

STRONGER COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Date: Monday 18 November 2019
Title: Events Report
Contact Officer: Communications and Events Officer – Polly Inness

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this is to ask Councillors to consider the budget for Community events for 2020. Some are events that have run or trialled before and others are new ideas.

INDOOR MARKET/SECOND-HAND AND CRAFT SALES

These are easy to run and profitable for the halls. Only a small budget would be required for these as they require no upfront investment other than advertising and minimal staffing. The recent one was popular and feedback received afterwards was attendees requesting a second one be organised as soon as possible. Groups such as Synolos and the retirement villages could be invited to rent tables to sell craft items they have produced. The £6 a table charge was very popular as the Methodist church charges £20 to stallholders.

LAKE & COUNTRY PARK NATURE (TREASURE OR FAIRY) TRAIL & STORY TELLING

Summer holiday or half term events to get people to visit the lake and educate them about the nature, wildlife and ecology. Provide some age appropriate activities for different groups. This sits well with the newly formed Climate & Biodiversity Sub-Committee and its objectives.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY UPDATE EVENT

It has been suggested that Councillors may wish to run a public event with a review of progress and actions taken so far – at an appropriate time in the future, when there is something to report.

YOUTH COUNCIL CLIMATE EMERGENCY EVENT

The Youth Council would like to hold an event on Church Green which focuses on recycling plastic. They are hoping to engage with local businesses and members of the public to demonstrate how plastic waste can be used as bricks. Throughout the year they are also proposing to run further fundraiser coffee mornings in the Corn Exchange and other venues. Representatives from the Youth Council hope to be in attendance at the meeting in order to share their ideas and request financial or other assistance.

CAR FREE DAY

Consider what activities will be happening and budget for these, road closures (if not done through WODC) and any PR, staffing costs etc. the 22nd September falls on Tuesday in 2020 so road closures will be essential.

SECULAR FESTIVE EVENT

Simple lunch such as soup and a sandwich and community singing of secular, popular Christmas and winter songs

BIG LUNCH [HTTPS://WWW.EDENPROJECTCOMMUNITIES.COM/COUNCILS](https://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/councils)

The Committee were keen to do a lunch around Christmas - each year the Big Lunch takes place nationally, next year it falls on 6-7 June 2020 – Members may wish to do an event around this. Whether it be facilitating community groups to run one or something along the lines of the Christmas Making A Meal.

HERITAGE OPEN DAY

Members are requested to give consideration to next years Heritage Open Day – and if the Council wishes to participate, giving Officers an outline to work with in good time.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY PARADE & CIVIC SERVICE

In the past the Council has facilitated the Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service on behalf of the Royal British Legion. However this year the Town Clerk was informed three weeks prior to the event that the RBL no longer would be taking responsibility for this as it was a Civic event, according to a directive from its General Secretary. Given the late notice the Town Clerk was able to persuade the RBL to reconsider for this year and the parade and service went ahead as usual. It would appear that nationally Town Councils have varying involvement in these events and it does appear that the RBL will be expecting WTC to take on the full organisation and responsibility in 2020. Members are therefore warned of this change – your Officers will be working with RBL in the near future to do a handover – but a budget will be required.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Having declared a Climate Change Emergency at its Council meeting on 26 June 2019 – with this in mind Councillors should have due regard to the environmental impact of any decisions they make with regard to its facilities and services it operates.

RISK

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Costs are attached to some of the activities and these should be considered when budget setting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are invited to note the report and consider a budget for any of the events they wish the Town Council to run.