

**WALLINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL**

MINUTES

of the

Tourism and Economic Development Committee Meeting held at  
9 St Martin's Street, Wallingford on  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019

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PRESENT

Councillors Beatty, Prunier, Sinkinson and Wilder

Mrs Claire Blacker, Market Town Co-ordinator

The Town Clerk, Mrs Paula Lopez

**Meeting started at 7.20pm due to late arrival of two Councillors**

**282. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Davies, Hughes, McGregor, The Mayor and Mrs Ross.

**283. ADMISSION OF THE PUBLIC**

*There were no admissions of the public.*

**284. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

A Councillor with voting rights who has a disclosable pecuniary interest or another interest as set out in our Council's Standing Orders Code of Conduct (Item 13) in a matter being considered at a meeting is subject to statutory limitations or restrictions under code of conduct and his right to participate and vote on the matter (guidelines are available at the meeting and all Councillors have received a copy prior to the meeting) Information for each Member was available at the meeting.

*There were no declarations of Interest.*

**285. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –NOTIFIED AND IMPROMPTU (Total 15 Minutes)**

There were no members of the public participating under this agenda item.

**286. VARIANCE OF ORDER OF BUSINESS**

There was no variance in the order of business.

**287. MINUTES**

**Proposed by Councillor Beatty, Seconded by Councillor Wilder and**

**RESOLVED: THAT** the Minutes of the Tourism and Economic Development Committee meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2019 as set out on pages 83 to 88 of the Minute Book, copies distributed to Councillors, copy attached to the minute book be signed as a correct record

**288. UPDATE FROM CLAIRE BLACKER, MARKET TOWN CO-ORDINATOR**

Mrs Blacker's report is attached to the Minutes. Mrs Blacker reported on the following:

i) Markets

Exploring platforms/software to manage the Markets (bookings, payment and organisation)  
The Big Small Shop and Rialtas Suite

ii) Agatha Christie Sculpture

Crowdfunding Initiative

Collaboration with attractions to build upon the Agatha Christie weekend to create a town wide event

iii) Diary of Events

October – February edition in progress to be distributed in October

iv) River Users Survey

Digital and print edition

v) Public Arts

Strategy for public art funded by developer S106 contributions – **Councillor Beatty asked Mrs Blacker to send him a list of the key priorities.**

vi) Future Events

Looking at new possibilities: Christmas 2020 and Summer events – proposals for estimates

## **289. REPORT FROM THE TOWN INFORMATION CENTRE**

Mrs Ross sent her apologies for not attending the meeting. Town Information Centre's Report is attached. Members reviewed the report and had no comments or questions.

## **290. BIG LITTLE SHOP**

Members to receive an update from Councillor Beatty and The Market Town Co-Ordinator.

Councillor Beatty advised that the Market Town Coordinator and he had met with the owner of the Big Little Shop website and explained the concept to Members. Councillor Beatty advised that the website could be used to manage the market bookings. A discussion took place around this and the Town Clerk appraised members of the situation with the Independent Market. The Market Town Coordinator and the Town Clerk had spoken via a conference call with the organiser of this market to try to throw some light on the discrepancy of payments between the number of stalls paid for and the number of stalls in situ since February 2019. The organiser has since sent a reconciliation and suggested that the amount owed by the market to the town council is £36.00. The Market Town Coordinator and the Town Clerk will review this. During the telephone conversation the organiser advised that she did not want to continue to manage the market as it wasn't worth her while. The Market Town Coordinator and the Town Clerk will advise if this is the case once the reconciliation is carried out. The Town Clerk stated that if this is the outcome the organiser should be asked for the contacts of the individual stalls so contact could be made to see if they were intending to hold a market on the next scheduled market, 5<sup>th</sup> October as the stall holders were unlikely to have any individual insurance as the organiser had arranged the necessary cover. Councillor Prunier asked if the Christmas Market stallholders needed to provide insurance cover, the Town Clerk advised that they do. Members further discussed whether the Council should run the markets, the Town Clerk advised that further investigation should be carried out to understand the legal implications in terms of trading law, licences and insurance. It was however decided that bookings should continue through the office as they do currently.

## **291. AGATHA CHRISTIE STATUE**

Councillor Beatty gave an overview of the recent meeting with the railway and the museum regarding a possible event to tie in with the Agatha Christie statue unveiling in 2020.

## **292. ENDORSEMENTS BY WALLINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL FOR OUTSIDE EVENTS**

The Town Clerk asked members if they felt that a policy regarding endorsement by the Town Council of events was needed given the expectation that events would increase. Members felt that it was not necessary at the moment but felt that the situation should be reviewed in the future.

### **293. NASIO TRUST**

The Town Clerk advised members that the NASIO Trust had a successful event with the evening cinema being especially successful. The Town Clerk advised members that the NASIO Trust had not been charged for the use of the Kinecroft. Members agreed to revisit the charging of events in the Town and Open Spaces at a future meeting. The Town Clerk made an observation that the cinema is an event that the Council could consider putting on themselves in Wallingford.

### **294. CHRISTMAS SHOPPING DAYS AND FREE PARKING**

Members discussed and decided that they wished to have three Thursdays in December as the free parking for Christmas Shopping that is the 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> December. The Town Clerk's Office to respond to the District Council.

### **295. EVENTS**

- **Review of Recent Events – Noted**
  - BunkFest - 31<sup>st</sup> August 2<sup>nd</sup> September
  - Agatha Christie Weekend – 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> September
- Future Main Events - It was noted that the dates for the fireworks, Christmas festival and the town carols dates were incorrect.
  - Michaelmas Fair – 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> September
  - Fireworks – 3<sup>rd</sup> November should be 2<sup>nd</sup> November
  - Christmas Festival – 2<sup>nd</sup> December should be 1<sup>st</sup> December
  - Town Carols – 12<sup>th</sup> December should be 11<sup>th</sup> December

### **296. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Moorings,  
Agatha Christie statue update,  
Charges for events.  
Future Events for 2020 – Market Town Coordinator and Town Hall Events Manager.