

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

21st January 2016

Present

*Cllr T de Galleani – Chairman
*Cllr I A Pritchard – Vice-Chairman

*Cllr P F Allen
*Cllr M Baillie
Cllr L M Barnes
*Cllr G B F Coles
*Cllr R W I Cooke (Deputy Mayor)
*Cllr D M Gent
*Cllr B T Harriss
#Cllr R M Lyon (Town Mayor)
Cllr S Smith

*Denotes attendance
#Denotes apology for absence

Observers: Cllr R Spingett
Cllr S E Thomson

Also in attendance 1 member of the press

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Harriss to the General Purposes Committee.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Cllr Coles declared a personal interest in agenda items 3, 5 and 6 – Civic Evening, Mayflower 400 and Sister City Status.

Cllr Harris declared a personal interest in agenda item 4 – Coach Drivers' Information Pack.

2. CIVIC EVENING 2016.

This item had been referred back from the Full Council meeting of 7th December 2015. It had been previously proposed to hold the Civic Evening on Saturday 19th March 2016 but as another dinner was planned to celebrate the Sister City Status with the American visitors on 21st May 2016 it had been suggested that these two events be combined.

Cllr Cole explained that the Sister City Gala Dinner in May would be a fundraiser and entirely separate from the Civic Dinner.

Proposed: Cllr P F Allen

Seconded: Cllr D M Gent

Recommended: That the separate status of the 2 events be noted.

Proposed: Cllr P F Allen

Seconded: Cllr D M Gent

Recommended: That subject to the approval of Full Council, the Town Council considers a civic event in autumn 2016.

3. COACH DRIVERS INFORMATION PACK.

Details of dates and costs for the Coach Drivers' Information Pack had been distributed to members. The Town Council had previously paid to put the Market leaflets in the information packs given to the coach drivers in Torbay to encourage visits to Dartmouth. Members felt that the BID would be marketing the Town and asked that the Clerk seek the programme of advertising being placed by the BID Board.

Proposed: Cllr D M Gent

Seconded: Cllr I A Pritchard

Recommended: That the Town Council decline the offer to advertise in the Coach Drivers' Information pack.

4. REPORT ON THE MAYFLOWER 400 PROJECT BY CLLR COLES.

Cllr Coles informed the meeting that there had been a very successful presentation of the Mayflower 400 virtual reality scheme at Dartmouth Academy and the students were very keen to get involved. This scheme would allow the young people to take part in the construction of the “virtual” Mayflower replica.

The Mayflower 400 group had taken up charitable status with Dartmouth Museum which would enhance their fundraising potential.

There were several projects being prepared including a Mayflower quilt and a stained glass window which would be installed in a new Mayflower visitor centre.

5. REPORT ON THE SISTER CITY STATUS BY CLLR COLES.

Cllr Coles reported that the 15 strong American delegation from Dartmouth Massachusetts would be arriving on 18th May 2016, would have various trips around Devon culminating in a Gala Dinner on 21st May 2016 when the Sister City compact would be signed.

6. THE PATRON’S LUNCH JUNE 2016.

A letter from the Devon Lieutenancy Office regarding celebrations for Her Majesty the Queen’s 90th birthday on 12th June 2016 had been circulated to members. It was noted that the Townstal Community Partnership were planning a street party for the event.

Proposed: Cllr P F Allen
Seconded: Cllr D M Gent

Recommended: That the Clerk contact the Dartmouth Chronicle and ask that members of the public to come forward with details of events being planned to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen’s 90th birthday.

7. PUBLIC CONSULTATION OF DRAFT SOUTH DEVON AONB ESTUARIES MANAGEMENT PLAN 2016 – 2020.

The consultation on the South Devon AONB had been circulated to all Councillors by email; copies of the 40 page document were made available at the meeting. Cllr Gent and the Chairman had reviewed the document and its contents were noted.

8. DARTMOUTH FOOD FESTIVAL 2016.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the dates for the Food Festival in 2016 (Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd October 2016) would again coincide with the school half-term holiday. This had been the case since 2008 but the event had originally been designed to take place away from holiday dates in order to bring visitors to the Town in a quiet period. Members felt that the scheduling of festivals and events in the Town is should be taken forward by the BID in order to spread visitor numbers through the year.

9. MEMORIAL FOR CORPORAL T. W. H. VEALE V.C. – 20th JULY 2016.

The Clerk had been in contact with the Department for Communities and Local Government who were providing memorial stones to the home towns of all the recipients of the Victoria Cross at the 100th anniversary of their receipt of the award. It was hoped that South Hams District Council would be arranging for the stone to be laid in the Royal Avenue Gardens.

Corporal Veale's Devonshire Regiment had undergone two metamorphoses and was now found in The RIFLES. ATD Lerwill OBE MA, Lieutenant Colonel, the Rifles County Secretary based in Salisbury, had contacted the Town Council and offered a representative from the regiment to attend a ceremony.

The Clerk would seek clarification from the District Council as to who would run the event.