



Christmas Lights Working Group

7th October 2020

1:30pm via Zoom

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

Present: Councillors A Willis (Chair), T Astell and D Jack. Joy Jack (Christmas Lights Appeal Committee).

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

26/20: To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Prue Blake (Christmas Lights Appeal Committee) and Peter Jacobson (ERYC).

27/20: To note the minutes of the last meeting held on the 23rd September 2020 – see attached.

Resolved: To note the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd September 2020.

28/20: Electrical Infrastructure

To receive an update regarding upgrades and other work required to the electrical infrastructure.

Councillor Jack gave an update to include Wednesday Market and North Bar.

- Peter Jacobson will remove the faulty Market Cross strings in Saturday Market and purchase more by liaising with the Lions.
- Peter Jacobson will be setting the timers so that the Christmas Lights will come on within half an hour or so of each other.
- Peter Jacobson has explained the difficulty in getting power to the trees in Wednesday Market. It may not be possible to remove the pavers to provide supply from the electric point to the trees but cutting a slot in the resin between the pavers may be possible.

Resolved: To pursue the power supply to the trees in Wednesday Market as outlined, and to budget a sum of £1200 which is the sum quoted for this work.

29/20: Lights Infrastructure

To receive updates and finalise lighting decisions regarding the following locations:

a) Butcher Row and Toll Gavel (including within the grounds of Toll Gavel Church)

Resolved: To undertake the snowflake repairs in the sum of £1,750, to purchase 5 second hand refurbished snowflakes in the sum of £1,500, to purchase bulbs needed in the sum of £1,595, purchase 2 strings of lights for the trees at the Church and approve installation.

b) Dyer Lane/Swaby's Yard

JB Rural will collect and install the plaque on Monday.

Resolved: To purchase and install 2 further sets of lights for the Dyer Lane tree to match existing.

Resolved: To purchase and install 2 fixtures for the lampposts in Swaby's Yard.

c) Landress Lane

The proposed curtain lights at Landress Lane will not be possible as the owners of CEX would not provide a wayleave agreement for infrastructure to be placed on the building.

d) Well Lane

Wayleave agreements had been obtained from the owners of the necessary buildings. Peter Jacobson will install catenary wires and advise on the curtain lights.

Resolved: To purchase and install 3.5m x 6m multicoloured and dense curtain lighting or as in accordance with advice from Peter Jacobson.

e) Wednesday Market Place

Electrical installation has been discussed previously. The Deputy Clerk reported that ERYC Public Health advised that the introduction of a reindeer and sleigh designed to be sat on and touched during a pandemic would require regular sanitisation and cleansing stations. There had not been a response from Blachere to the query of how the installation would be fitted. It was decided that this was not an option this year.

Resolved: To purchase and install 6 strings of lights for the trees at Wednesday Market.

f) Saturday Market Place

Peter Jacobson was working with the Lions with regards to the Market Cross.

g) Railway Square

Resolved: To purchase and install 3 fixtures for the lampposts.

h) Memorial Hall

Councillor Jack had met with representatives from the Memorial Hall who were in agreement to provide Christmas Lighting to the front of the Hall. A meeting is needed with their electrician to undertake the connection from the Hall to the floodlights at the cost to the Council. Councillor Jack will pursue this.

Resolved: To purchase and install white curtains or lights for the pillars and that the work will be completed operationally so that the installations can be concluded.

i) North Bar

Permission and consultation will be required to place lighting on the Bar. Existing flood lighting is quite dull so it does not interfere with the traffic lights. It may be possible to enhance the floodlighting and Councillor Jack has started discussions with Peter Jacobson.

Resolved: To continue to investigate this for next year and that it is an agenda item on the first Christmas Lights meeting next year.

j) Coronation Garden

Resolved: Due to the cost and difficulties of electrical installation this year, that this is an agenda item for the first Christmas Lights meeting next year to explore options.

k) Any other locations not otherwise listed - None

30/20: Any other issues regarding Christmas Lights not otherwise on the agenda

There would not be a switch on event this year and no firm date was set for lighting up. The Deputy Clerk will ask the Ward Councillors about lighting up the tree in the county Hall car park opposite the old library

Signed: _____

Date: 19-10-2020