

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PROMOTION, COMMUNICATION AND EVENTS
COMMITTEE OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE BEACON,
PORTWAY, ON MONDAY, 18 MARCH 2024, AT 7.30PM**

Committee members present: Councillors T Gilhome (Chair), A Dunford and A Crawford
Other council members present: Councillor K Morris

Others present:

Town Centre Manager (TCM) A Yates
Town Project Coordinator (TPC) J Mitchell

Deputy Clerk S Sanders

Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor V Wright

Declaration of disclosable pecuniary interests, other registrable interests and non-registrable interests.

None

33. Matters arising from the minutes

- a) To agree the additional information in the “We are your Wantage” guide.

The guide was still work in progress.

Action: TCM/TPC

- b) To agree the cost of print and distribution of the “We are your Wantage” guide.

It was suggested that the publication should not be sent with a newsletter, but instead be available digitally and a few copies be available at pick-up points around Wantage.

- c) To receive an update on the purchase of a LED display board.

A possible location had been found for a TV to be displayed but this had not been agreed by the owner of the business yet.

Action: TCM

- d) To receive an update on the members of the working group created to promote town events.

A meeting of the working group had been held. The group plan to meet on a Wednesday at either midday or 6.30pm. A member of the public had joined the group.

34. Events 2024

- a) To review the calendar of events for 2024 and agree the timings.

It was agreed that the road closure for the St George’s Day event on Sunday 28 April 2024 would be from 8am until 5pm.

It was agreed that the AlfredFest on Saturday 26 October 2024 would not require a full road closure.

It was agreed that the road closure for the Dickensian Evening on Friday 9 December 2024 would be from 11am – 10pm.

It was agreed that France at Home would be charged per pitch if they were to attend the food festival event in July, in accordance with the fees charged for other stalls.

- b) To consider how to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D Day 6 June 2024.

It was agreed to investigate the possibility of The Beacon screening a D-Day themed film.

Action: TPC

- c) To agree the budget for individual events.

It was agreed that the budget of £23k for events be allocated as follows:

St George's Day: £4000

Food Fest: £4000

Alfred Fest: £4000

Christmas market: £4000

Saturday markets: £6500

It was not known what the budget of £5000 for town events was for. This was to be queried.

Action: Chair

- d) To receive any applications for the use of the market place for non-town council events.

A request had been received from Wantage & Grove Church Partnership to use the market square for a service on Sunday 24 March. The TCM was to invite the group to use the western end pedestrianised area as a more suitable alternative.

Action: TCM

35. To consider the use of social media to promote events.

It was noted that social media was already used to promote events.

36. To consider the need for a PRS licence.

Some investigation had taken place about the requirement for Wantage Town Council to hold a PRS licence. Further investigation was needed.

Action: Deputy Clerk

37. Newsletter.

Issue 13 had been printed and was ready to be distributed to all OX12 addresses by Royal Mail. The TPC will call for inclusions for the June 2024 issue in May.

Action: TPC

38. Items for the next meeting to be held 17 June 2024.

None.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm
