsgate; the Town Clerk to make contact to enquire. Cllr King added that St Peter's Church also had one available previously; Town Clerk to make enquiries. Cllr Mrs H Page added that the flagpole would be a great addition for the 11.11.2018 WW1 Event and that flags would also be required; Town Clerk to investigate and approach TDC to ascertain usual arrangements including Planning team. Cllr King</p>	Clerk  Clerk  Clerk

	advised that two years ago at the Remembrance Parade it was discussed that there should be a commemorative plaque for the two airmen; Town Clerk to investigate.	<b>Clerk</b>
	<b>Next Meeting</b> The next meeting is 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	
	<b>Meeting Closed at 19.57pm</b>	

Signed.....

Date.....27/3/18