



WOMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Sub-Committee of Finance and General Purposes High Street Recovery and Rejuvenation Committee Meeting

held on **Monday 21st June 2021** at 6pm

This meeting was held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Gravel Hill, Wombourne, WV5 9HA.

Present -

Councillors: Barry Bond, Dan Kinsey, Mary Roberts, Daisy Tait

Retailors: Cara Hickman, David Taylor, Debra Taylor

Clerk: Rachael Wright

Councillor Daniel Kinsey opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the first meeting of what he anticipated to be a lively and interactive group.

01/21 – Election of Chairman

Councillor Barry Bond proposed Councillor Daisy Tait be elected Chairman of the Committee. Councillor Dan Kinsey seconded the proposal, and everyone was in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Daisy Tait be elected Chairman of the Committee.

02/21 – Election of Vice-Chairman

Councillor Barry Bond proposed Cara Hickman be elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee. Councillor Dan Kinsey seconded the proposal, and everyone was in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cara Hickman be elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

03/21 - Apologies

None.

04/21 – Declarations of Interest

None.

05/21 – Outline of objectives for the Committee

It was agreed the main objective of the Committee was to encourage more people into the village. Members of the Committee also suggested they should look at the village with a fresh pair of eyes, promoting the unique set of retailers and specially encouraging residents to shop local.

06/21 – Update on funding available from South Staffordshire Council

Councillor Dan Kinsey advised Members of the Committee that South Staffordshire Council applied for grants to rejuvenate High Streets across the District, and Wombourne had been awarded £5000 to spend. The objective of the funding was to ensure safe access to the High Street and to make it a more inviting place to be. Fixed assets such as tourism notice boards are not covered by the funding, but moveable items such as planters, bins and hanging baskets could be, as well as events to encourage people into the village.

07/21 – Summer programme of events

Councillor Barry Bond reminded Members of the Committee of the event held some years ago for St Georges Day where several activities took place across the day including a design a shield competition, with entries being dropped off at Walkers Way where an actor was based telling stories. There was a treasure hunt, and most shops decorated their windows with dragons to take part. He hoped something similar could be arranged on several dates across the summer with different themes, and story tellers at set locations in the village.

Members of the Committee agreed to the following dates and themes for the programme of events:

- Saturday 24th July 2021 – Fairy Tales
- Saturday 21st August 2021 – Superheroes
- Saturday 18th September 2021 – Music

Ideas suggested were story tellers, treasure hunts, buskers, actors in costumes and with props interacting with shoppers and live music.

It was also agreed the Committee should aim to find out what else is going on in the village for the rest of the year to see if they could assist with promoting the event amongst the retailers, for example the Teddy Bear hunt by Blakeley Heath Primary School and the Scarecrow Festival by Kingsway Church.

08/21 – Links with retailers

Members of the Committee agreed a message should be sent out on the retailers WhatsApp Group informing them of the schedule. Councillors Daisy Tait and Dan Kinsey agreed to visit retailers not part of the group to inform them and to encourage them to join the WhatsApp Group.

09/21 – Wombourne Players

It was noted that Wombourne Players had been granted permission to use the grass at the rear of the Civic Centre on Saturday 24th July 2021 to put on some short street theatre performances.

10/21 – Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 30th June 2021 at 6pm.

The meeting closed at 6.55pm.

Signed:

Dated: