



**231/16 KITE FESTIVAL 2016**

Councillor Settle summarised the key points of this year's event.

The Festival was very well attended, with all of the local cafes reporting how busy they had been throughout the weekend.

It was clear that whilst the car parking provision had sufficed, signage may need improvement, such as to the pay & display car park behind Fylde Council's public offices as this was under-utilised. Unfortunately, the vintage bus service had failed to run but it was noted that it relies on volunteers and donations.

There had been problems with traffic congestion on the zebra crossing near the pier and stewards had to step in to assist due to the numbers of pedestrians going to and from the promenade.

The Kuwaiti kite flying team enjoyed the event immensely and are keen to return next year. Visitor numbers had been assessed through market research arranged and undertaken by staff of the Town Council, assisted by police cadets. This data had been passed onto the Kite Festival manager and to Fylde Council in hope of securing further funding. Funding continues to be a concern as the event's costs and overheads grow in proportion with event e.g. more temporary toilets that are needed and first aid provision are good examples of such overheads.

**232/16 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON EVENT**

The Community Development Manager gave an update on this event.

A meeting took place on 5<sup>th</sup> October to review progress and everything is progressing well. A lantern making workshop is to be held at Mayfield school on 9<sup>th</sup> November and the lanterns will then be brought along to the switch on. There won't be a road closure or on-street procession this year because of rising costs, safety concerns and previous problems with weather. Instead the children will meet at the Park Road entrance to the car park and will be escorted up through the crowds to the stage area.

School choirs have been approached to take part and there is a musical performance by the 'AKS Unplugged' group from the AKS school. Singer Chelsea Jade will also be performing and the Carnival Queen will switch the lights on at 5.30.

**233/16 ST ANNE'S ON SEA IN BLOOM**

Councillor Ford had provided an update on the group's activities.

Both Blundell Road and Shepherd Road allotment sites are nominated for It's Your Neighbourhood awards at North West In Bloom again. The award ceremony is on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> October. St Anne's station and Clifton Housing are also nominees in Neighbourhood category. It's hoped St Anne's In Bloom will fare well in the main awards which are announced on 28<sup>th</sup> October.

Bulb planting along Queensway continued last weekend with another 3,500 bulbs adding to the current display for spring.

The AGM takes place on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2 pm at Hope Street Pavilion. All welcome and new members are always needed.

**234/16            ALLOTMENTS**

Blundell Road

The Town Council's lengthsman, Lee has sorted out numerous problems with repairs and improvements including a new roof adjacent to the shed and fitting new tops to the compost bins. Some of the plot holders have also assisted by giving the polytunnel and greenhouse a good clear out. One or two plots have fallen into disuse and Notices to Quit have had to be issued, however the plots will be re-let to people on the waiting list, shortly. Some social events have also taken place organised by plot holders with good weather thanks to the extended summer.

Shepherd Road

The annual Open Day was held on 30<sup>th</sup> July where £588.46 was raised for the allotment society's funds. Viewing days took place on 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> September and the waiting list stands at 27 people currently.

**235/16            DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would take place at **2.00 pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

*The meeting finished at 3.05 pm.*

Signed .....

Chairman

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017