Town Hall High Street Lewes East Sussex BN7 2QS



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To: Cllrs Burrows; Catlin; Earl; Makepeace; Maples; Mayhew; O'Keeffe; Vernon, and Wood A Meeting of the Commemorations and Events Committee will be held on Tuesday 27th August 2019, in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lewes at 7:00pm which you are summoned to attend.

AGENDA

1. ELECTION of CHAIRMAN

To elect a Chairman for the Committee for the 2019/20 municipal year

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

To receive apologies from members of the working-party who are unable to attend.

3. MEMBER'S DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

To note declarations of any personal or prejudicial interests in matters on this agenda.

4. QUESTION TIME

To receive any questions regarding items on the agenda for this meeting.

5. MINUTES

To agree minutes of the meeting held 21st February 2019

(attached page 3)

- 6. REMIT of the COMMITTEE
- > Originally a Working Party set up in 2012 to address a number of imminent commemorations; this body had its mandate extended in response to the similar considerations arising through to 2019; when it was established as a standing committee to address the continuing volume of noteworthy commemorations foreseeable in the next few years.
- > The Commemorations & Events Committee is mandated to consider significant anniversaries/centenaries or similar occasions, and such notable events as may be presented, and to formulate recommendations for Council as to the appropriate recognition of them.
- 7. BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Update on matters in progress

Consideration of projects and events:

Lewes Light festival 2020 - request for financial support (festival organizer will present)

High Street Traders Association - request for financial support (representative will present)

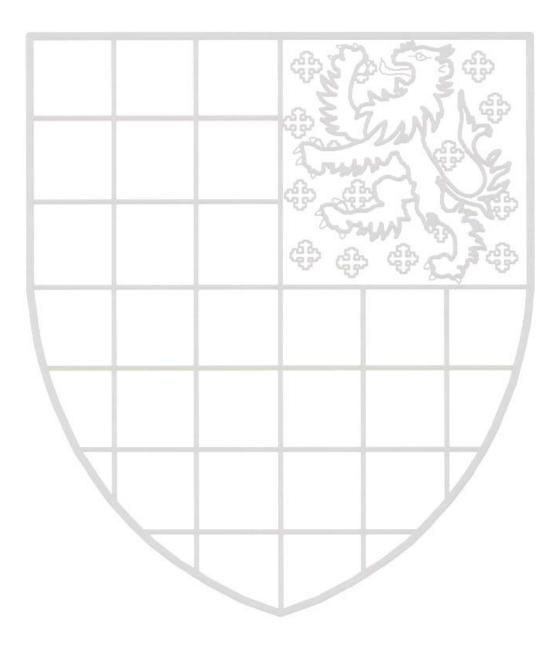
Any items in prospect

For further information about items on this agenda please contact the Town Clerk at the above address. This agenda and supporting papers can be downloaded from <u>www.lewes-tc.gov.uk</u>

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE: Members of the public have the right, and are welcome, to attend meetings of the Council – questions regarding items on this agenda may be heard at the start of each meeting with the Chairman's consent, and subject to time available. Questions or requests to address the Council should, whenever possible, be submitted in writing to the Town Clerk at least 24 hours in advance. <u>PLEASE NOTE</u>. As space is limited we would appreciate advanced warning if you plan to attend in a group; perhaps with neighbours, or to bring a party of student observers. We may be able to arrange for the meeting to be held in an alternative room. General questions can be raised at our offices between 9am-5pm Mons- Thurs; 9am-4pm on Fridays – our staff will be pleased to assist.

Distribution: Cllrs Burrows; Catlin; Earl; Makepeace; Maples; Mayhew; O'Keeffe; Vernon, and Wood

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MINUTES

of the meeting of the **Working Party** formed **to consider commemorations and significant events,** held on **Thursday 21st February 2019** in the **Yarrow Room, Town Hall**, Lewes at **3:00pm**.

PRESENT Cllrs S Catlin (Wischhusen); M Chartier *(Chairman)*; Dr G Mayhew; Murray (R) and Murray (S)

In attendance: S Brigden (Town Clerk [TC]).

CmemsWP2018/15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies had been received from Cllr Makepeace, who had a family commitment.

CmemsWP2018/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were none

CmemsWP2018/17 QUESTIONS: There were none

CmemsWP2018/18 MINUTES: It was resolved that:

CmemsWP2018/18.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2018 are received and agreed as an accurate record.

CmemsWP2018/19 BUSINESS OF THE MEETING:

The meeting welcomed Ms Brigitte Lardinois, attending to update Members 1 the recently-ended 'Lewes Light-box' project displaying features on commemorating 100yrs of women's suffrage, and the exhibition hosted in the Baxter corridor of the Town Hall. This had been a resounding success and the organizing team offered grateful thanks to the Council for its support. A muchadmired element of the exhibition had been a commemorative quilt hand-made by a local lady, Heather Downey, and she now offered this on permanent loan to the Council. It was considered that the quilt would complement the permanent display in the Corn Exchange on the subject of democracy, and the Friends of Lewes had offered to pay for a suitable frame, glazed to resist ultra-violet light. It was suggested that Ms Downey could present the quilt on the occasion of the Mayor's planned event when 100 local school girls had been invited to mark the centenary of the vote for women. This offer was gratefully accepted on behalf of the Council, and Ms Lardinois and her team were commended on the extremely well-received and interesting exhibition.

It was noted that the plywood display boards that had been constructed specially to mount an earlier exhibition in the Baxter corridor, whilst very useful, were very heavy and over-engineered for their function – making them unwieldy to store and to use. The team from the Reeves Archive (RA) project, who had arranged the previous exhibitions and light-box material, had offered to redesign a lighter-weight and more practical display system that could be held in the Town Hall and be available for shared use. It was suggested that the design and construction would be carried-out by the RA team but Council might contribute the cost of materials. This was agreed in-principle; subject to costs being established before any final decision.

The 80 light boxes were to be deployed along the High Street in September to support National Heritage Open Day, displaying historical photographs of everyday life in the street. This would involve a series of glass plates from the Reeves Archive which had previously never been enlarged but, once enhanced, showed hitherto unseen features too small to discern at the original scale. These were said to offer fascinating insights into the life of the town centre. Ms Lardinois was thanked for bringing the continually-developing series of themed exhibitions to the town, and encouraged to apply for grant support in due course.

2 It was noted that as the four-year commemoration of the first World War came to an end, the "prolongation" events held at the War memorial to mark the ceasefire renewals were said to be useful and educational. The last; held on the previous Saturday, had been observed by a significant number of people. It was noted that the War Memorial was in need of some cleaning to remove algae, and the grass may need attention as Spring commenced.

3 Members were aware that as WW1 commemorations approached their conclusion, notable anniversaries of significant events in WW2 were approaching. Ideas would be welcomed.

4 It was understood that the organizer of the International Day of Peace event in the Town Hall in 2017 would like to offer a similar event this year, on 21st September, and this was welcomed.

5 Ms Carmen Slijpen, Director of The Depot cinema, had approached the Council with a suggestion of partnership in an interesting and educational international youth event. Now in its third year, the European Film Academy Young Audience Award would present three films, selected by young people, on Sunday 5th May 2019 screened simultaneously in over 50 cities across 35 countries and aimed at audiences of young people aged around 12 - 14 years. At each screening centre the films are followed by facilitated "jury" discussion and international 'chat' via webcam. At the end of the day the films are subject to a vote, and the final assessment (hosted in Germany) is transmitted back to the local centres by live streaming technology.

The cities participating were nearly all capital or major cities, such as Athens; Brisbane; Barcelona; Florence; Istanbul; Prague; Reykjavik; Rome; Zurich *etc* and the British Film Institute (BFI) had nominated for the UK for 2019 Glasgow; Sheffield, and LEWES – the Depot. Ms Slipen proposed that the Mayor introduced and ended the day with a short talk, and that the event would be publicized as a partnership with the Council. It was hoped that Council would be willing to support some of the costs* such as publicity for the event and catering for the young people through the day. The Depot was able to offer all the technical facilities required to host the day including 'extras' such as a webcam-equipped video-chat booth, and the EFA/BFI provided facilities such as subtitles and explanatory educational material. Members were very keen to support this and suggested Council should be asked to agree up to £4,000. TC confirmed that there was an unspent balance of over £1,000 in the Grants budget and the Mayor had indicated that she was happy to contribute from unspent Mayoral budgets. Other funds could be found if required.

* - post-meeting note: At the time of the meeting these were being calculated, but it has since been established that the Council would be asked to contribute $f_{2,2,037}$.

6 There followed a general discussion on various matters of interest:

At the Working Party's previous meeting the grandson of the local architect Rowland Hawke Halls, Mr David Scott Cowan, had suggested that the family had material to form a small commemorative exhibition, and this had been provisionally agreed. Nothing further had been heard on the matter, and Mr Cowan's intentions would be investigated.

The potential acquisition of the Market Tower was briefly discussed, and it was advised that a retired local signmaker and keen historian, Mr John Geering, had kindly offered to re-gild the weather vane and re-finish the armorial bearings displayed on the building, should it return to Town ownership. This offer was gratefully acknowledged. It was understood that local residents were planning a celebration to mark the centenary of the gift of The Pells to the town on 2^{nd} July 1919 by Wynne Baxter. This prompted the suggestion of an interpretation board for the area to explain its history, and this could follow the design of the purpose-made wildfowl feeding advice boards installed at the lake.

In answer to a question regarding the nominated 'gallery days' at the Town Hall, it was noted that the "Our Pictures" project was not yet fully completed; still pending launch to teachers of the education resource pack and arrangements with local history groups who had wished to be involved in any organized programme.

CmemsWP2018/20 CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS: Council would be asked to support the decisions of the Working Party, as described.

It was noted that there were several noteworthy commemorations likely in the next few years, and Council would be asked to mandate the Working Party as a standing committee to allow appropriate responses to these events.

CmemsWP2018/21 There being no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed, and thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions.

The meeting closed at 4:15pm

Signed.....

Date