



Meeting (No) **Project Partner Committee (4)**
Time & Date **9th March 2017 at 5.30pm**
Place **Neston Town Hall**
Document **Minutes**

Present: Cllrs Fleetwood (Chair), Barker and Cllr Lloyd and the Council Manager

In attendance: Cllr Carter and 5 members of the public

PART 1: Items considered in the presence of the press and public

21 Questions and comments from residents:

Andrew McLoughlin spoke on behalf of the Neston & District Chamber of Trade (NDCT) regarding agenda item 27 and expressed concerns held by the Chamber:

1. It was felt that the Council did not sufficiently engage with local businesses and the representative bodies that made Neston special, and that the Council is aloof.
2. Council had the wrong approach toward the eco system of the town, it was laudable that they encourage more visitors to the town, but this should not come at the expense of valued community groups.

A copy of the full resolution of the NDCT was provided for the records.

Carrie Spacey (resident and local business) suggested to Council that they were trying to fix something that was not broken, and there may be a blind spot. A request to members not to take funds from local community organisations was made.

A copy of the full statement was provided for the records.

22 Apologies for absence: None.

23 Declarations of Interest: None.

24 Council Manager's Report: None.

25 Minutes of Meetings

The minutes of the meeting of 29th September 2016 and meeting note 2nd February 2017 were approved as a true and correct record. The Chair signed the minutes.

26 Correspondence

Correspondence received jointly from four community organisations in response to Project Partner background information, written by Cllr Lloyd and published for a meeting scheduled on 02.02.17 which did not take place, was considered. Cllr Lloyd advised that the paper reflected her view and did not represent the views of the Council, and she was offended by the suggestion that the paper had been intentionally misleading. The committee requested that the Council Manager seeks an apology.

Responses were agreed to points a-g:


a. & b Invitations to comment on the Project Partner idea, were sent to all local community organisations on 14.08.15.

c The committee don't know

d That was not the view of Cllr Lloyd or council's

e A legal process was followed

f The wording of the contract was amended to reflect the views of the organisations, and a re-drafted contract published in July for a council approval, however, the feedback from the community organisations was to advise that they were not ready

Chairman's initial and date: 

27/6/17

g During the process for approval of the contract there was an announcement that the Big Lunch event would be delivered by a community organisation and so would not now form part of the contract.

A dedicated Project Partner committee, rather than a task and finish group was formed so that the meetings would be open to the public and be transparent.

27 Project Partner

One member of the public left the meeting

Cllr Lloyd presented the report and summarised the background information.

The Council Manger reminded members that the Council had not agreed to deliver events, only the 2016 Christmas event.

Cllr Barker asked for the record to reflect that the concept of a Project Partner had been his and he was sorry that that it had not worked out as he had intended. It was important to make it clear that community organisations are to be involved in the delivery of community events.

Cllr Carter asked for the minutes to show that he fully supported recommendation 3.

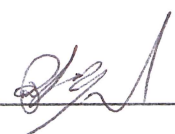
The Chair proposed and the committee unanimously agreed to adopt the report PP4/26 and to make recommendation to Council that;

1. The project partner agreement should be put on hold for the foreseeable future, due to the difficulties outlined in report PP4/26 in establishing this arrangement.
2. The project partner draft contract be retained for the future, if and when circumstances change which demonstrate benefits from such an arrangement.
3. The Council decide if and how to commission and deliver events in the future, given the experience of the 2016 Xmas event, in liaison & partnership with community groups, and in the context of the Council's strategic objectives.

28 Other Items: None.

Next meeting: To be confirmed, should one be required.

Meeting closed at 6.25pm

Signed  Dated 27/6/17