



## **WOMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Sub-Committee of Finance and General Purposes High Street Recovery and Rejuvenation Committee Meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 6pm**

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

#### **Present -**

Councillors: Barry Bond MBE, Dan Kinsey, Mary Roberts (arrived at 6.10pm), Daisy Tait  
Retailors: Tammy Mallett (Fierce Hairdressing)

Clerk: Rachael Wright

#### **105/21 – Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cara Hickman.

#### **106/21 – Declarations of interest**

None.

#### **107/21 – Approval of previous minutes**

Members approved the minutes of 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021.

#### **108/21 – Matters arising from the meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021**

None.

#### **109/21 – Review of the last event**

Members agreed the last event was a huge success. Over 80 children had taken part in the trail with over 60 getting all answers correct, therefore all visiting all 25 shops who agreed to take part. There was excellent feedback in relation to all acts, but especially the princesses. The Chairman noted that the momentum amongst retailers was good, and lots had been asking about other events leading up to Halloween and Christmas.

Councillor Bond noted there had been mixed feedback from the craft fayre with some stall holders completely selling out, and others not doing so well, but now knowing what they would bring next time if they did another.

#### **110/21 – Feedback from retailers**

Tammy noted she was in attendance as she felt she had not been informed of the events or told how to take part, despite the Chairman and Councillor Dan Kinsey trying to reach her one weekend. She also informed Members Flaming Fires felt they had to look after Rapunzel who was located outside the URC and felt they also had not received any information about the events. The Chairman advised all princesses were paid acts who had breaks scheduled in and were advised where to seek refreshments and comfort breaks. She agreed the Parish Council would speak to Flaming Fires to address their feedback.

#### **111/21 – Feedback from attendees**

All feedback had been positive, it was noted half of the attendees had heard about the event on Facebook.

**112/21 – Common Road event (a-e)**

Members agreed the event would run on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October from 10am-1pm, and the Chairman would ask retailers in the village centre, if possible, to start any activities they wanted to put on until after 1pm. They discussed options for a theme including autumn, harvest, villains, Halloween, and Guy Fawkes which they eventually settled on. It was agreed the Clerk would make enquiries with Karen McKee, a fire eater, and Every Little Dream Princesses to see if they were able to do anything to fit in with the theme. HQ would be set up at the Methodist church, if available. Enquiries would be made with the Bede to see if their fenced off grassed area could be used for the fire eater.

Tammy suggested retailers may wish to contribute either items from their shop or money to make up a packed lunch which could be distributed to children who would normally receive free school meals during half term. Members agreed this was a nice idea but needed to be run by the retailers independent to this Committee due to the funding requirements the Committee must adhere to. The Chairman agreed to speak to Keith at Coffee 212 who tried to run a similar scheme during lockdown.

Members noted that the Clerk was on annual leave from 8<sup>th</sup> October to 25<sup>th</sup> October so between them they would need to produce posters, liaise with acts, and update social media.

**113/21 – Expenditure to date**

The Clerk informed Members that the last official update was £2561.24 spent, with approximately £200 to be added for the prizes from the last event. The Committee had committed to spending £7500 on events so would continue to run them through the end of March 2022.

Members agreed that retailers would be able to remain open late on the evening of the Christmas light switch on which would be 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and then the Committee would run an event on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2021 which was also Small Business Saturday.

**114/21 – Report for South Staffordshire Council**

The Chairman agreed to provide the Clerk with a report which could be used when submitting costings to date. Members agreed the report needed to contain some tangible evidence as to how busy the shops have been on the event days. The Clerk asked for the report by week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

**115/21 Committee Members Review**

Councillor Dan Kinsey advised lots of retailers had shown an interest in attending the meeting, including Andrea from Peony Lane, Claire from Perrigo Opticians, Donna from Craft and Explore, Martin from Fresh and the owners of Ravens Nest, however, at present it appears the time commitment for attending regular meetings is too much.

**116/21 Date of the next meeting**

Members agreed to meeting at 5pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October noting the Clerk would not be present therefore they would record their own minutes.

**The meeting closed at 7.20pm.**

**Signed:** .....

**Dated:** .....