

HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Christmas Light Working Group meeting notes – 2 November 2016

In attendance

Maureen McLean

James Binns

Dan Poole

Mike Short

Helen Owers

Marcus Kendall

Sean Spencer

1. Introductions and Apologies for absence

There were no apologies. The working party welcomed Kay, Amanda, Elizabeth and Louise from Hythe Alive. Steve from Sargent's Butchers in Dibden Purlieu was attending a meeting for the first time and was also welcomed.

2. To accept the notes of the meeting held on 12 August 2016.

The notes of the meeting held on 12 August 2016 were agreed.

3. Update from Parish Council on Christmas light and details of the Mistletoe Fayre light provision

Marcus confirmed that the solar lamp column decorations in Hythe and Dibden Purlieu plus the Christmas Tree for the Marsh would be installed in the week prior to the Mistletoe Fayre, all the relevant licences from HCC had been applied for and would be granted in time.

Helen outlined the plans for the Mistletoe Fayre which is much the same as last year. Father Christmas would be attending. It was suggested that an added feature would be to provide the children attending with electric tea lights which could be switched on by the children when Father Christmas appears on the roof to distribute sweets.

The working party agreed expenditure of up to £100.00 for the purchase of the lights.

4. Update from a Hythe Alive representative on the Christmas Lighting being provided by Hythe Alive

Kay confirmed that over £3000.00 had been raised from the Community and that Hythe Alive had received the £1000.00 match funding from the Council. The money was being used to purchase 65 Christmas trees and lights which will be installed on the external wall of shops across the Village Centre. The shops that were not able to

install the trees will be provided with a Wreath that can be displayed in the doorway or a window of a shop.

In addition plans were in place to install lights on the Plane Tree which is located in the High Street.

Amanda asked if Council workmen were able to measure the Christmas tree brackets that are in situ to ascertain whether or not the new trees will fit. It was agreed that this could be done and the information will be relayed back to Amanda.

Members of the Council expressed their gratitude to the members of Hythe Alive for their efforts and their success in attracting additional funding and purchasing the decorations which will have a significant visual impact in the village centre

5. To discuss and agree any further actions that may be required.

James confirmed that the Window dressing competition would proceed as planned and posters would be distributed to businesses shortly.

6. Any other business

All parties agreed that it would be useful to hold a further meeting in January 2017 to review this years project and to discuss any improvements that can be made.

Steve congratulated both the Council and Hythe Alive for their efforts for this year and confirmed that he would be speaking to business owners in Dibden Purlieu to encourage them to come on board next year.

James confirmed that this Council would welcome the opportunity to work with Steve and the other traders.