

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL Festival and Events Working Party

Notes of the virtual meeting held at 1430 on Thursday 10th November 2022 via zoom

Present

Cllr Joy Whipps (Chair)	JW	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Frank Cullis	FCu	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Olly Davey	OD	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Cherry Nicholas	CN	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Eileen Beech	EB	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Steve Gazzard	SG	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Brian Bailey	BB	Exmouth Town Council
Charlie Tapp	CT	Exmouth Town Council
Lisa Bowman	LB	Exmouth Town Council
Chetna Jones	CJ	Exmouth Town Council
Lisa Greenway	LG	Exmouth Town Council

Apologies: None

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies (JW)

JW welcomed attendees to the meeting and updated members that CT will be standing down and intends to leave ETC in January 2023 once a replacement has been found. All members were saddened by this news but wished CT all the best for the future.

LB confirmed that she will liaise with HR to agree next steps for the recruitment process.

2. To approve the notes from the meeting on 13th October 2022 and matters arising (JW)

The notes from the previous meeting were approved with no matters arising.

3. To discuss the Winter Festival 2022 (CT)

CT updated members that festival plans are all in place and a Christmas Market will be hosted in Henry's Café (Church in Tower Street) on the same day.

CT has spoken to the shops in the Strand who have agreed to stay open late, unfortunately the Indoor Market will not have a grotto as previously hoped as they do not have a Santa. BB offered to stand in as a Santa and confirmed that he has already been DBS checked.

CT has discovered through the process of the application for the Winter Festival that EDDC relinquished their premises licence for the Strand earlier in the year which we would usually use for our event. This has forced CT to apply for a temporary events notice for this year but going forward we would need to apply for a premises licence.

The Winter Wonderland will not go ahead this year as CT thought it was not a good idea to promote using additional energy with the current energy price increases, although hopes that it will take place next year as the platform can be used as we have already signed up.

CT updated members that most of the schools are taking part in the Christmas Tree festival on the 5th of December, although we are still waiting for two schools to respond. SG advised that he would be happy to judge again this year.

CT requested volunteers to steward the Winter Festival on the 3rd of December.

- Action: LG will email members to request volunteers and update the rota

CT updated members that the Pavilion will be providing tea and coffee stands at the start of the parade.

CT confirmed that the parade would start at the Pavilion then proceed along the Beach to Bath Road, through the Manor Gardens before arriving at the Strand. EB queried if a Plan B was in place in case the weather was not amenable to use that route, JW suggested using Madeira Walk if it was too windy to walk along the beach. LB raised concerns about the lack of lighting along Madeira Walk so CT will arrange lights in case the route needs to be changed at the last minute. CT also warned members that if it rained during the event the parade would have to be cancelled as the paper lanterns would not withstand the rain.

CT confirmed that volunteers would be required to help distribute the Winter Festival Flyers

- Action: LG will email members and create a rota

4. To discuss the Exmouth Festival 2023 (CT)

CT confirmed that it was a difficult decision to leave and has enjoyed her time with ETC.

CT shared her screen and ran through the programme outline with members starting on Friday the 28th of July and ending on Monday the 31st of July. CT confirmed the people/businesses who have confirmed that they would like to be involved in the event which included the Pavilion and library and also the people still waiting to be confirmed

OD queried the format of the Art Trail and asked if it included historical art. CT explained that the Arts Trail encourages people to display their favourite art in windows.

SG has spoken to the rector at the Holy Trinity who was keen to include a flower festival, CT thought this was a good idea and suggested Exmouth in Bloom could get involved.

SG recommended a first aider and CT confirmed that they would need to be a roaming first aider because of the festival set up, JW suggested St John's Ambulance. CT will get some quotes.

FC was pleased that Sideshore will be used as a pop-up skatepark but was concerned about the amount of people that would be in the area at that time of year, FC suggested using the carpark at Sideshore. OD confirmed that the carpark is a public carpark which may cause issues getting permissions as this would reduce car spaces in high season. LB confirmed that this might not be possible as it is a public carpark. BB queried why Phear park was not being used, CT advised that there is more infrastructure at Sideshore and Phear Park would pose issues in dealing with crowd control. LB confirmed that the reasoning by using Sideshore is because it would link the seafront with other events going on within the town area. JW advised that this was also more cost effective.

CT asked members if they were happy to commit to the programme and members all agreed that CT should proceed. LB will be setting a budget for precept in January and will liaise with CT regarding this.

OD advised that local theatres should be notified of the dates so that they can work around this.

5. Any other business (All)

FC confirmed that the Kings Coronation will be on the 6th of May 2023 and queried if we were doing anything for the celebration. LB advised that the elections would clash with this date as counting usually takes place on the Saturday, LB stated that the elections may be moved because of the coronation but cannot commit to anything until this is confirmed. LB advised that if the elections are not moved, we would struggle to organise anything at that busy time.

CT suggested using money from the Arts budget to commission something for the coronation as it has not been utilised, LB advised that this would involve requesting quotes and interviewing for the commission which might not be viable due to limited capacity.

JW suggested a picnic in the park for the coronation and FC added that it could be televised on a big screen during the picnic.

CT has met with George from Spoken who has asked if ETC would like to collaborate with him for his summer events. LB thought this might entail infrastructure costs which we are unable to get involved in as this is against financial obligations, and we would have to put out to tender. SG agreed and stated that we would not have the capacity in May as it would be a busy period.

LB updated members that the prohibition on fireworks has not been debated at EDDC yet but wanted to know members thoughts about putting on a firework display. SG confirmed that the prohibition of fireworks is not on the agenda for the next Overview Committee meeting at EDDC either.

Members discussed the pros and cons of firework displays and whether it was good use of public money.

JW asked members to vote on whether to hold a fireworks display.

Members agreed NOT to hold a display this year.

LB advised that we could provide residents with an explanation to the reasoning behind this via social media and send out a press release.

EB gave apologies for the next meeting on the 8th of December.

6. Date of next meeting

8th December 2022 @ 2pm

The meeting ended at 15:51