



Ware Town Council

Ware Priory, High Street, Ware, SG12 9AL

www.waretowncouncil.gov.uk

01920 460316

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 13th February 2023

in the Council Chamber, Ware Priory, Ware, starting at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Cllr Ballam (Chair), Day, Fernando, Pope, Reed, V Shaw.

Officer present: Terry Philpott Town Clerk, Sarah Fenton (via zoom) Rosalyn Montgomery (via zoom).

Members of the public: Nil

CE251: To receive and accept Apologies for Absence

- Cllr Kaye

CE252: To receive any Declarations of Interest and review any requests for Dispensation submitted to the Clerk.

- None declared.

CE253: Minutes from the previous meeting: to receive and sign the minutes of the last Community and Environment meeting held on 7th November 2022.

Resolved: The minutes are an accurate record.

CE254: Correspondence and Clerks report (TP 5mins)

- Cemetery Liaison Group update
- Jubilee trees planed, awaiting bench installation.
- Green space by New River at Amwell End / Gilpins Field, report received working group to agree next steps.
- CCTV new cameras are being installed this week. A visit to the Stevenage control room will be arranged in due course.

CE255: On Street parking charges (5 mins)

To review the proposal from East Herts Council and agree the Council response.

Resolved: WTC object to the introduction of on street parking charges for the following reasons.

- Concern was raised about the lack of access to Smart technology for residents to be able to pay short term fees.
- The proposal was felt to be detrimental to other initiatives to support Town Centres.
- The introduction of these charges so close to the changes in the car park fees was felt to be inappropriate, the impact should be reviewed before on street charges are introduced.

CE256 : Allotment Updates (5 mins)

- Allotment competition dates agreed as 11th July round 1, July 18th round 2. A map to be supplied.
- The sunflower competition was agreed to be extended to children in the whole of Ware, not just those with allotments.
- Community Orchard, report to be supplied for the next meeting
- Beehive compound, currently being constructed.

CE257: Events update. Report attached (RM 10mins)

To receive a report from the events manager.

Cinema

Cinema continues to be well attended and this service is much appreciated by its audience. The December film show was cancelled due to the snow. Our remaining programme is:

09/03/23	Fisherman's Friends: One & All
11/04/23	Where the Crawdads Sing
09/05/23	Living

The May film will be free of charge as part of our Coronation offering. Cinema will restart in September.

Guided Tours of Ware

To consider reinstatement of the service with paid Tour Guides.

Summer Concerts

The following Summer Concerts have been confirmed to date:

07/05/23	Lip Service Brass Band
04/06/23	Barry Sapsford's Swing Orchestra
18/06/23	Ware Ukulele
25/06/23	Somewhere2Sing
02/07/23	Ware Brass (tbc)
16/07/23	Abba Stars
23/07/23	Lip Service Brass Band
13/08/23	Steve Young
28/08/23	George Croucher
10 or 17/08	Ware Brass (tbc)
December	Carol Concert with Ware Brass tbc

Ware Festival – Carnival Day 2nd July

The theme for 2023 is 'Thank You for the Music'. Plans are well underway for Carnival Day & the Town Fair. Booking forms for both of the above are available.

Rock in the Priory

This takes place on 30th July and will, as last year, equipment share with Exile Events who have exclusive use of the Priory on 29th July. The Showcase for Rock in the Priory will take place at Southern Maltings on April 16th.

School holiday activities:

February 2023 half term

Two activities will take place over half term. For younger children we have a free showing of 'Lyle Lyle Crocodile' and for the 12-17 age group there is Laser Tag. Both events sold out within days being made available online.

Easter holidays 2023

The Easter Activities (Egg decorating & Easter Egg Hunt) will take place as usual in Fletcher's Lea. We are exploring the possibility of a performance of Macbeth for the older age group at the beginning of the Easter holiday. This features as part of the English Literature GCSE syllabus for 2023. Subject to availability/cost. Most of the activities below have been confirmed.

Summer 2023 – under 12s

24/07/23	Mosaic mirrors craft workshop
01/08/23	Archery (open to all)
08/08/23	Doodlejam (open to all)
14/08/23	Pedal Cars

22/08/23 Water Wars (open to all)
29/08/23 Dodge Ball, Beat the Keeper, Hungry Hippos inflatable

Summer 2023 – 12 upwards

09/08/23 Climbing wall
23/08/23 Zorb
29/08/23 Communal Mosaic Mural

October half term 2023

23/10/23 Halloween crafting – open to all ages
25/10/23 Lego workshop – younger children
26/10/23 Gaming – older children

Mayoral Events

05/03/23 Civic Service at St. Mary's Church – invitations have been issued.
14/04/23 Civic Dinner, Ware Priory – ticket application form to be sent out.

CE258: Coronation Celebrations (RM 10mins)

To review the plans for Coronation Celebrations in 2023.

Coronation/Food Festival

This will take place on the front lawn at the Priory.

To agree title – suggested Annual Food Festival with a Royal Twist

Timings: suggested Noon- 4pm

Music – two sets from Lip Service Brass Band

Entertainment (general) – Los Skankos booked.

Children's Entertainment – await quotes.

Street Food & produce – mailing planned for week of 6th February.

Bunting – to agree requirement for bunting in the High Street

CE259: Twinning update (5 mins)

Visit to Cormeilles planned for 27th May weekend, further details tbc.

CE260: Ware Film Festival (VS 5 mins)

Cllr V Shaw to arrange a planning meeting to agree the details for the 2023 festival.

CE261: Town Centre projects 2022/23 (SF 10mins)

To receive an update on projects.

Community Banking Hub

We have submitted an application to LINK to highlight the difficulties Ware is experiencing with regards to accessing banking facilities. LINK is the UK's largest cash machine network, connecting virtually all of the UK's ATMs and providing communities with access to cash through services such as cashback at retailers' tills and Banking Hubs. LINK is in the process of assessing our application.

Tudor Square Sunday Market

Our market in partnership with Southern Maltings launches on Sunday 19th Feb and will be held the third Sunday of each month (excluding August and January). Southern Maltings are managing the stall holders. The first market has an excellent mix of local artisan products, crafts, gifts, a cooking demonstration, and a choir performing. Future dates are:

- Sun 19th Mar
- Sun 16th Apr
- Sun 21st May
- Sun 18th Jun
- Sun 16th Jul
- Sun 17th Sep
- Sun 15th Oct
- Sun 19th Nov

Ware Town Council Website & social media

The website has had 20k views in the period Nov 22- Jan 23 from 9.1k visitors. Social media analytics are available and can be forwarded separately but show very high levels of reach and engagement in the same period. The most popular posts are those relating to the Priory Park works, the Lido and the town centre business promotions. Hootsuite software now allows us to benchmark against other local councils and relevant pages.

National Association of Local Councils Accreditation

Quality Gold accreditation was awarded to us in December and is valid for 4 years.

Christmas 2023

The Ware Bear has reached his 'end of life' as expected with large outdoor illuminated set-pieces due to the degradation in the covering material. His end was hastened by the vandalism suffered over the past two festive seasons. It would be helpful for Councillors to consider their thoughts for 2023 options to be discussed at the next C&E meeting in May.

Shared Prosperity Funding

We are proposing that Ware seek funding for the installation of self-cleaning town centre toilets.

Town Centre Spring Clean

We have requested a date in April for the spring clean for jet-washing and chewing gum removal for the High Street and surrounding streets. We will combine this work with a specialist clean of the war memorial by the same company to benefit from a volume discount.

CE262: WTC Eco initiatives update (TD 5 mins)

To receive feedback on the initiatives.

- Eco Audit awaiting updated report once financial.
- Infra red heaters

CE263: Agenda items for next meeting

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm

Signed

Dated