



Christmas Lights Working Group

18th June 2019

6.30pm at 12 Well Lane, Beverley

Present: Councillor Chloe Hopkins, Councillor David Horsley, Councillors Duncan Jack, Councillor Ann Willis, Joy Jack (Christmas Lights Appeal Group), Geoffrey Sygrove (Beverley Lions)

In Attendance: Matthew Snowden (Deputy Town Clerk)

1/19: To receive apologies for absence.

There being no current Chair, the Deputy Town Clerk oversaw this item.

Councillor Tom Astell, Prue Blake, Peter Jacobson (East Riding of Yorkshire Council)

2/19: To elect a Chair for the Municipal Year.

There being no current Chair, the Deputy Town Clerk oversaw this item.

Nomination: Cllr Ann Willis **Proposed:** Cllr Duncan Jack **Seconded:** Cllr Chloe Hopkins

Resolved: *That Cllr Ann Willis be elected Chair of the Christmas Lights Working Group.*

3/19: To elect a Vice-Chair for the Municipal Year.

Nomination: Cllr Chloe Hopkins **Proposed:** Cllr Duncan Jack **Seconded:** Cllr Ann Willis

Resolved: *That Cllr Chloe Hopkins be elected Chair of the Christmas Lights Working Group.*

4/19: To note the minutes of the last meeting held on 12th March 2019.

Resolved: *To note the minutes.*

5/19: To receive a statement of finances.

Joy Jack explained that the Christmas Lights Appeal Group currently has £4,709.93. Further fundraising events are planned for the coming months (Quiz Night 20th September at the Rugby Club, Fashion Show 15th November at Memorial Hall, Festival of Christmas Tombola 8th December), which will hopefully increase this amount to at least £5,000. The Chair thanked Joy and the Christmas Lights Appeal Group for their hard work and dedication.

6/19: To consider proposal from The White Company to decorate the tree on Cross Street/Toll Gavel Corner.

The group discussed The White Company's proposal. It was noted that they may require a cherry-picker to decorate the tree.

Resolved: *That the Christmas Lights Working Groups agrees to this in principle and Joy Jack will liaise with the business to discuss this further. Matters for discussion to include gaining assurances that if there is any damage to the display they put up, the company will be responsible for repairing it. In addition, the Deputy Town Clerk to liaise with Peter Jacobson to ascertain the dimensions of the tree.*

7/19: To consider purchase for 2019

a) Hire and/or purchase of new cross pieces

- i. The group discussed the seven electrical boxes, as detailed in a report from Peter Jacobson, that will need upgrading to accommodate cross pieces.

Resolved: *The Deputy Town Clerk to request Peter Jacobson proceeds with the upgrades and for Beverley Christmas Lights to cover the cost of £104.30 per box, totalling £730.10.*

- ii. In terms of lighting displays for across Toll Gavel, the Group discussed hiring various options, but felt a meeting with Christmas Plus Ltd would be of benefit to move things along.

Resolved: *The Deputy Town Clerk to arrange a meeting with Christmas Plus Ltd and to invite members of the group and Peter Jacobson.*

b) Any other new purchases and updates

- i. **Lairgate:** The group plan to purchase ten "Little Blizzards" from Christmas Plus Ltd to be erected along Lairgate. The total cost is £2,900. However, the group thought it prudent to see if a deal can be made with the company

Resolved: *To discuss with Christmas Plus Ltd as part of the proposed meeting.*

- ii. **Wednesday Market:** The Group discussed the potential locations for lights (possibly "Little Blizzards") at Wednesday Market. Although Peter Jacobson had kindly sent location photos showing electricity points, the group actually wanted details of the individual shop brackets and electricity sources (previously used for small Christmas trees).

Resolved: *The Deputy Town Clerk to ask Peter Jacobson to investigate the possibility of using the shop brackets and to assess the associated electricity sources.*

- iii. **Dyer Lane:** The possibility of lighting the tree in Dyer Lane was discussed, in the same fashion as those in Jubilee Garden and the corner of Cross Street/Champney Road. Money is ring fenced for this and Chris Hyland can design it.

Resolved: *The Deputy Town Clerk to ask Peter Jacobson if this is feasible, especially in terms of electricity sources.*

- iv. **Switch-on Events:** It was noted that the Flemingate Development will be running its own lights switch-on event on the evening of Friday 22nd November. The town centre event organised by Beverley Lions and is connected to the group will take place on Sunday 24th November.

- v. **Roundabouts:** Cllr Hopkins suggest the group might wish to investigate the possibility of placing festive lighting displays on the town entry roundabouts, as happens in Sunderland. If possible, this might not happen in 2019, but could be a plan for the future.

Resolved: *The Clerk to liaise with Peter Jacobson and ERYC Highways to investigate the possibility. If the response is positive, Cllr Jack to liaise with Molescroft and Woodmansey Parish Councils to see if they would like to be financial and practical partners on this project, as some of the locations will be outside of Beverley and within their boundaries.*

The meeting concluded at 2:20pm

Signed: _____

Date: _____