

**LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL**

**TOURISM, COMMUNITY AND PUBLICITY WORKING GROUP**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9 MARCH 2022**

**Present**

**Chairman:** Cllr C. Reynolds

**Members:** Cllr J. Broom, Cllr M. Ellis, Cllr D. Ruffle, Cllr G. Stammers

**Officers:** A. Mullins (support services manager)

**Absent:** Cllr T. Webb

**21/62/TCP Public Forum**

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

**21/63/TCP Apologies**

*Cllr M. Ellis left the meeting at 7.02pm.*

Cllr C. Aldridge  
Cllr B. Bawden – fear of intimidation  
Cllr B. Larcombe – personal commitments  
Cllr D. Sarson – holiday  
Cllr R. Smith – working  
Cllr G. Turner – working

*Cllr M. Ellis returned to the meeting at 7.03pm.*

**21/64/TCP Minutes**

Proposed by Cllr J. Broom and seconded by Cllr G. Stammers, the minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2022, were **ADOPTED**.

**21/65/TCP Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

There were none.

**21/66/TCP Dispensations**

There were none.

**21/67/TCP Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 January 2022**

**Seafront and beach concessions**

Cllr M. Ellis asked if there was an update on the wood fired sauna.

The support services manager said officers had met with the operators of the sauna to discuss how it might be accommodated on town council land and the accreted land had seemed like a possibility. However, officers had also put them in touch with the harbourmaster, who was believed he could accommodate them within the harbour and those discussions were ongoing.

**21/68/TCP Update Report**

**Eat Festival**

Cllr M. Ellis said she was surprised to see the festival felt the council's prices were too high for use of the shelters, although she felt it would mean less congestion on the seafront as it would take place along Gun Cliff.

Cllr G. Stammers asked if the price was increased from the previous year.

The support services manager said the town clerk had the discretion over the price charged for events and he had set the charge higher than the previous year.

**21/69/TCP To receive the minutes of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Working Group meeting held on 8 February 2022**

Cllr C. Reynolds said members had agreed at the meeting that on the Sunday of the Platinum Jubilee weekend, there should be no food and drink traders on the seafront as this was a day for local people and the Queen.

The support services manager said as there would be no traders on that day, there was a possibility of some local groups using the shelters for Platinum Jubilee themed activities, including the museum.

Cllr J. Broom noted the budget had been overspent and asked how much specifically it had been overspent by. He also asked if the radios which were required for the stewards would be coming from this budget.

The support services manager said she would find out the latest budget position and report back to members. She said there was a budget heading for 'event support' and the radios could be paid for from this budget as they were an investment in the town and would be used for future events.

Cllr M. Ellis agreed the radios should be funded from that budget and asked that more information was brought to Full Council about how much money was available so members could consider funding them. This was agreed by all members.

Proposed by Cllr C. Reynolds and seconded by Cllr M. Ellis, the minutes of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Working Group meeting held on 8 February 2022 were **RECEIVED**.

## **21/70/TCP Quarterly Newsletter**

Cllr C. Reynolds said lots of residents had asked if a quarterly newsletter could be reinstated as the local newspaper where the council's monthly column was printed was no longer delivered to every household. With regards to delivering the newsletter, she said Lyme Regis Community Support had delivered Christmas cards and leaflets to every household so she felt she could arrange for the group to deliver the newsletter with some others helping. The best way to do this was to get one person in each street to deliver to their own street.

Cllr C. Reynolds said a newsletter was preferable to the column because not everyone had access to the internet to read the newspaper online or could get out to pick up a copy of the newspaper.

Cllr M. Ellis agreed that a newsletter would be preferred by residents, as many people didn't realise the newspaper column was written by the council.

Cllr G. Stammers asked who would produce the newsletter.

Cllr C. Reynolds said members had been asked previously to provide the support services manager with items for the column but this hadn't happened, so she was suggested a working group of three members to put together the newsletter.

Cllr J. Broom said a newsletter was a good idea but he wanted to see some costings first.

Cllr C. Reynolds said the working group could get this kind of information together. She said it might be a bit more expensive than the column but it was what residents wanted.

Cllr C. Reynolds and Cllr D. Ruffle said they would like to be on the working group, and Cllr G. Stammers said she would help with delivery.

Proposed by Cllr C. Reynolds and seconded by Cllr M. Ellis, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to produce a quarterly newsletter to be delivered to every home instead of the monthly newspaper column; to nominate Cllr D. Ruffle and Cllr C. Reynolds, plus one other member to be identified at the Full Council meeting, to sit on a working group to help develop both the newsletter and co-ordinate its delivery; and to agree to provide items of interest to the working group which may be included in the newsletter.

## **21/71/TCP Publicity Group**

Cllr M. Ellis said following the decision on the previous item to have a working group with three members to work on the development of the newsletter, she didn't feel it was necessary to also have a publicity group.

Cllr D. Ruffle agreed and said if members wanted to bring items of interest forward, they could do that without a publicity group.

Proposed by Cllr M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr C. Reynolds, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to disband the publicity group.

**21/72/TCP Footgolf at Strawberry Field**

Cllr J. Broom said although the options' appraisal may be completed within a year, he didn't believe the council would do anything with Strawberry Field within the next three years so the footgolf could be given another three-year licence. However, he suggested the annual sum for the licence should be increased from £1,250 to £1,500.

Proposed by Cllr J. Broom and seconded by Cllr D. Ruffle, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to agree a sum of £1,500 per year (plus annual CPI increases) and a three-year licence for the footgolf business at Strawberry Field.

**21/73/TCP Grant Review, Axe Valley and West Dorset Ring and Ride**

Cllr M. Ellis said it would be good to have passenger numbers when members received the grant review reports for Axe Valley and West Dorset Ring and Ride so the council could see how many people from Lyme Regis were using the service.

The support services manager said she would request passenger numbers and circulate them to members.

Cllr M. Ellis asked how people got to know about the service and how it was advertised as there may be people in the town who could benefit from it but didn't know about.

The support services manager said there was an article in the recent newspaper column but it was agreed something could be included in the newsletter.

Cllr G. Stammers asked if the service had people who could physically help people onto the bus.

The support services manager confirmed the buses were fully accessible.

**21/74/TCP Grant Review, Lyme Arts Community Trust**

Cllr D. Ruffle, the council's representative on Lyme Arts Community Trust (LACT), said LACT was doing what it was expected to do as part of the grant agreement. He said they had secured grants to make specific improvements to the dressing rooms and had altered behind the stage. He said LACT seemed to be in a healthy financial position.

**21/75/TCP Grant Review, The Philpot Museum**

Members noted the report.

**21/76/TCP      Managing Consultation Exercises**

Referring to the Charmouth Neighbourhood Plan, Cllr M. Ellis said she had read about another seaside town which had implemented a neighbourhood plan which contained a principle residents' requirement, in order to address the issue of second homes. She said the council had discussed several years ago the possibility of implementing a neighbourhood plan in Lyme Regis and she would like this to be discussed again.

It was agreed an agenda item would be taken to the relevant committee.

*The meeting ended at 7.53pm.*