



WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

Notes of a meeting of the Wellington Town Centre Working Group held at 5.30pm on Tuesday 23 July in the Council Chamber, 28 Fore Street, Wellington.

Present: Councillors Lithgow, Lloyd, Powell-Brace, McGuffie and Thorne
Richard Coupe, Adrian Hooper

Kathryn Hemensley– Town Clerk

1. Apologies: None

2. To agree the Working Group's Terms of Reference (TOR)

The amended Terms of Reference were approved and would be placed before full Council at the meeting on Monday 5th August.

3. Pop-up Shop

The proposed lease had just been received and would be circulated to group members. It would now be forwarded to Clark Wilmott to act as our solicitors in reviewing the lease and drawing up a licence for sub-letting. Costs would be in the region of £2,500. ML and NP-B were doing a clean-up on the afternoon of 19th July and had invited other Councillors to assist. RC would promote the Pop-Up shop in the forthcoming issue of the Edge Newsletter.

4. Film Festival (FF)

ML had met with DR the representative of 'Somerset Film and Video Ltd' who would be running the event. They had walked the town looking at possible venues. A provisional date for the 3rd weekend in September 2020 had been set (carnival is last Saturday of the month) and the event would be promoted at next year's Eat Festival. RC would mention the event in the forthcoming issue of the Edge Newsletter.

5. Town Centre Signage

5a. NP-B proposed to commission a sign to advertise the availability of the promotional space in front of the old post office. WTC crest and contact details would signpost enquirers to the office. The cost for a metal sign (shelf-life 5-10 years) was around £360

RESOLVED to commission the sign.

5b. NP-B would also explore options for possible signage for the pop-up shop

5c. There was renewed interest in finger-post signage around the town centre and options were discussed. Costs would be £1200 - £1500 depending on how many pointers on the post.

5d. RC would pass a box of town maps to NP-B who often has enquiries about the town from visitors to her café.

6. Christmas Light switch-on

The group discussed the preferred date for this popular event. Traders would like the event to be on the 5th Saturday before Christmas to allow four clear trading weekends. This was the majority view but not shared by all. The group aspired to fixing a set weekend for future years to avoid annual discussion.

RECOMMENDED to hold the Christmas Light switch on event on the 5th Saturday before Christmas for this and future years (2019 – 23 November)

7. Any Other Business

7a. ML reported that the weekend Abba tribute band in the park the previous weekend had been extremely well attended – the most popular event to date.

7b. MMG reported issues with the stairs at the rear of Asda car-park, which were clarified as the responsibility of the District Council

7c. MMG raised concerns about the recent blocking by the rugby club of an access route used by the public. It was noted that the club had recently purchased additional land and were making changes to their grounds. This was apparently a well-used route (albeit not a public right of way) and it was agreed to table a discussion at the Council meeting on 5th August.

7d. JT confirmed he had registered the Basins with Trip Advisor.

7e. Agreed a representative from Braziers will be invited to the next meeting.

8. Date of next meeting

Next meeting will take place at **5.30pm on Tuesday 27th August 2019** at the Council office.

The meeting ended 6.30 pm

Members: Councillors Lithgow (Chair), Thorne, Powell-Brace, McGuffie, Pringle – Kosikowsky, and the Mayor (Councillor Lloyd)
Richard Coupe, Sharon Davis, Keith Wheatley, Adrian Hooper.