

**LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL**

**TOURISM, COMMUNITY AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 27 APRIL 2022**

**Present**

**Chairman:** Cllr C. Reynolds

**Members:** Cllr C. Aldridge, Cllr J. Broom, Cllr M. Ellis, Cllr D. Sarson,  
Cllr R. Smith, Cllr G. Stammers

**Officers:** A. Mullins (support services manager), J. Wright (town clerk)

**Absent:** Cllr G. Turner

**Guests:** J. Harris (Coastal Marks)

**21/77/TCP Public Forum**

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

**21/78/TCP Apologies**

Cllr B. Bawden – fear of intimidation  
Cllr B. Larcombe – personal commitments  
Cllr D. Ruffle – illness  
Cllr T. Webb

**21/79/TCP Minutes**

Under minute number 21/76/TCP, Cllr R. Smith suggested residents be changed to residence.

Proposed by Cllr M. Ellis and seconded by Cllr R. Smith, the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2022, with the above amendment, were **ADOPTED**.

**21/80/TCP Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

There were none.

**21/81/TCP Dispensations**

There were none.

**21/82/TCP Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 March 2022**

Members noted the report.

## **21/83/TCP Update Report**

### **Tourism microsite**

Cllr R. Smith asked if existing advertisers were provided with information on how well their advert had performed to encourage them to continue advertising.

The support services manager confirmed advertisers received insights and data about how well their advert had done, including how many visits they had on their listing and how many referrals to their website, and this hopefully encouraged businesses to advertise.

### **Lyme Regis Beer Festival**

Cllr R. Smith asked where the festival was being held.

The support services manager said it was being held at the Marine Theatre in partnership with Lyme Regis Brewery.

Cllr R. Smith said there may be an opportunity for Turn Lyme Green to get involved in helping to promote the use of reusable cups at the festival.

## **21/84/TCP Oyster Festival**

The chairman brought this item forward on the agenda and invited J. Harris from Coastal Marks to speak.

J. Harris said they had previously run Food Rocks in September, which wouldn't be taking place this year but they hoped to bring it back in the future. She said in the meantime, they would like to do an oyster celebration in Lyme Regis, which they had previously done in their London restaurant and it had been a huge success. It would be held on 3 September 2022 from 10.30am to 5pm on the external deck of the restaurant, The Oyster and Fish House.

J. Harris said there would be suppliers from the local area, as well as drinks stands from local producers. Tokens would be sold for the oysters, so no money would change hands, which would work from a health and safety perspective. She said the festival aimed to celebrate the oyster and allowed people to enjoy them as they were usually expensive.

J. Harris said they would also like to use the council's pitch and putt area to make it more of an event with masterclasses and talks. She said the weekend of 3 September was also Lyme Regis Folk Weekend, but she had spoken to the organiser who was keen to work with them, so there would be some performers in the pitch and putt area.

Cllr C. Reynolds said the council normally allowed only one event at a time on its land but as the Folk Weekend organisers had agreed the Oyster Festival could take place at the same time, she couldn't see a problem with it.

Cllr M. Ellis said it sounded like a good collaboration between the two events and a good way of using an area that wasn't currently used.

Members agreed it was also a good way of encouraging people to try oysters as many people seemed to be fearful of trying them.

Cllr R. Smith said it was also important to promote aquaculture of the local oyster growers.

Proposed by Cllr G. Stammers and seconded by Cllr R. Smith, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to approve the request from Coastal Marks to hold an Oyster Festival on council-owned land adjacent to its Oyster and Fish House on 3 September 2022 and add the event to the council's calendar of events.

J. Harris confirmed Coastal Marks would be happy to give a donation to a charity of the council's choice for allowing them to use the pitch and putt area.

The town clerk said the chosen charity would be for the mayor to decide, which would be Cllr M. Ellis when the event took place. He said use of the pitch and putt area wasn't within the council's pricing structure and the festival was not-for-profit so it seemed sensible that Coastal Marks would privately agree a donation.

**21/85/TCP To receive the minutes of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Working Group meeting held on 5 April 2022**

Proposed by Cllr R. Smith and seconded by Cllr D. Sarson, the minutes of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Working Group meeting held on 5 April 2022 were **RECEIVED**.

**21/86/TCP Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

Cllr J. Broom said the appendices referred to in the event safety management plan were not attached and it was agreed these would be forwarded to members.

The town clerk said it was intended to do a proper event management review meeting with the chairman of this committee and the Town Management and Highways Committee, as the council did with all major events that took place on its land, so the full plan with appendices would be available for that meeting.

Cllr R. Smith asked who owned the management plan as he had some observations he wanted to make.

The town clerk said it was the town council's plan, but Alan Vian had pulled all the information together. He said Cllr R. Smith could send any observations to him.

Cllr R. Smith asked if it was worth asking the police to be on duty for the event.

The town clerk said discussions about police presence for the events had taken place with the new police inspector and sergeant, as well as the PCSO. He said the police were invited to the operational meeting, which officers held every two weeks, but they

didn't attend. However, they had been supplied with a copy of the event safety management plan and officers would be pushing for a police presence.

Cllr M. Ellis asked if the park and ride would be operating late enough to ensure everyone was taken back to their vehicles.

The town clerk said there would be four buses operating for this reason and the buses would not start operating until later in the day so they could then operate later into the night. He said this information would be publicised and could be advertised on the buses.

Cllr J. Broom asked if there were plans to employ a private security company.

The town clerk said there was a volunteer security team in place but officers were also talking to Dorset Council through the summer operational demand group, which had indicated there might be some funding available to bring in extra security for this event and possibly for the summer period. He said he was waiting for confirmation of this.

## **21/87/TCP Managing Consultation Exercises**

Members noted the report.

*The meeting ended at 7.30pm.*