



EAST PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

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MAJOR EVENTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES: of the Committee Meeting held on 29th June 2020 at 18:00 via the Zoom online meeting application.

PRESENT: Councillors C Bowman, A Chapman, L Duff, P Gander, J Gunston, E Linton (Chairman) and S Toney

ALSO: Simon Cross, Clerk to the Council

Alison Roberts, Receptionist / Admin Assistant to the Council

The meeting opened at 18:00.

411/20 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

All committee members were present.

412/20 PERSONAL AND/OR PECUNIARY/PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

No Interests were declared.

413/20 PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public were present.

414/20 EAST PRESTON FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL, 29TH AUGUST 2020

The following report had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

East Preston Food & Drink Festival – 29th August 2020

Committee is asked to consider any matters pertaining to this cancelled event.

Cllrs Chapman and Gunston are leading on this event.

Alison will attend the meeting to explain her idea of the virtual Food & Drink Festival.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

22nd June 2020

Alison explained how a virtual Food & Drink Festival would work, an idea received enthusiastically by the committee. Basically, all the businesses which had been offered a pitch at this year's Food & Drink Festival will be given access to a hashtag to use in social media posts related to the event. Members of the public will be able to follow the hashtag thus forming a link with those businesses. Businesses could do video demos or explain how the public could still get hold of their products. Mrs Roberts had seen this work well elsewhere during the pandemic lockdown and was hopeful it would work well for the Food & Drink Festival too. The committee AGREED unanimously to support and work upon this idea. Cllr Chapman agreed to work on an initial poster for the virtual event. The entertainers booked for the event would also be able to join in virtually, enabling them to promote their acts as they would have done on the day.

The only concern was businesses who had not been invited to take part in this year's Food & Drink Festival could latch on to the hashtag and get themselves some publicity. Mrs Roberts said she was happy to police this during the run-up to the event and on the day.

415/20 FUNDAY SUNDAY, 18TH OCTOBER 2020

The following report was circulated in advance of the meeting:

FunDay Sunday, October 2020

Committee is asked to consider the rescheduling of this event, originally planned for 3rd May 2020.

Cllr Gander is leading on this event.

At the last meeting, the committee agreed to move this event, possibly to 4th October to tie in with the national Silver Sunday initiative. I moved the booking with the Village Hall accordingly but then Vintage Candy were unavailable for 4th October.

Meanwhile, Alison has been able to provisionally book both Vintage Candy and the Village Hall for 18th October.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

22nd June 2020

Much as the committee would love to be able to run this event sometime this year, until government guidance on social distancing made holding social events a lot easier, there was little could be discussed. The committee is grateful it at least had a date in mind.

416/20 EAST PRESTON CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS – 21ST NOVEMBER 2020

The following report was circulated in advance of the meeting:

East Preston Christmas Celebrations – 21st November 2020

Committee is asked to consider any matters relating to this event.

Cllr Linton is leading on this agenda item.

I'll be honest, I am thinking maybe a year off from the Christmas event might not be a bad idea; but then again maybe the village needs something to look forward to.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

22nd June 2020

The Clerk added he and Alison had discussed this event between themselves last week and agreed, until current or likely future social distancing guidance, many of the attractions arranged by the council may not be possible. His concern was the council not organise a half-baked event, through no fault of their own, leading to greater dissatisfaction in the village than if the event had not gone ahead at all. Time was needed to organise a quality event.

Cllr Bowman pointed out events for much later in the year were beginning to be cancelled elsewhere.

The committee AGREED to defer further discussion of the event until the 17th August meeting, by which time the guidance on social distancing may have relaxed somewhat. This deferment also gave committee members the chance to think of whether they were new ideas we could try.

417/20 EAST PRESTON VOLUNTARY SERVICE PARTY

Although little could be done about the organising of an event when nobody can predict when such an event can be held, the committee did have some discussion about what format any such event should take. There was some discussion about whether or not it should simply be a thank you to the volunteers or should be a bigger event giving service users the chance to come out and have longer, more relaxed chats with their volunteers than may have been possible stood on doorsteps. The Clerk stressed there were service users who probably hardly ever got out and this was an opportunity to provide them with an event they could attend and enjoy. Cllr Duff supported the Clerk's comments and Cllr Toney said it could also be an opportunity for some of those service users to meet up with people they know in the village but may not have seen for many years. The committee AGREED to include service users and volunteers in any such event.

The indoor venues in the village that could cope with an attendance list that could top 300 were the two schools. Both had halls which could handle that proposed number.

418/20 FRENCH MARKET, 25TH JULY 2020

The Clerk read from an email from Muriel Charles, the organiser of the French Markets held occasionally in the village. Mme Charles had written to the council on 26th June offering to organise a French Market on the Village Green on Saturday, 25th July. Mme Charles was confident with only twelve stalls, the event could be run within current social distancing guidelines.

The committee liked the idea and felt it would be showing the village it is forward-thinking in wanting to provide some entertainment for the village. However, there were concerns raised about how the council could effectively marshal the public outside the boundary of the Village Green. Concern was also expressed stallholders at the Food & Drink Festival may feel put out a French Market has taken place on the Village Green when the Food & Drink Festival has not.

Reluctantly, the committee AGREED not to take up the French Market's offer. Two councillors abstained in this vote.

419/20 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26TH MAY 2020

Minutes agreed. Cllr Linton will sign the Minutes when next passing the Council Office.

[Clerk's Note: Cllr Linton signed the Minutes late on the morning of 30th June.]

420/20 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Nothing to report.

421/20 NEXT MEETING (17TH AUGUST 2020)

Nothing new was suggested.

The Meeting closed at 18.41.

Chairman: *Cllr Elizabeth Linton* Date: **17th August 2020**