

21.05.18

**PERSHORE TOWN COUNCIL
TWINNING AND TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING**

21st May 2018

Minutes of the meeting of Pershore Town Council Twinning and Tourism Committee, held at the Town Hall, 34 High Street, Pershore, Commencing at 7.30pm.

Present:- Cllr Val Wood (Chairman)
Mr Peter Dann
Mr Peter Farrall
Mrs Margaret Ferris
Mr Peter Stansbie
Cllr Julie Hemming
Mr Steve Knight

There were no members of the public present

104. Election of Chairman

Cllr Hemming nominated and Mr Stansbie seconded Cllr Wood as Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year. There being no further nominations, Cllr Wood was duly elected.

105. Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Wood nominated and Mr Knight seconded Cllr Hemming as Vice Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year. There being no further nominations, Cllr Hemming was duly elected.

106. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Mrs Daniels, Mr O'Loughlin and Cllr Speight who were away, Cllr Parsons who had a mayoral engagement and Mr West.

107. Declarations of Interest

There were none

108. Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Hemming, seconded by Mr Knight and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held 12th February 2018 be signed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

109. Matters of Report from the minutes

The Clerk advised that following some assistance from Astons coaches it had been demonstrated that coaches up to 49 seaters could access the cemetery car park provided they used the "exit" to both enter and leave the car park.

Mr Dann asked about more central coach parking rather than dropping off in town and being picked up at a set time. He asked whether members may feel that this would be a better solution and bring more trade into the town.

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Cllr Wood advised that she had just come from a meeting considering tourism in the district and there was a wish by the District Council to find a way for this to be provided. There were currently 3 bays in King George's Way. Mr Knight asked whether some of the Civic Centre car park could be allocated although **Mr Knight** reminded the meeting that this was usually full of civic centre staff cars.

Mr Dann suggested locations to be considered, along with the Civic Centre, should be Abbey Park and the layby in St Andrews Road opposite the Fire Station if this could be extended.

Following a question from Mr Knight, the Clerk advised that drop off points and options for parking were including by the Town Council in the coach drivers yearbook. However, as all car parks suitable for coaches had restrictions at certain times, drivers were asked to telephone the Visitor Information Centre in advance to ensure there would be a space available for them.

Following debate it was agreed to recommend to the Town Council that a letter be sent to the District Council supporting the need for coach parking near to the centre of town.

110. Twinning

a. The Clerk advised that the visit to the Guildhall for the Bad Neustadt visit had a time change to 11.00am although this did not affect the remainder of the day. Suggestions for a gift included beer from the Pershore Brewery and a picture.

b. Cllr Wood advised that only 15 people were now travelling to Plouay but there would be more details of this October visit nearer the time.

111. Visitor Information Centre

a. Members accepted the report from the Visitor Information Centre although expressed some surprise in the fall of hits recorded. Cllr Hemming advised that this year the local schools had not done a project on the town and this would have had quite an effect on the figures.

b. Mr Stansbie advised that the Abbey was in the process of creating a new web site which would be linked to the web site for the Friends of Pershore Abbey.

112. Noticeboards

Mr Knight showed some photographs of noticeboards at Pershore Station, none of which had been installed by the Town Council. The Clerk agreed to go to site and check before advising Mr Knight so that investigations could be made.

113. Reports on Events

a. Pershore Plum Festival

Members noted that organization for 2018 was well in hand and the Plum Princess would be chosen soon.

b. Jazz Festival

Mr Farrall advised that bookings were going well and they already had more than 2017, however they were still looking at ways of attracting a younger audience. Prices had gone up for 2018 but the new accommodation booking page on the website was working well with most accommodation providers now full.

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c. Carnival

In the absence of Mr Shepherd the Clerk read a written report. All work for Carnival was now nearly completed and he was looking forward to seeing everyone at Carnival or at the evening concert.

d. Midsummer Brass

In the absence of Mr West the Clerk read a written report. Everything was now in place including the new venue of the Star Inn which would be free, making 5 venues in total. The price would remain at £7.50 with under 16s free and this year there would be the attraction of a band from Norway and possibly America in 2020.

e. River Festival

There was nothing to report

f. Open Gardens

This would take place on 2nd and 3rd June from 1 – 5pm with tickets costing £5 and children going free. The event was currently being widely publicized.

g. Avon Meadows Open Days

Cllr Wood advised that the 10th anniversary day would take place on 16th July and details would be forthcoming shortly.

114. Items for information

a. Mr Stansbie advised members that approval had now been obtained for a new pipe organ to be installed in the Abbey.

c. It was noted the next meeting would be held on Monday 13th August 2018 and Cllr Hemming tendered her apologies as she would be away..

115. Items for future agenda

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.20

Signed..... Date.....
Chairman

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