

LANGPORT TOWN COUNCIL

Langport Town Hall, Bow Street, Langport TA10 9PR

Telephone: 01458 259700

Email: townclerk@langport.life

Minutes of the meeting of Langport Town Council's Tourism & Marketing Committee held on Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 7pm

PRESENT:

Cllr Sean Dromgoole
Cllr Steve Glas
Rachel Smith

Cllr Robert Crumb
Cllr Sarah Peterkin
Peter Roberts

Gordon McKerrow
Cllr Bill Paterson

In attendance:

Gerard Tucker, Locum Town Clerk, Morag Kelly Deputy Town Clerk.

MINUTES

TM2024/1 Apologies

To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given. ([LGA 1972 s85 \(1\)](#))

Apologies were received from Kim Woods (Vintage Markets) and Jules Bradburn (Saturday Markets)

TM2024/2 Declarations of interests

Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e). (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

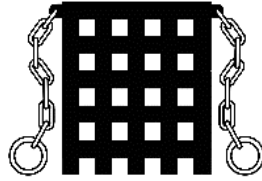
There were no declarations of interest

TM2024/3 To acknowledge the outcomes of the focussed training session held in February. As the previous meeting had taken the form of a focussed visioning exercise, there were no minutes from that meeting. The Clerk did provide a summary of the outcomes and actions from that meeting, which have been pursued through other committees or Full Council.

TM2024/4 Langport Information Centre (LIC) update

Gordon McKerrow informed that the number of visits to the LIC desk have dropped this year, averaging approximately 50 per month. The quieter sessions have resulted in some of the volunteers choosing to stand down from further involvement. This has required a promotional drive to encourage more volunteers to join the LIC. The walking leaflet has proved popular and is about to have a third print run – Gordon is to recirculate the leaflet inviting comments prior to a reprint. There is a recognition that a leaflet promoting a Town Walk would be of benefit and is currently being considered.

Social media hits are very good and a reflection of the continued input that is delivered. Langport Life has 1200 followers, with the number of views at 141,000 to 19,000 different people. The 'thumb nail' video clips



have proved to be useful and Gordon will continue to produce these – with a Christmas theme sharing the many good things that are taking place locally. The idea of relaying information from our community buildings in this format was considered worthy of consideration and Gordon will start with the Christmas Carol performance at All Saints church in two weeks.

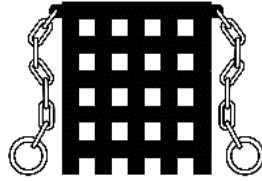
TM2024/5 Markets

To receive an update on the Markets to include:

- i. Langport Local – Jules Bradburn was unfortunately unable to attend, although her report was received and relayed to the meeting. In summary Jules has requested that she is formally informed if it is the wish of the Council to continue with the same arrangements in 2025. This was met with resounding support and **AGREED**. It was noted in Jules report that it would be her preference to recommence the markets in April. The other markets will commence again in March and the clerk was asked to contact Jules to enquire if the Saturday Markets could also recommence in March.
- ii. Vintage - Kim Woods was also unable to attend and had also submitted a report. In summary Kim continues to provide a vibrant market once a month. A few concerns and opportunities were raised in her report, particularly the speed of traffic passing close to traders stalls, which is a risk to pedestrians. The suggestion of closing the road with barriers was presented. Highways would need to be consulted, which is unlikely to be acceptable to them due to the narrowing road width at Whatley and difficulties negotiating the junction from Bow Street. The placing of red and white barriers to 'narrow' the road at the entrance is to be trialled in the meantime. SW Peninsula may be willing to consider opening their car park for Saturday's, although they would need to ensure their own insurance providers were comfortable with any arrangement. The Clerk is to write to SW Peninsula Training and enquire. Kim has indicated that she is intending to start the Vintage Markets again in March following the winter recess.
- iii. Friday market – Rachel Smith was in attendance and relayed that the appointment of her to coordinate the Friday Markets had not gone quite as well as originally hoped. Spice and Rice have chosen to no longer attend and whilst others were very vocal at the beginning, most have started to come back. This whole episode was stressful and demanding. There are a number of food vendors who take it in turns to visit. The meeting was keen to restrict the number of food vendors to one per market to ensure the support of catering establishments in the town. Cllr Crumb raised a concern of litter, particularly from the Pizza van, where children returning to school dispose of cartons and packaging on their route back. With regards to engaging with each of the market coordinators, it was suggested that a What's App group or an email group be created which will ensure that information shared with one coordinator is shared with them all.
- iv. Christmas market and firework display is to take place on Saturday 7th December. The firework display will commence at 5.45pm. Unfortunately, the school is unable this year to provide a choir to support the event. LTC was asked to ensure that the toilets are kept open in to the early evening to provide for this event.

TM2024/6 – Cocklemoor furniture and equipment review.

The table tennis table located toward Bow Bridge end of Cocklemoor is now unlevel and has been used for indecent acts in recent months! It was **AGREED** that the table will be relocated and location closer to the



LANGPORT TOWN COUNCIL

Langport Town Hall, Bow Street, Langport TA10 9PR

Telephone: 01458 259700

Email: townclerk@langport.life

car park found. The picnic tables have been used as a base for disposable barbeques. The clerk is to include in the next budget an amount to replace a table.

TM2024/7 – VE Day 80th Anniversary celebrations

Cllr Alan Wilson had submitted a request that support for 80th anniversary VE celebrations be considered. In response, Rachel informed that the LABG will encourage retailers to provide window displays. It was further suggested that if Cllr Wilson was prepared to engage with delivering an event, then the Town Council would support him.

Meeting Ended at 8.20pm

End of Minutes

Signed

Date