

## LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

### TOURISM, COMMUNITY AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

#### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 APRIL 2023

##### Present

**Chairman:** Cllr C. Reynolds

**Members:** Cllr M. Ellis, Cllr D. Sarson, Cllr G. Stammers, Cllr G. Turner

**Officers:** A. Mullins (support services manager), G. Rood (administrative and community engagement assistant),

#### 22/95/TCP Public Forum

##### E. Holt

E, Holt, chairman of Lyme Regis Town band spoke in relation to agenda item 11, Lyme Regis Town Band. He said the band had been formed in 1982 to support the town and its event calendar, giving much of the proceeds to charity. He said in February 2023, dates, times and fees were all confirmed for their 2023 performances, but on the 21 March 2023 they were told they would not get all the dates and would only be paid £100 per performance, which would be a £600 shortfall in their budget. He said although this had now been resolved and they would receive the expected fee, next year they should expect a substantially reduced fee to be in line with all other bands performing. He believed this seriously devalued the town band to being 'just another band', when the other bands were from outside Lyme Regis. E. Holt said he appreciated a variety of music and entertainment was necessary for the town, but felt the town brass band should be given a higher value than those from out of the town. He said it had now been agreed that in future they would be paid £100 per performance for their Tuesday evening concerts, so the band would not be losing money. He said this was more than just about money, it was about the band's reputation, the community, their volunteers and so many years of service not being recognised where they believed it should be. He said they felt a little bit 'brushed under the carpet' by the town council, but they would like to continue to dedicate their time, money and energy in providing music and education to new people in the community. He said they also provided free instruments, music and tuition to anyone wanting to start playing a brass instrument, but most importantly a fun and enjoyable place for people to get together as part of a social group. E. Holt said if the financial agreement was to stand, he proposed Lyme Regis Town Band was to be paid £100 per concert for eight Tuesday evening performances in the summer holidays for over an hour at the Marine Parade shelters. Also, to be paid £100 per concert for four Sunday afternoon performances throughout the year, with two being during Lifeboat Week and Carnival Week and the other two to be negotiated within the school holidays. Also that the town band had first refusal on all other Sunday dates before other bands outside of Lyme Regis were booked and this should all be agreed in the first two months of the year, as early as possible to allow licensing, parking and advertising to be organised.

*Cllr G. Stammers arrived at the meeting at 7.06pm*

**22/96/TCP Apologies**

Cllr C. Aldridge – holiday  
Cllr D. Ruffle – illness  
Cllr R. Smith – working

**22/97/TCP Minutes**

Proposed by Cllr D. Sarson and seconded by Cllr M. Ellis, the minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2023 were **ADOPTED**.

**22/98/TCP Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

There were none.

**22/99/TCP Dispensations**

There were none.

**22/100/TCP Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 March 2023**

**Big Coronation Party**

The support services manager said currently only two members had volunteered for this event and asked for members to email her with times they could volunteer.

**The Fossil Festival**

The support services manager said the event management plan had been received, which was largely complete but there were just a couple of details that needed to be added in.

**22/101/TCP Update Report**

There were no updates.

**22/102/TCP Tourism, Community and Publicity Committee – Objectives**

Cllr M. Ellis asked if the objectives could be listed in date order of completion, as it would make it easier to follow.

**22/103/TCP To receive the minutes of the Coronation Working Group meetings on 17 April 2023**

The support services manager said the planning was in the final stages, with less than two weeks until the event and just the final details to be confirmed. She said confirmation of the licence was awaited from Dorset Council and officers were in the process of arranging insurance for event cancellation.

Proposed by Cllr M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr C. Reynolds, the minutes of the Coronation Working Group meetings on 17 April 2023 were **RECEIVED**.

## **22/104/TCP Sharing Information with Local Residents**

The support services manager said the newsletter would be delivered by post via Royal Mail, who would deliver to whole of the DT7 3 area including Rousdon, Yawl and Uplyme as it was the cheapest option.

Cllr M. Ellis said she thought it was important to let residents know what was going on. She said it was a shame there was no longer a printed local paper but a regular newsletter would mean every household received it as many still did not have any internet or digital access.

Members agreed a quarterly newsletter was the best option.

Cllr C. Reynolds said they had to ensure all councillors produced information to be included in the newsletter.

Cllr G. Stammers said if they were struggling for content, a post box could be located in Uplyme for locals to put news/events in and then the content could be edited. Cllr C. Reynolds said she would be happy to take this to Talking Café.

Cllr M. Ellis said it would be good to have input from all the local groups, so people knew what's going on and also to inform them of future events. She said there could possibly be a sub-committee formed to create content.

Members discussed whether to continue also having a column on Lyme Online's website.

Cllr M. Ellis said the council's own social media and website could be used rather than paying Lyme Online.

The support services manager suggested the newsletter could also be sent via email to people who requested to receive it digitally. She said this could be sent via Survey Monkey and sent out as a residents' briefing, or just emailed as a newsletter.

Proposed by Cllr C. Reynolds and seconded by Cllr M. Ellis, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to produce a quarterly newsletter which is sent via the Royal Mail to everyone in the DT7 3 area and to also send the newsletter via email if requested.

## **22/105/TCP Lyme Regis Town Band**

Cllr C. Reynolds said the town band had always been special and she didn't think they should be treated like the other bands.

Members agreed the band shouldn't lose any money from what they had received previously and were unhappy that the band was being treated like any other band.

The support services manager said under the current proposal, the band would receive £1,200, compared with the £1,000 they were paid previously, so it was a question of whether the council wanted to pay the band more or stick to the current arrangement but they would be paid less. She said the band was being treated differently as all other bands would only be paid for Sunday afternoon performances, whereas the town band would also be paid for Tuesday evening performances.

The support services manager said the council couldn't guarantee the dates for Lifeboat and Carnival weeks as it was not the organisers of the event, although the band was paid by the council as part of the historic agreement. She said the council would support the request for the band to play during these weeks and would help to accommodate this, but it wasn't in the council's gift to guarantee those dates.

E. Holt was invited to speak and confirmed the dates were agreed directly with the organisers of Lifeboat and Carnival weeks.

Proposed by Cllr G. Turner and seconded by Cllr D. Sarson, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to restructure payments to Lyme Regis Town Band so they are paid £100 for all performances, i.e., four Sunday performances during the summer school holidays and eight practice performances on Tuesday evenings.

#### **22/106/TCP Dorset Council Free Parking Days**

The support services manager said although members had agreed the free parking days at the last meeting, she later realised the one of the dates, 23 December 2023 for Carols Round the Christmas Tree, was a Saturday and weekends were not permitted by Dorset Council as free parking days. As such, she suggested members replace this date with free parking on 15 December 2023 when the Christmas Tree Festival took place.

Proposed by Cllr M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr G. Stammers members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to agree a change to the non-charging dates in Lyme Regis car parks, replacing Carols Round the Christmas Tree on 23 December with the Christmas Tree Festival on 15 December, and instruct officers to liaise with Dorset Council Parking Services.

#### **22/107/TCP Leisure Strategy Consultation**

The support services manager asked that up to two members worked with her to complete the survey and as the closing date was on 14 May 2023, it would be necessary to complete it before the next Full Council meeting.

Cllr C. Reynolds said she would be happy to help complete the survey.

Proposed by Cllr M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr D. Sarson, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** delegate Cllr C. Reynolds to work with the support services manager to respond to Dorset Council's Leisure Development Strategy on the council's behalf.

#### **22/108/TCP Value of Tourism**

Members agreed the tourism data would be valuable for the council to obtain.

Cllr M. Ellis suggested some of the data could be included in future business briefings.

**22/109/TCP Managing Consultation Exercises**

The support services manager said the deputy town clerk would bring a report on Dorset Council's Call for Sites in preparation for the Local Plan to the next Strategy and Finance Committee meeting instead of the Planning Committee.

Members noted the report.

*The meeting ended at 7.49pm.*