

TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES OF A TOURISM & BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT TENTERDEN TOWN HALL ON 26th SEPTEMBER 2016

Councillor Members Present:

M. Carter (Chairman), and K. Mulholland.

Non-Councillor Members Present:

Cllr. Mrs. C. Bell (ABC) and Mr. J. Crawford.

Officers Present:

Town Clerk Mr. P. Burgess and Deputy Town Clerk Mr. R. Parham.

Others Present:

Cllr. Mrs. Ferguson (not a member of this committee), Cllr. G. Galpin (ABC) and one member of the public.

0199 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Cllr. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Barber (ABC).

0200 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None.

0201 **MINUTES.** The minutes of the meeting held 15th August 2016 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

0202 **MATTERS ARISING.**

- (a) Minute 0195 - Great British High Street. Mr. Crawford suggested that it would be a good time to begin preparation for the 2017 awards.
- (b) Minute 0197 - Vine Area Feasibility Study. Mr. Crawford asked who would be providing the specification for this study. It was reported that this was expected to arise from the report filed by the Lipton Group following the public consultation.

0203 **PERSONAL REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.** None.

0204 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS.**

- (a) Woolpack Hotel Licensing Issues. Cllr. Carter asked what guidance could be offered to the owners of the Woolpack Hotel with regard to available grants to assist them to resolve the issue of noise disturbance to their neighbours. Cllr. Galpin suggested that the licensee contact the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce for guidance.

0205 **COOMBE LANE SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT.** The Town Clerk explained that it was expected that recommendations for this area would be made as part of the report arising from the consultation being carried out by the Lipton Group with the aim of establishing where the Town Council's income from the Tent 1 development land sale would best be spent.

- 0206 **CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENT.** Cllr. Mrs. Ferguson gave an update on the planning for the event, explaining that local retailers had been very receptive to displaying advertising for the event. 70 stalls had so far been assigned, and of these 40 were businesses based within 25 miles of Tenterden, ensuring a local focus to the event.
Cllr. Galpin stated that the event coincided with a Christmas event in Ashford, but he did not feel that the two events would adversely affect one another.
Cllr. Mulholland stated he felt it was crucial that parking issues were addressed and advertised ahead of the event to avoid the traffic issues of the 2015 event.
- 0207 **PROMOTION OF TENTERDEN THROUGH THE CONFEDERATION OF THE CINQUE PORTS.** A list of local tourist attractions would be circulated to members for consideration ahead of the next meeting.
- 0208 **INTERACTIVE TOURIST NOTICE BOARDS.** Investigations would be made with other towns and tourist associations which used interactive notice boards as to their effectiveness and value for money.
- 0209 **GUIDE TO LOCAL CAMP SITES.** Cllr. Mrs. Ferguson, Mrs. Barber and the Town Clerk's office had produced lists of local campsites. The office would collate the information into one document for circulation via the Tourist Information Centre.
- 0210 **FINGER POSTS.** It was **RESOLVED** that the following additional/replacement fingers for the finger posts in the town would be purchased: Tourist Information, K & ES Railway, Toilets/Defibrillator (combined onto one sign), Defibrillator (x2). The Kent and East Sussex Railway would be consulted to establish whether the term "K & ES Railway" was still correct. If other local tourist businesses wished to have dedicated finger posts, they could arrange them through the Town Council at their own cost.
- 0211 **CYCLING.**
- (a) Cycle Link Between Tenterden and Headcorn. Cllr. Mrs. Bell reported that ABC would be focusing on completing the Romney Marsh cycleway before giving consideration to the Headcorn link. She suggested that contact be made with Biddenden Parish Council, as it had shown some interest in the project to reopen the railway line to Headcorn as a cycleway.
 - (b) Cycle Map. It was considered premature to produce a cycle map at that time, as a number of changes to cycling provision were expected.
- 0212 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**
- (a) Park Mobile. It was reported that it was possible to pay by phone in the car parks in Tenterden.
 - (b) Walking Guides. Cllr. Mrs. Ferguson suggested that it would be a good idea to check that the routes advertised in publicity were still walkable.

The Meeting opened at 5.00 p.m. and closed at 5.44 p.m.

The foregoing Minutes and Reports were confirmed and signed at a meeting of the Tourism & Business Committee on the 7th day of November 2016.

Chairman _____ (07.11.2016)