

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITTASLOW AYLSHAM COMMITTEE HELD AT DRILL HALL, ON TUESDAY 20th MAY 2025 AT 11am.

PRESENT: Pat Prekopp (Chair) - Aylsham Slow Food, Town Council

Cheryl Bould – Aylsham Town Council Kevin Cunnane - Aylsham Town Council Mary Evans – Aylsham Town Council

Giles Margarson - Aylsham Community Partnership Mo Anderson-Dungar - W.I. and Country Markets

Graham Peers - Broadland District Council Grizelda Tyler – ACE and Country Markets Kate MacKenzie – Pathmakers Charity

Also in Attendance: Faye LeBon, Clerk to Aylsham Town Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and noted from Jayne Andrew, Wendy Sadler, Jean St Clair and Jo Tuttle.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None raised.

3. MINUTES

The minutes from the previous meeting held on the 16th April 2025 had been circulated. These were **agreed** as a true and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING

No matters raised.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public in attendance.

6. CITTASLOW UK AND CITTASLOW INTERNATIONAL

a) To receive any updates regarding Cittaslow UK and Cittaslow International Mo reported that a bid had been put in for funding for the 20th anniversary celebrations of £2,000. The next assembly will be held in June, in Wando South Korea.

Patrick reported that Cittaslow Aylsham had played host to 2 visitors from Goolwa, South Australia, the only Cittaslow Town in Australia. Patrick thanked the Country Markets for hosting tea and coffee in the morning, which was followed by a tour of Aylsham by the Heritage Centre. Lastly the group had lunch in the Black Boys.

A copy of their newsletter, Citta Chat, was circulated.

Gifts were exchanged and the gifts received from the couple will be held in the Town Hall.

b) To receive notification of the Annual Meeting

This has been confirmed as 4th June at midday.

7. CITTASLOW 2025

a) To discuss, consider and agree activities relating to 2025 celebrations

Patrick reported that all agreed events continue to be arranged. In addition to this, he advised that Eves Hill would be agreeable to a tour of the farm which would fit in with the Cittaslow education programme. It is hoped that this would be in September or October.

b) To discuss and agree funding contributions for 2025 celebrations

Mo reported that a grant application of £2,000 had been made to Cittaslow UK to fund the 2025 celebrations and the carved snail. This will be discussed on 4th June.

c) To receive updates and consider the following matters

i) Food and Drink Week (July)

Patrick reported that there was now over 20 establishments taking part in this event.

ii) Norfolk Rural Capital of Food Project

An updated is required on this project from ABC.

8. MARKETS

a) To receive and update on the Food and Craft Market

The Facilities Officer reported that last month's Food and Craft market had 11 stalls including the charity stalls. This coming month looks set to have around the same amount. Posters have been put up on the Aylsham Town Council notice boards advertising the upcoming markets and the team are looking to get the TV screen up and running in the Town Hall so that the market can be advertised through that on Country Market days.

b) To receive an update on the general markets on Monday and Friday

The Facilities Officer reported that Mondays are still running in a similar manner. An enquiry has been received from a new trader hoping to start in the next couple of weeks.

Fridays have now picked up a bit with the chainsaw carver and the clothes stall having now returned and hopefully there will be another stall starting next month, subject to other market commitments.

c) To receive a report from the Markets Working Group

The notes from this meeting had been previously circulated. There will be a trial of 3 months for £30 for the Food and Craft Market for July, August and September. Slow Food will raffle a hamper on 7th June, and there was a need for the market

community to have someone who would take responsibility for social media on market days.

d) Country Markets

Mo reported that, although they would always welcome more people and more support, the Country Market is generally thriving. There is a core group of people who help to keep the café going, often staying for breakfast and then cakes.

9. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON MARKET TOWNS PROJECT

Patrick reported that this a non council group with councillors on it, linking leisure trade and tourism. Notes from the meeting of 14th May had ben circulated. ABC has suggested a radical shake up of the market place. Discussions will have to be had with Sanders as to what can be done whilst still supporting the buses. This links in to Aylsham Town Council's traffic strategy.

Mary advised that the National Trust had no objections to having trees in pots in the market place, and may even have funding for trees. Patrick will liaise with the National Trust over this.

Patrick had continued to lobby Jerome Mayhew MP over a Banking Hub for Aylsham, but LINK advise that the criteria still has not been met.

Seasonal events were discussed, as was the current cost of market stalls.

Trevor Holden and Sue Holland from Broadland District Council gave a presentation on Devolution. There may be opportunity for Aylsham Town Council to take on more local services in the future.

10. CLIMATE EMERGENCY

The draft minutes from the most recent ACE meeting had been circulated. Grizelda reported that there are two project proposed through the Nature and Biodiversity Group which will be discussed by the Town Council at their June meeting.

ACE will be having a stall at the Aylsham Show.

Mary advised that she had raised with Blickling the opportunity of use of the thermal imaging camera, which may be useful for some of their properties.

11. AYLSHAM COMMUNITY EVENTS COMMITTEE

The last committee meeting was cancelled, therefore no minutes were available. However, it was noted what a great success the VE celebrations were.

12. PROJECTS

a) To receive update on the Community Fayre

Cheryl reported that 23 organisations will be taking part in this event on 7th June. The Salvation Army will be outside, and the methodist and parish churches will be in the green room running children's activities.

Slow Food has made a generous donation towards the day, and volunteers will be serving refreshments.

The Town Council will have its own stall as part of volunteering activities.

b) To receive update on the Job, Training and Benefits Forum

Cheryl advised that this was a new event for the town, running on 15th September between 10am and 1pm. There has been lots of positive engagement from partners for this event. These include:

- i) Broadland District Council's help hub which can provide advice on employability. They can also assist with housing and benefits.
- ii) DWP is bringing and employment advisor and benefits advisor.
- iii) The High School and TACT are also actively engaged and can offer advice on parent classes and adult education.
- iv) Social care and NHS jobs.
- v) Norfolk County Council Family Hubs.

Cheryl will attend the meeting of ABC to link this event into the consortium. Whilst the event is primarily aimed at Aylsham residents, it also encourages people to come into the town.

Jerome Mayhew MP has been invited to attend and councillor chats will be run. Funding is required for advertising. Cheryl will email Graham with details of the project to see if there is funding available from Broadland District Council. Grizelda suggested approaching RWE.

c) To received information on WAVE Project

Kate reported that this a project on behalf of Pathmakers, a Norfolk based charity set up by the Norfolk Access Forum. They are working up a 3 year project for a bid for Heritage Funding. They have identified six hubs for walking around Norfolk, with Aylsham being one of importance due to its location on both the Weavers Way and Marriotts Way. Volunteers would be recruited and trained for guided walks and these could have specialised themes, such as history walks, nature walks, walks for wellbeing and walks in BSL. They will also be looking at permissive pathways, as Norfolk lost more permissive pathways than any other county when funding for the project ran out.

Graham advised that his next project at Broadland District Council would involve local walks. Kate and Graham will discuss existing walks outside of this meeting. Kate will keep the group informed of the progress of the project. The bid should go in at the end of June and they will be informed of the outcome within 6 weeks.

d) To consider Aylsham digital events brochure

The communications and media officer had drafted a digital brochure but it had yet to be adopted. Cheryl raised a local Town Guide created for North Walsham and will send the details to the clerk.

13. GROUP REPORTS

a) Slow Food Aylsham

Patrick provided a written report [appended]. He advised that it was also the 20th anniversary of Slow Food in 2025, as well as Cittaslow.

b) Aylsham in Bloom

No report received

c) Aylsham Business Consortium (ABC)

No report received.

d) Aylsham Parish Church

No report received. Cheryl advised that she had met with the parish church and they will be running children's activities at the Community Fayre.

e) Aylsham Rotary Club

No report received.

f) Aylsham U3A

No report received

g) Aylsham WI

Mo reported that the last meeting was held in early May, and that a talk was received on the A-Z of roses.

14. AYLSHAM SHOW

The clerk advised that the organiser of the event had been contacted about the Town Council's stall and when it can be set up, but a response had yet to be received.

15. DEVOLUTION

This had already been discussed under item 9.

16. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / NEXT AGENDA

Giles noted that he had thanked the visitors from Cittaslow Australia for visiting, and they had asked that their thanks were passed on to all who had made them feel welcome.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Tuesday 24th May at 11am at the Drill Hall.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 12.25pm

Package of support launched to support Norfolk's rural high street businesses

A hundred businesses in eight pilot towns will take part in a Retail Excellence programme as part of a Norfolk County Council initiative to develop skills and accelerate footfall.

Community groups and individuals will also be able to apply for funding for projects designed to raise awareness of their market town and instil pride in the area.

Market towns and other business districts are pivotal to the rural landscape and the county's economic prosperity and High Streets Matter has been introduced to equip businesses for success and help these areas to flourish.

Last year, the FSB (Federation of Small Businesses) report The Future of the High Street called for more support for small firms and unveiled a plan to help transform them into places that meet future needs and support the next generation of entrepreneurs.

Norfolk County Council has already piloted support measures including the Love Your Market Town programme in Breckland and held a West Norfolk and a Market Towns Conference. This year it has ambitions to go further with a more targeted offer.

Alexandra Hemen, a High Growth Business Advisor with New Anglia Growth Hub and former Head of Retail at Adnams, is using her expertise to deliver a **Retail Excellence programme** for 100 businesses in eight pilot towns, starting this summer.

A dozen companies will be invited to join a follow-up **High Growth programme** to accelerate success and build a pipeline for retail awards.

Love Your Market Town has already backed projects to promote high streets such as Dereham where businesses have been encouraged to let shoppers use their toilets through the Spend a Penny scheme. This year community groups and individuals can create projects to raise awareness of their high street and attract more visitors through a **Pride of Place** scheme.

Other support available includes an **online retail toolkit**, **Go Digital** – a free programme showing SMEs how to better use online tools to identify opportunities to grow – and a **Market Towns Conference** in Fakenham.

The new package of support was officially launched at Swaffham Assembly Rooms on 8 May in partnership with New Anglia Growth Hub and the FSB.

Cllr Fabian Eagle, Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, says: "Norfolk is blessed with some fantastic market towns and this package of support is the next step in our campaign to ensure businesses can access the expertise they need to grow.

"They will have the chance to sign up for the Retail Excellence programme and apply for Love Your Market Town funding for projects that will celebrate Price of Place and promote our high streets.

"This is an opportunity not only to support our businesses but build closer relationships in our market towns and develop a keener sense of community."

To find out more about High Streets Matter, email nhsm@norfolk.gov.uk or visit https://www.newangliagrowthhub.co.uk/norfolk-high-streets-matter/

Ends

HIGH STREETS MATTER

Norfolk's High Streets Matter

Norfolk County Council is proud to support a new programme designed to help our High Streets thrive.

What's on offer:

- Retail Excellence programme deliver upskilling for 100 retailers, in 8 pilot towns.
- Follow up programme for High Growth 12 businesses to accelerate success and help grow the next retail superstars.
- Love Your Market Town Pride of Place grant funding. Create and deliver unique projects to celebrate Pride of Place, engage communities, increase footfall and raise awareness of our High Streets.
- Retail web tool kit available to all retail businesses.
- Go Digital free expert advice about how to use digital tools to grow your business.
- Love Your Market Town conference bring stakeholders together to raise awareness of best practice within and outside the county.

For more information, please email nhsm@norfolk.gov.uk www.newangliagrowthhub.co.uk/business-support

8

April 2025-April 2026 Programme













Get in touch, please email nhsm@norfolk.gov.uk

www.newangliagrowthhub.co.uk/ norfolk-high-streets-matter/

Norfolk's High Streets Matter

Retail Excellence Programme





What's on offer:

- Free, impartial targeted training and support for local retailers.
- · Mix of online and in-person workshops.
- Further support and opportunity to join the follow up Retail High Growth programme.



We offer a series of workshops, free for anyone with a keen interest in retail

- Workshop 1: Love your town.
- Workshop 2: Strategic planning & financial literacy.
- Workshop 3: Marketing for retailers.
- Workshop 4: Operational excellence.
- Workshop 5: Merchandising and customer service.
- Workshop 6: Moving Forward: Collaboration and community impact.

Retail Excellence Programme details:

Workshop 1: Love your town, in-person in each town

- · Local identity, civic pride, shared challenges.
- Learn about the individual challenges, offer solutions to immediate problems, understand individual level of skills.
- · Reconnect with place, collaborate on town-wide ideas.

Workshop 2: Strategic Planning & Financial Literacy; online

- · Understand your market position.
- · Develop a tailored growth strategy.
- Strengthen financial literacy.
- · Improve financial management skills.

Workshop 3: Marketing for Retailers; online

- Be introduced to a full suite of digital and traditional marketing tools, tailored for independent retailers in market towns.
- Gain the knowledge and confidence to create a practical Digital Marketing Strategy.
- Develop a personalised Sales Activity Planner to support promotional efforts year-round.

Workshop 4: Operational Excellence; online

- Enhance operational standards in retail shops to drive efficiency, improve customer experience, and boost profitability.
- Gain a clearer understanding of inventory. management, including digital solution.
- Increase awareness and implementation of team safety and Health & Safety (H&S) practices.

Workshop 5: Merchandising and Customer Service; online

- Learn practical skills to build strong product ranges, implement effective merchandising, and deliver outstanding customer service.
- Improve understanding of shop layout and product placement to drive sales.
- · Retail pricing strategies and margin management.
- Merchandising techniques and promotional activity planning.

Workshop 6: Moving Forward: Collaboration and Community Impact; in person

- Includes Love your Market Town funding for Pride of Place project ideas.
- Next steps for each shop owner and the town.

📞 0300 333 6536 💮 🙀 in 💿

NEWANGLIA GROWTHHUB Who we are Y Funding & Support Y High Growth Y

News Success Stories

Events *

Contact Us

Love Your Market Town grant – Pride of Place funding



Create and deliver unique projects to celebrate Pride of Place, engage communities, increase footfall and raise awareness of our High Streets.

NEWANGLIA GROWTHHUB Who we are Y Funding & Support Y High Growth Y

Contact Us

News Success Stories Events >

project must be a **new idea and should support multiple areas or**services within a local town.

There are no restrictions to the kind of activities that can be funded but the ideas must have a link to creating interest or increasing footfall in town centres. The Love Your Market Town grant scheme is to part-fund or fully-fund projects that will have a positive impact on Norfolk's local high streets. The grant can fund up to 100% of project costs and the maximum award is £5,000. The minimum award is £1,000.

Your project must be located within the boundaries of Norfolk County Council. Deadline for applications is **Sunday 31 August 2025**.

Please read the **Frequently Asked Questions** (FAQ) before applying for a Love Your Market Town grant.

To find out more, contact us at: nhsm@norfolk.gov.uk.

How do I apply for funding?

To help us assess your eligibility and move your enquiry forward, please email the Norfolk's High Streets Matter team at: nhsm@norfolk.gov.uk with the following information:

- 1. Short overview of your project idea including location
- 2. Timeline for project completion. For maximum economic growth impact, our primary focus will be on projects that are set to be delivered by the end of March 2026.
- 3. Your estimated total project cost and the amount of grant that you're requesting (between £1,000 and £5,000)
- 4. Confirmation that your project is located within the Norfolk County Council boundaries.

📞 0300 333 6536 f in 💿

Who we are Y Funding & Support Y High Growth Y

NEWANGLIA GROWTHHUB

News Success Stories Events ♥ Contact Us

If you have any questions at this stage, feel free to get in touch — we're here to help.

Are you running a retail business?

Find out more about our **Retail Excellence Programme** we are holding this summer and later this year to develop business skills and help attract more customers.

Sign up to New Anglia Growth Hub's newsletter 'The Loop' to keep informed. Join here!

In 2024, Love Your Market Town grants were awarded to towns in Breckland and West Norfolk to help attract more visitors. Enjoy reading about the successful projects.

Who we are Y Funding & Support Y High Growth Y

NEWANGLIA GROWTHHUB for Norfolk and Suffolk



Thetford Treasure Trails



THE DOWNHAM MARKET GINGERBREAD TRAIL

FUNDED BY LOVE YOUR TOWN GRANTS FROM THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KINGS LYNN & WEST NORFOLK, NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL AND MABEL BAKERY

Gingerbread models of local shops



Who we are Y Funding & Support Y High Growth Y

News

Success Stories

Events *

Contact Us



Quick Links

- > Business Support
- > Scale-Up Suffolk
- > High Growth
- > Success Stories
- > News

Contact

> About Us

Company

- > Contact Us
- > Privacy Policy
- > Terms & Conditions
- > Statistics New Anglia

€ 0300 333 6536

© Copyright 2010 – 2022 New Anglia LEP. All rights reserved. Company Number: 07685830







Love Your Market Town Pride of Place Grant Funding

Support your local high street - attract new people to the town and improve the experience for residents and visitors.

Frequently Asked Questions

Applications are welcome from local groups and businesses. Your project must be a new idea and should support multiple areas or services within a local town. There are no restrictions to the kind of activities that can be funded but the ideas must have a link to creating interest or increasing footfall in town centres.

For maximum economic growth impact, our primary focus will be on projects that are set to be delivered by the end of March 2026. While we certainly welcome longer-term projects with completion dates extending to the end of 2026, the first round of funding will be concentrated on those that can be completed by the end of March 2026.

The Love Your Market Town grant scheme is to part-fund or fully-fund projects that will have a positive impact on Norfolk's local high streets.

The grant can fund up to 100% of project costs and the maximum award is £5,000. The minimum award is £1,000.

Your project must be located within the boundaries of Norfolk.

Expected outcomes

Following completion of a grant supported project, we would expect to see:

- Increased town centre footfall
- Diversification to attract new people to the town
- Enhancement of existing services to significantly increase people's experience in a town
- Introduction of ideas, concepts or events to create awareness of the town

Examples of suitable projects

Please visit our webpage for information on projects we have funded in the past. Love Your Market Town grant - Pride of Place funding - New Anglia Growth Hub

The following costs are not supported through this scheme:

- VAT, unless it is not recoverable
- Any costs incurred before a grant offer is made
- Items that are not directly required to deliver the proposed project (i.e. general operating costs)

 Those that benefit a private individual such as enhancement of personal premises or assets

How do I apply for funding?

Organisations wishing to apply for support should first contact the Norfolk's High Streets Matter team at: nhsm@norfolk.gov.uk.

Following an initial project assessment, an application form will be sent to you.

Timeline

- Applications accepted from 16 June through to 31 August 2025
- Independent panel will review applications in September 2025
- Applicants will be notified of their outcome by 30 September 2025
- Applications will be accepted until 31 October 2025 if funds are available; these will be on a first come first served basis

Things you should know

- There are limited funds available, and they are awarded on a first come first served basis
- If your application is successful, you will need to make the full investment yourself and then claim the grant payment once the project is complete
- The fund will run from 16 June 2025 to 30 November 2025 and all projects are expected to be fully completed and claimed for by 31 December 2026
- This discretionary grant is awarded by an independent panel, and after presentation to the panel, it may take up to 28 days for you to be notified of a decision
- The panel's decision is final
- All projects will need to demonstrate value for money and there will be a requirement to provide a minimum of one quote for each contract
- Funding is subject to Subsidy Control under Minimal Financial Assistance (MFA) and businesses will be required to declare any previous subsidy received
- You will receive advice and support as required during the application process

















Minutes of the Aylsham Climate Emergency Group Meeting held on 2nd June 2025.



Present:

Cheryl Bould (Chairman) Adam Curtis Jenny Haycocks Shelley Hudson Kay Montandon Yvonne Stewart

Also Present: Faye LeBon (Town Clerk)

1. TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were noted from Grizelda Tyler, Kate Mackenzie, Lilie Ferrari, Patrick Prekopp, Lou Harlow and Reannon Tapp

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2025 were **agreed** as a true record of the business conducted at the meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING

It was noted that, due to the timing of both the ACE and the Town Council meetings, the projects agreed at the previous ACE meeting had yet to be formally approved by Aylsham Town Council. The town clerk will contact Yvonne and Jenny as soon as a decision has been made.

It was noted that there was no agenda item for public speaking. This is to be raised under item 9 – terms of reference.

5. PROJECT WORK

On behalf of the Transport Group, Kay reported that Gordon will be doing further work on the Penfold Pump proposal prior to the next group meeting on 30th June.

Jenny requested assistance with use of a video camera to do some promotional short videos. The town clerk confirmed that the council did not have one. U3A do have one and they will be in attendance at the Community Fayre on 6th June.

Cheryl advised that it is part of the Town Council's aspirations to have a community lending library for equipment that community groups or members of the public may need to use infrequently.

Adam reported that he had met with the Andy Bell, the Town Council Grounds Officer, to put in a grant application for trees at the old station yard.

Aylsham Town Council

ACE Minutes 12th May 2025

Yvonne reported that the Nature and Biodiversity group had met and had set a date of 20th June for the plant survey. Botanist Chris Roberts will be assisting with this project.

Signs had been put up around the town explaining why certain areas of grass had not been cut. A vote of thanks was recorded to Andy for his proactiveness with this and his general assistance to the ACE group.

Kay advised that Andy will be putting together a Grass Management policy for the council to agree, which would help local residents understand why certain areas are maintained in a certain fashion.

6. GROUP UPDATES

Waste

No representative at the meeting, but will be in attendance at the Community Fayre with regards to recycling blister packs.

Transport

Kay reported that a safety survey will be conducted by Norfolk County Council on Burgh Road.

There were no objections to the energy and transport groups being merged.

Nature and Biodiversity

There are five active members of the group. Awaiting approval from the Town Council to proceed with projects

Comms

Concerns were raised about the size of the comms role and the time required to continually update social media. Groups in attendance favoured having more freedom to post. It was agreed to extend the number of admins on social media to enable representatives of the different sub groups to post.

The town clerk will create a social media policy for the group to consider at the next meeting.

It was noted that the website will be reviewed in the autumn.

Jenny offered to do some training on non-violent communication and the way to do this, which would empower people to respond to posts. It was agreed that this would be useful.

7. EVENTS

Community Fayre – 7th June 10am – 2pm

Jenny and Louise will man the stall inside. Sue Catchpole can assist if required.

The Waste team will be outside with the blister pack recycling. Cheryl will chase Jerome Mayhew's office to see if he can attend the fayre, as there is a good political story in the blister pack recycling.

Jenny is to send any pictures she needs printing to the town clerk.

ACE Minutes 12th May 2025

A simple survey will be conducted on the day around transport, asking how people travelled to the event. Not only does this collect important information, it helps with engagement and starting a conversation.

Jenny will contact Broadland District Council to obtain leaflets on grants available for heat pumps, insultation and solar. Sue may be able to assist if officers cannot.

Cheryl will find out from the Events Manager if bird song can be played on the stand.

Cheryl will ask someone from ACE Energy if they have any information about the loan of the thermal imagining camera.

The town clerk will locate the ACE Banner and Kay and Cheryl will get the ACE box from the basement on the day.

Family Learning Day – 27th June

Jenny is unable to do this event. Cheryl will contact Bryce, Heather and Reannon to ensure they are still ok for this date.

Aylsham Show – Monday 25th August To defer until the next meeting

8. BROADLAND COMMUNITY AWARDS

It was established that the ACE Group could be nominated for a community award, in particular the 'Green at Heart' award. It was agreed to encourage people to nominate the group. Nominations close on 31st August.

9. ACE TERMS OF REFERENCE

It was reported that the Town Council is reviewing the terms of reference for all committees and working groups. The group reviewed the terms of reference presented and agreed amendments to be considered by the Town Council.

10. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

ACE Social Media policy Aylsham Show

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This was agreed as Monday 7th July commencing at 7pm.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.50pm.

AYLSHAM COMMUNITY EVENTS COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AYLSHAM COMMUNITY EVENTS COMMITTEE



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AYLSHAM COMMUNITY EVENTS COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL ON WEDNESDAY 22ND MAY 2025 at 7:00pm

PRESENT:

Fiona O'Hara - Chair (Town Resident)

Patrick Prekopp - Councillor
Joan Bennett - Councillor
Kevin Cunnane - Councillor
David Anderson - Councillor
Giles Margarson - Town Resident

Donna Butcher - Office & Events Manager

1. WELCOME INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Faye LeBon.

2. TO RECEIVE MEMBER'S DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS None received.

3. TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 19TH MARCH 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19th March 2025, as previously circulated were then confirmed and signed.

4. INFORMATION ON MATTERS ARISING

None.

5. TO ADJOURN THE MEETING TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

None present.

6. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FOR THE SPRING CRAFT FAIR

Donna informed the committee that the event was fairly well attended with 12 stallholders, £240 was made by their pitch fees. The kitchen made £80 on refreshments. The footfall was slow to start with but picked up during the morning, Joan advised that it then tailed off again after 1pm. Fiona questioned whether there is still a demand for the events committee to hold a craft fair, or whether the timings should be changed. It was agreed that we would still go ahead.

7. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FOR THE VE DAY STREET PARTY

Donna reported to the committee that she had received a lot of very positive feedback after the Street Party. It was thought that the addition of Red Lion Street being closed to traffic and the businesses having table and chairs outside their premises added to the atmosphere of the event. There were 3 complaints noted regarding the noise from the bands. Letters will be delivered to residents in the Market Place and Church Terrace, in addition to the ones in Red Lion Street, for future events with live music in the Market Place. Litter pickers and gloves to be available for clearing up any rubbish after the event. Giles asked for it to be recorded on the minutes to thank Donna and the Town Council staff their hard work.

8. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FOR THE STREET FOOD FESTIVAL

Patrick thanked Ryan for the up to date list of vendors and confirmed that 15 would be attending. Road closure to be put in place for the Market Place and Red Lion Street. Trip hazards to be minimised with any trailing cables. Letters to be delivered to residents. Public toilets to be kept open later. Donna to check with Dan at seventeen to see if he is having a DJ. Fiona to meet with Donna and Ryan to formulate an event plan.

9. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FOR THE JOBS, TRAINING AND BENEFITS FORUM

Cheryl Bould sent through an email to provide a report to the committee members. There were no further questions at this time.

10. TO RECEIVE AN UPATE FOR THE COMMUNITY FAYRE

Cheryl Bould sent through an email to provide a report to the committee members. Fiona and Joan volunteered to work in the kitchen.

11. TO NOTE ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT MEETING

To discuss whether the Quiz Night planned for September will go ahead or to change it to a different event.

12. TO AGREE DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th June 2025 at 7pm in the Council Chamber.

13. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7:45pm