

St. Anne's on the Sea Town Council

Minutes of the Leisure and Community Committee held on 13th February 2017 at West Lodge, 5 St George's Road, St. Anne's on the Sea FY8 2AE

Present:	Councillors	V Willder V Settle G Neale K Henshaw	Chairman Deputy Chairman
	Officers	S Dunn	Community Development Manager
	Members of the Public/Press		0

029/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies received.

030/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

031/17 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED That the minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2016 be approved.

032/17 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON EVENT

The Community Development Manager gave an update on this event which took place on 26th November 2016.

The event was very successful with choirs from St. Thomas and Mayfield schools and music from tribute act Chelsea Jade. The show's finale was provided in colourful style by the cast of Jack and the Beanstalk from Lowther's seasonal pantomime.

Some problems were experienced with the lighting infrastructure, notably two of the blue domes could not be lit with fairy lights and this part of the display was missing. The problems will be rectified by Fylde Council who are responsible for the infrastructure.

Problems with some of the lighting columns will also be addressed by Lancashire County Council.

The Town Clerk would like to make the living Christmas tree more of a prominent feature and this will be explored with Blackpool Illuminations who source the festive display.

This year's Switch On Event will take place on Saturday 25th November.

033/17 ST. ANNE'S FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL 2017

The Community Development Manager gave an update on this forthcoming event.

The dates for the event are the weekend of 12th and 13th August, with the first day planned as a "Gin Festival" which is the proposal of Michelle Cuffe and Excel Fostering. The following day will be devoted to food and the same chefs as last year will be taking part if they wish to.

Local businesses will be invited to have food stalls but a small charge will be payable to help offset the main costs of the event such as the marquee and kitchen equipment hire.

034/17 KITE FESTIVAL 2017

Councillor Settle gave an update on this event. The dates are 2nd and 3rd September due to having to move the dates from August due to clashing with Lytham's Festival.

Organiser Pat May is still seeking sponsorship and Councillor Settle is hoping to find more local sponsors to help fund the event.

Sponsors who are already helping the event take place include The Pier Café, Excel Fostering plus the Town Council has provided additional funding as a one-off due to funding cuts elsewhere.

New for 2017 is the idea of kites being flown at night although the technicalities of this idea are still being explored. This will take place around the pier.

More stalls on the Promenade would be welcomed.

The Kuwaiti kite flying team are returning again which makes the Festival truly an international one.

035/17 ST. ANNE'S ON SEA IN BLOOM

Councillor Ford provided a report which was circulated to all members of the committee.

- A December review of the group's work looked at previous scores from the NW In Bloom judges' last visit to see where there is room for improvement to aim for gold again in 2017.
- In January over 500 Christmas trees were collected and taken for storage in readiness for dune conservation work. They were later part-buried in front of the dunes, with help from Fylde Borough Council staff and other volunteers. This will help to reduce wind-blown sand by widening and stabilising the dunes.
- More businesses are being targeted in the hospitality sectors to get involved with In Bloom and have planters and containers at their premises. The Victoria Hotel is one example of a venue that has done this.
- Some of Heyhouses school's year 4 children are "adopting" some of the station planters, in conjunction with the Community Rail Partnership and Park View4u, which involves planting and installation of bug houses and hotels.
- A guest sculptor is to offer workshops at the Peace and Happiness Garden in a project financed by Tesco's Bags of Help scheme.

- Bulbs on Queensway should be emerging for spring shortly on both sides of the road. The planned construction of a roundabout at Kilnhouse Lane junction this year may disrupt the planting schedule.
- Three planters along the Crescent railings will compliment the existing 10 that are there already.
- G-Line Holidays donated £200 towards the railing planters in sponsorship, in addition to over £1000 of sponsorship from smaller businesses around the town. This money is fully reinvested in refurbishing planters, buying plants, compost and materials.
- The In Bloom website has had a revamp and its social media is thriving with 63,000 people reading the Facebook page during the Christmas tree collection period.
- Fylde Borough Council gardener Patrick Shevlin was voted their employee of the year and this was partly the result of nominations from In Bloom who were keen to recognise his help and support to the group over the past year.
- More areas which could be eligible for It's Your Neighbourhood awards if the portfolio can be increased, so In Bloom are seeking pockets of gardening activity around the town and are looking for nominations by councillors or residents.

036/17 ALLOTMENTS

No report was available in time for the meeting, this item will be deferred to the next meeting.

037/17 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 8th May 2017**

The meeting finished at 3.00 pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date: 8th May 2017