



Christmas Lights Working Group

24th June 2020

1:30pm via Zoom

(Due to the COVID-19 pandemic it was not possible for the Working Group to meet in person)

Present: Councillor Ann Willis (Chair), Councillor Tom Astell, Councillor Duncan Jack, Joy Jack (Christmas Lights Appeal Committee).

In Attendance: Matthew Snowden (Deputy Town Clerk) and Libby Woodhouse (Administrative Assistant)

1/20: To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Prue Blake (Christmas Lights Appeal Committee), Peter Jacobson (ERYC), Geoffrey Sygrove (Beverley Lions) and Councillor David Horsley.

2/20: To elect Chair for the municipal year.

Resolved: To elect Councillor Ann Willis as Chair for the municipal year.

3/20: To elect Vice-chair for the municipal year.

Resolved: To elect Councillor Duncan Jack as Vice Chair for the municipal year.

4/20: To note the minutes of the last meeting held on the 12th November 2019 (see attached).

The minutes were noted as a correct record

5/20: Matters arising not on the Agenda.

No matters arising were reported.

6/20: To receive the statement of finances.

The Town Council has budgeted £7,500 in 2020/2021 to cover ERYC costs, to pay NPower and to keep an amount in reserve for emergencies and for bracket, bolt and electrical testing next due in 2022 (which will cost £5,000). The Town Council had also approved an additional budget of £12,500 for Christmas Lighting.

Currently there is £8,802 in the account held by the Town Council including £989 of reclaimed VAT. ERYC had been paid in March but there was an outstanding balance of £350 to pay to NPower.

7/20: Christmas Lights Appeal Committee update.

The Christmas Lights Appeal Committee has £4,671 in the account to spend for this year's lighting. The balance will not increase as all fund raising events have been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The money is to be used for Christmas Lighting.

8/20: Technical infrastructure update and considerations.

Councillor Jack had been on a tour around the town with Peter Jacobson (ERYC) in February prior to lockdown and had determined a schedule of items that required an overhaul.

Resolved: *The Deputy Town Clerk to ask ERYC (Peter Jacobson) to proceed with the required maintenance of the lighting infrastructure and timer re-setting. The Deputy Town Clerk to ask for a timescale now lockdown is easing.*

9/20: Blachere Illuminations update.

Blachere Illuminations will undertake a visit to Beverley. The Deputy Town Clerk will ask for dates for a visit on a Wednesday afternoon. Councillor Jack will update Councillor T Astell prior to the visit with regard to updates in infrastructure.

10/20: Proposals for Beverley Christmas Lights 2020:

Various proposals were discussed to enhance the lighting in the town and this was considered important for morale of the town this year.

An application to the ERYC High Street Fund for additional funding for Christmas Lighting was discussed.

Initial proposals are for the Mayor to switch on the lights on 29th November 2020. It is unlikely the Town Council will organise an event however liaison will take place with the Lions regarding their Market Cross traditional service.

- 10.1** **Resolved:** *The Deputy Town Clerk will ask the ERYC Ward Councillors D Healy, L Johnson and D Boynton to ask ERYC if they will light up the fir tree in the car park on Champney Road.*
- 10.2** **Resolved:** *The Deputy Town Clerk will ask Councillor D Healy as the Council's representative to the Chamber of Trade if they will consider lighting up the area opposite the East Riding Theatre.*
- 10.3** **Resolved:** *To hold an additional Christmas Lights Working Group meeting after the visit with Blachere had taken place to resolve a way forward for 2020.*

The meeting concluded at 2:20pm

Signed: _____

Date: _____