

Minutes of a meeting of the **COMMUNICATIONS and EVENTS** Committee
held at the Town Hall, The Broadway, Crowborough on Tuesday
7th February 2012 at 7.30pm.

Present	Councillors	Quentin Burch Michael Cooke Elizabeth Fermor Philip Fermor Kay Moss Ron Reed Wendy Scrace David Shaw Matthew Street	Vice-Chairman Chairman
Also present		Philippa Hewes Caroline Miles Jeremy Woolger 1 member of the press	Town Clerk Events Co-ordinator Chamber of Commerce

* *Denotes non attendance*

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 1st November 2011

6406 **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 1st November 2011 as confirmed be signed by the Chairman.

Update on matters outstanding

Frank Humphrey – storage arrangements and transfer of repair funds to an earmarked reserve

Frank Humphrey is now located at Bentley Wildfowl Motor Museum which is open to the public. The sum of £2000 authorised for repairs (6196) has not yet been used and it was suggested that an amount be transferred to an earmarked reserve for future repairs. The revenue budget 2012/13 was reduced to £1000 to cover storage and minor expenditure.

6407 **RESOLVED** to transfer the sum of £4000 to an earmarked reserve for repairs to Frank Humphrey. A full report on repairs and options to be presented to the committee for consideration.

UNCONFIRMED UNTIL THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

EVENTS

FIREWORK EVENT

The officer's report was noted.

To consider holding 2012 event on a Saturday

The success of the last firework event was considered to be due to the good weather and the fact that the 5th November fell on a Saturday. There was a discussion on a proposal to hold the event on a Saturday again this year. Some members supported the proposal as it may attract more people, whilst others preferred to remain with the tradition of holding the event on the 5th November. The Police have already indicated that they would prefer the 5th to be avoided due to staff resourcing issues with covering Lewes bonfire night. The campsite is closing on the 5th November which may create access problems for the firework contractor.

6408 **RESOLVED** to have a one year trial of holding the firework event on the nearest Saturday to bonfire night. The event will be held on 3rd November this year.

There may be cost savings to be achieved by not holding the event on the 5th November.

To consider options for a Beacon

Embers from the beacon blew into the crowd at the last event due to the direction of the wind. The crowd barrier was adjusted to try and minimise the impact. There have been investigations into an alternative option; it is possible to achieve a flame in the beacon by using a gas installation although the effect will not be as dramatic as the burning of wood. It was AGREED to continue with the traditional beacon.

CHRISTMAS EVENT

The officer's report was noted.

Comments have been received that the event was too late in the evening for young children and those attending primary school. Holding the event on a Friday, starting at 4pm with the switching-on of lights at 6pm, may attract more people and encourage the traders to participate.

6409 **RESOLVED** to hold the Christmas event on Friday 30th November between 4pm and 6pm.

CIVIC CAROL SERVICE

The main hall and Church at All Saints have been booked for the civic carol service on Tuesday 4th December.

TOWN CONFERENCE – 25TH APRIL

PC Richard Waters has been asked to give a report at the Town Conference. Frank Humphrey's medals will be formally handed over to the town and the Chairman of CCA2010 will give a presentation on the new Community Centre. There will be displays on the Chamber of Commerce, Frank Humphrey, Montargis, the Guides and the Community Centre. Council Committee Chairmen will provide written reports.

JUBILEE COINS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

- 6410** **RESOLVED** to spend up to £2000 + VAT on jubilee coins for children attending primary schools in Crowborough.

It was suggested that councillors should be involved with distributing the coins.

Beacon to mark the Jubilee

There was a discussion on a proposal to light a beacon to mark the Jubilee. Enquiries are to be made to find out if other towns and villages nearby are also proposing to light beacons. The matter will be discussed further at the next meeting.

SUSSEX DAY – 16TH JUNE

The officer's report was noted.

The Bonfire Society may be holding an event on Chapel Green on 16th June and other organisations are also holding events near this time. In view of this, it is proposed to mark Sussex Day by having a Town Crier in the town centre and displaying the Sussex flag.

- 6411** **RESOLVED** to mark Sussex Day by having a Town Crier on Montargis Terrace during the morning of Saturday 16th April.

SUMMER FAIR – 14TH JULY

The officer's report was noted.

- 6412** **RESOLVED** that there will be no charge for the rides this year and that the Mayor's Charities will be asked to collect donations.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

It was noted that there had been vandalism of the lights on the Christmas tree.

Quotations are being sought for 1 and 3 year contracts for Christmas lights in the town and these will be considered at the next meeting.

TO CONSIDER A CIVIC SERVICE TO CELEBRATE ST MARY'S CHURCH CENTENARY

This suggestion was put forward at the Council meeting 17th January. The first service at St Mary's was held on Christmas Day 1912 and the Church will be holding a mass to mark the centenary and there are plans to produce a leaflet.

It was reported that Council members had attended services held by other churches to celebrate previous centenaries.

COMMUNICATIONS

POSTER BOARDS

To review style of promoting Council events in large poster boards

Promotion of Council events is based on an advertising campaign using the same image for leaflets, poster boards and in the press. This approach is not appropriate for the two large poster boards which are aimed at passing traffic.

- 6413** **RESOLVED** that promoting Council events in the large poster boards will be achieved by using text on a bright background.

Councillor Badges

It was AGREED that badges will be produced in-house and provided to Councillors as required.

Faster Broadband

Jeremy Woolger reported on the introduction of Superfast Broadband and that the Crowborough exchange is due to be upgraded in April. BT will only supply the connection to street cabinets that are considered to be commercially viable as there is an additional cost to the consumer for the service. A campaign is being run to get residents in Crowborough to register their interest in Superfast Broadband at post code level; this data can then be used to identify individual street cabinets.

Members considered that Superfast Broadband should be made available to all members of the community and agreed to raise awareness of the campaign through the newsletter, website and noticeboards.

FINANCE

Management Accounts to 31st October, 30th November and 31st December 2011

- 6414** **RESOLVED** to adopt the Management Account Reports to 31st October, 30th November and 31st December 2011.

UNCONFIRMED UNTIL THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

6415 **RESOLVED** that this Committee excludes the public and press from this meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. This is in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 section1.

NOMINATION FOR CIVIC AWARD

6416 **RESOLVED** to make a Citizen’s Award to the candidate in view of their significant contribution to Crowborough.

URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN

None.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.