

# **STRATFORD-UPON-AVON TOWN COUNCIL**

## **CIVIC HERITAGE AND EVENTS COMMITTEE**

21 January 2025

Meeting commenced: 6:30pm Meeting ended: 7:35pm

Present:  
Councillors:

|          |       |
|----------|-------|
| Hunter   | Rolfe |
| Petrovic | Vos   |
| Rashwan  |       |

Clerk: Civic Officer  
Press: None  
Public: None

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### **38 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Harding and McNaught-Barrow and accepted for the reasons given.

### **39 Declarations of Interest**

None were received.

### **40 To receive written requests for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interests**

None were received.

### **41 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate**

None were received.

## 42 **Presentation**

The Chair welcomed Sara Aspley, CEO of the Town Trust, who outlined to members plans by the Town Trust for marking VE Day 80 by refurbishing the Bandstand. The current Bandstand was built by the Royal Engineers in 1995 and was looking tired. Therefore, the VE-Day anniversary seemed to be an appropriate occasion to upgrade the structure.

Final details for the VE Day event in the Recreation Ground were still to be confirmed. However, it was hoped to engage the services of a band and that the Chair of the Town Trust would welcome those attending and would outline a brief history of the Bandstand. The Mayor would then be invited to cut a ribbon to formally open the refurbished structure. It was important that attendees could hear proceedings and therefore an amplification system was considered necessary. Following a brief discussion

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: That, the Town Council would contribute to the event by procuring and funding a sound system.

## 43 **Public Participation of non-agenda items**

There were no other public present.

## 44 **To approve the draft Minutes of the Civic Heritage and Events Meeting held on 05 November 2024**

It was Proposed, Seconded and

RESOLVED: That the draft Minutes of the Civic Heritage and Events Committee held on 5 November 2024, be approved as a correct record.

## 45 **To approve the Minutes of the Website, Social Media and Newsletter held on 15 November and 13 December 2024**

Councillor Hunter advised members that the new web site, created by Parish Online, would be up and running before the end of April and that it would include an interactive ward map. Following this update, it was

Proposed, Seconded and

RESOLVED: That the draft Minutes of the Website, Social Media and Newsletter sub-group held on 15 November and 13 December 2024, be approved as a correct record.

**46 To approve the draft Minutes of the Market Forum held on 18 November 2024**

It was Proposed, Seconded and

RESOLVED: That the draft Minutes of the Market Forum held on 18 November 2024 be approved as a correct record.

**47 Town Clerks Open Report**

**47.1 Remembrance Concert - 8 November 2024**

The Remembrance Concert, which raised about £700.00 for the Poppy Appeal, had been a memorable and well attended event. The Chair requested that the thanks of the Committee be passed on to Sam Jenkins who had organised the evening.

**47.2 Remembrance Sunday – 10 November 2024**

The programme for the annual commemoration on 10 November 2024 had passed off without issue. Thanks were expressed to Victoria Flynn and the team at the Town Hall who oversaw all the practical arrangements on the day due to the absence of the Civic Officer following surgery.

**Christmas Lights Switch-On - 16 November 2024**

**47.3**

The event was very well attended and passed off without issue. The members requested that its thanks be passed on to the Christmas Lights Company Limited for the spectacular lights display.

**Birthday Celebrations 2025**

**47.4**

The interim report regarding the thoughts of and initial additional entertainment ideas prepared by Kate Livingston was tabled and noted. A further report will be submitted as a final update for the March meeting.

**47.5 Town Hall Room Hire Fees 2025/2026**

Following a general debate and vote whether to increase the room hire fees by either 5% or 10%, there was no clear decision. Following a casting vote by the Chair, it was

RESOLVED                      That the Town Hall Room Hire Fees for 2025/2026 be uplifted by 5%.

#### **47.6    Commemorating VE and VJ Day**

Following the success of the event held in the Remembrance Garden to commemorate the D-Day Landings in 2024, it was hoped that a similar event could be arranged for VE Day in May and VJ Day in August. It was also agreed that an official flag should fly on the Town Hall.

It was Proposed, Seconded and

RESOLVED                      That a commemoration and beacon lighting to take place on 8 May for VE Day and 15 August for VJ Day.

It was further approved that the official flag should be purchased.

#### **47.7    Heritage Open Days**

Following the success of the 2024 event, members considered that it would be best to open in support of Heritage Open Days for one day only.

It was Proposed, Seconded and

RESOLVED                      To open in support of Heritage Open Days 2025 on Saturday 13 September.

#### **47.8    Volunteers Civic Reception**

The 2024 invitation list had been circulated prior to the meeting and has been updated with the following amendments. The Wesley Toddler Group had been deleted and replaced with Stratford Family Club. Street Arts has been removed, due to the death of Doug Armstrong it no longer existed.

With the amendments, the list was adopted.

#### **47.8    Shakespeare Schools Day**

It was noted that the date for the 2025 Shakespeare Schools Day is Friday 28 March.

48      **Date of the next meeting**

Tuesday 11 March 2025 in the Town Hall at 6:30pm.

*Chair:* .....      *Date:* .....