

BEVERLEY TOWN COUNCIL

BEVERLEY CHRISTMAS LIGHTS (Working Group Meeting)

21st April 2015

Present: Councillors Gray, Bottomley and Whitfield, Prue Blake (Fund Raising Group) and Harry Burton (Beverley Lions)

In attendance: Carol Oliver (Deputy Town Clerk)

Cllr Gray opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their hard work in making the Christmas Lights event a great success. She believed the Group had worked well as a team to achieve a good event for Beverley. She reported she is not standing for re-election in May.

Mr Burton responded with a vote of thanks for the sterling work Cllr Gray had undertaken as Chair of the Beverley Christmas Lights Working Group over the years.

Mr Burton said he would like to see the councillors continue on the committee for a few months after the election for the sake of continuity of the planning for the Christmas Lights event.

462 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Peter Jacobson – Street Lighting East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Julian Minshall of Chamber of Trade.

463 To note the minutes of the meeting of the 17th March 2015

The minutes of the 17th March 2015 were noted.

464 Matters arising not on the Agenda.

Min 460 – Mrs Blake provided the Deputy Town Clerk with the email address for Wykeland in order she could invite them to a future meeting.

Min 461 – Festive Lighting are undertaking a survey of Beverley on 30th April 2015.

465 To receive the financial accounts

The Deputy Town Clerk reported there is £40 in the Town Council account. Mrs Blake reported there is £8323 in the fund raising account. A refund of VAT is due and also the precept from Beverley Town Council will be transferred to the Town Council Christmas Lights Account in the next 2 months.

466 To discuss the future of the erection of the Christmas trees

It had been agreed at the last meeting that Mrs Blake would contact Mr Bird to ask if anyone would be prepared to co-ordinate the Christmas tree erection in North Bar. Nobody had come forward. Mrs Blake is to write to all North Bar traders informing them that they are able to purchase a Christmas tree from the Town Council and the Christmas lights would be given to them on a first come first served basis. Mrs Blake would then send the same letter to the traders in Saturday Market. Duncan and Joy Jack had agreed to take responsibility for Wednesday Market and Butcher Row. Liz Ducker had agreed to take responsibility for Lairgate.

The Deputy Town Clerk would put the order in for Christmas Trees in October following receipt of numbers and moneys from the traders.

467 To receive an update on fund raising events

Mrs Blake said the Christmas Lights Appeal Group are finalising dates for events and there one or two more events in the suggestion stages. Concerts were suggested, however it was agreed that there are a sufficient number of concerts being organised by other organisations in Beverley, that a concert would not be organised by the Christmas Lights Appeal Group this year.

468 To discuss the 2015 event

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that Mr Jacobson has been contacted several times by the courier regarding the collection of the units that were to be repaired. Several times were agreed for collection and the courier did not turn up. The faulty units are readily available in the container for collection.

The date of the Christmas Light event was set as Sunday 29th November 2015. Mr Burton said Rev Stephen Caddy from Toll Gavel Church had agreed to undertake the service at the Market Cross for the event. A school choir is to be sorted shortly.

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that the cross pieces hire is in its 4th year of a 5 year hire agreement.

Mrs Blake reported that the Christmas Lights Appeal Group had met with Wykeland who want to support Christmas lighting in order to attract people to and from the site. The Christmas Lights Appeal Group had given suggestions to Wykeland for snowflakes and lamp post columns lighting on Railway Street and in Railway Square on 20th April 2015 and a response is awaited. A centre manager is to be employed who will manage the development.

Mr Burton said there is a second Beverley Lions Club called Beverley Westwood Lions Club. The two Lions Clubs function individually but co-operate with each other.

469 To consider any future purchases

Future purchases would be considered following the survey and by the new Council.