

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Festival and Events Working Party

Notes of the virtual meeting held at 1400 on Thursday 7 April 2022 via Zoom

Present

Cllr Joy Whipps (Chair)	JW	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Steve Gazzard	SG	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Frank Cullis	FC	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Cherry Nicholas	CN	Exmouth Town Council
Charlie Tapp	CT	Exmouth Town Council
Chetna Jones	CJ	Exmouth Town Council
Lisa Bowman	LB	Exmouth Town Council
Lisa Greenway	LG	Exmouth Town Council

Apologies

Cllr Eileen Beech	EB	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Olly Davey	OD	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Brian Bailey	BB	Exmouth Town Council
Trevor Huggons	TH	Festival Volunteer

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies (JW)

1.1 JW welcomed attendees to the meeting and noted apologies.

2. Notes of the previous meeting on 17th February 2022 and matters arising (JW)

2.1 The notes of the last meetings on the 17th of February 2022 were approved without issue.

2.2 No other matters arising.

3. Receive an update on the Exmouth Summer Festival 2022 (CT)

3.1 CT confirmed that the programme has been finalised and the festival will go ahead in 8 weeks' time. The trader's applications have been accepted and the site plan has been agreed. Some announcements have been made on social media for the performers line-up.

- 3.2 CT advised members that 8k of funding has been received to help families by providing an £8.00 food token which can be redeemed with the festival food traders on the Sunday Big Lunch Jubilee Day.
- 3.3 CT updated members that Hayley Watson who founded Isolation Community Creation is running a community project called Exmouth's Greatest Masterpiece to encourage young people to create artwork which we hope will be exhibited later in the year at Ocean.
- 3.4 CT has visited the site this week to meet with the security team. CT applied to the Devon Community Foundation for OPCC grant funding for the Drug Dog Detection Scheme but was unsuccessful. FC queried if the security team had any powers to remove drugs from a person and CT confirmed that Southwest Security Management have the authority to confiscate drugs and hand over to the police. SG thought that in a previous meeting it was discussed that a police presence would be at the festival, CT will check over previous meeting notes.
- 3.5 CT updated members that the Crowdfunder is progressing slowly and although up to 100 people are visiting the site daily, donations are not being made. JW, LB and CT had a meeting yesterday to discuss festival finances and CT updated members that the festival has a deficit of around 10-15K. LB put to members that festival reserves could be used to cover the deficit.

SG proposed and CN seconded that festival reserves could be used to cover the deficit of this year's festival.

Members all agreed that we would need to look at the viability of the festival going forward with possibilities of scaling down or moving to a smaller paid entry venue.

FC was keen to promote that Exmouth Festival needed money and advised all bucket collectors to make it clear that revenue is necessary in order to keep the festival free in the future. CT confirmed that the advertising posters suggest a £5 donation and all posters and buckets will display a QR code for donations to be made.

4. The Queens Jubilee and Beacon Lighting (CJ)

- 4.1 CJ confirmed that the fire basket has been ordered and the gas bottle will be purchased and the set up will be overseen by the Town Maintenance team.

SG queried if the piper and drone have been booked and CJ confirmed that the piper has been booked but CJ had not been able to contact the drone owner. SG offered to make contact and ask him to call CJ to confirm details. CJ will be issuing a press release.

- 4.2 The Jubilee Beacon Trail will take place between the 30th of April and the 12th of June and the 7 locations have been agreed with local historians who have also provided history associated with each decade. CJ updated members that although in the previous meeting it was decided to use The Deaf Academy as a location instead of Ocean, this was not possible. All locations have agreed to display the posters and 4 have agreed to sponsor in total £250, which will help to recoup the original £499 marketing cost. The locations and history have been sent to High Street Safari for production of the trail posters.
- 4.3 CJ confirmed that the community art project grant application to commission a mosaic bench was unsuccessful, however the grant co-ordinator confirmed the panel was impressed with the project proposal and has been in contact to advise the application should be re-submitted to OPCC. An outcome to this grant application will be notified on the 16th of May and if successful will allow a 12-month period in which to utilise the money.

5. Poems for Hope update (CT)

CT confirmed that funding from DCC to engage people to write poems is underway and the full grant has been authorised.

6. Grant Funding (CT)

CT updated members that 10K non festival arts project funding is provided annually and proposed that half could be used as seed funding for Exmouth based artists. CN agreed, however thought that the funding should only be available to non-professional artists. FC disagreed and stated that professional artists are struggling, and any funding would help them greatly. All members agreed that funding should be made available to all local professional and non-professional artists. CJ confirmed that a policy would need to be put in place to make sure all artists meet the criteria for funding and a formal application process is put in place where a formal panel make the grant decision. All members agreed with this.

Any other business (All)

No other business

6. Date of 2022 meetings

12 May

23 June

The meeting ended at 14:43