



ABINGDON-ON-THAMES TOWN COUNCIL

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Community Services Committee Tuesday 9 March 2021 AGENDA

4 March 2021

To: All Members of the Community Services Committee

Cllr Neil Fawcett	Chair
Cllr Lorraine Oates	Vice Chair
Cllr Andrew Coveney	
Cllr Andy Foulsham	
Cllr Alex Greenaway	
Cllr Jim Halliday	
Cllr Robert Maddison	
Cllr Charlie Birks	(ex-officio, Mayor)
Cllr Samantha Bowring	(ex-officio, Chair F and GP Committee, Leader)

To: All Other Members for Information

Dear Member,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **Community Services Committee** to be held on **Tuesday 9 March 2021 at 7.00pm.**

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and in order to observe Government regulations the Town Council will hold this meeting online and not in person, in accordance with The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 ("the 2020 Regulations").

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The meeting ID will be forwarded to Members separately. Any members of the public who wish to attend should e-mail me at democratic@abingdon.gov.uk and you will be sent the relevant link on the day of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted in the same way, as far as possible, as a meeting in person. Members of the public may view the meeting online and may, with notice, make representations, ask questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business at agenda item 5.

Should any Member be unable to attend and wish to appoint a substitute to the meeting, they should inform me at democratic@abingdon.gov.uk.

Any queries on the agenda should also be directed to me.

Yours sincerely

Nigel Warner

Nigel Warner
Town Clerk (signed electronically)

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council Our Vision

To develop an inclusive community so that Abingdon is the place where everyone wants to live and where the wellbeing of residents is prioritised. In developing this community, the town will be one which is environmentally sustainable, vibrant, resilient and safe.

Our key objectives

1. To respond effectively and speedily to the climate emergency.
2. To develop a resilient, sustainable town which will provide a home for residents now and in the future.
3. To manage the Council's assets efficiently and effectively to meet for the needs of the community now and in the future.
4. To work with community partners to support those who are vulnerable and in need and to create opportunities to increase social inclusivity.

SECTION I (Open to the Public Including the Press)

1. **Apologies**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. **Declarations of interest**

To receive any declarations of interest from Members in relation to any items to be considered at the meeting in accordance with the Local Code of Conduct.

3. **Minutes**

To receive, consider and sign as a correct record the draft minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee of [12 January 2021](#) (previously circulated as a report to the Council Meeting held on 27 January 2021).

4. **Matters arising**

To consider any matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

5. **Statements and Questions from the Public**

To receive any statements and questions; these should be submitted in writing to the Town Clerk no later than 7pm on Monday 8 March 2021. This may either be by letter to the address above or by e-mail to democratic@abingdon.gov.uk.

6. **Forward Plan**

The Forward Plan was approved by Full Council on 27 January 2021. Update from the Chair, Cllr Fawcett.

(Potential) projects for prioritisation and timetabling	Review events: how do they meet our priorities, if continuing, how should they be resourced/ delivered
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Oct to Dec 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Begin work on new website2. Work on youth strategy review with budget bid of £30,0003. Deliver second tranche of Chromebooks for member
Jan to March 2021	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Consider bandstand project2. Complete new website3. Review and adopt flag policy4. Review of Grants Policy5. Launch of new website6. Complete communications review
April to June 2021	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Consideration of environmentally friendly measures to address the climate emergency in relation to Market Place events2. Agree draft plans for Platinum Jubilee
July to Sept 2021	Completion and implementation of environmentally friendly measures to address the climate emergency in relation to Market Place cafes and commercial markets
July to Sept 2022	Platinum Jubilee

7. **Actions Register**

To receive and consider the updated [register of actions](#).

8. **Finance report**

To receive and consider the [report](#) of the Deputy Town Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer, including the [management accounts](#) for the period ending 31 January 2021.

9 **Grant applications**

To consider [grant applications](#) received from:

1. [ATOM Festival 2021](#)
2. [Oxfordshire Play Association](#). Provisional grant funding was agreed for Oxfordshire Play Association at the Community Services meeting on 12 January 2021 subject to further information being provided. This information is provided with the agenda as an appendix.
3. [Ladybirds Riverside Pre-school](#)

10. **Grants criteria**

To receive and consider a [written report](#) and [scoring spreadsheet](#) on grants criteria from Cllr Andy Foulsham.

11. **Events in Abingdon during the Covid recovery period**

Following the decision at the previous meeting of the Community Services Committee to not proceed with events as planned for this year, it was agreed that the Committee would consider whether and how to proceed with any future events organised by the Town Council or on Town Council land in a more limited format. A [report](#) has been provided with this agenda.

12. **Food at events**

To consider reducing the sale and consumption at Town Council events of food and refreshments which have a high carbon footprint. This was referred to the Green Advisory and Scrutiny Committee by the Community Services Committee at its meeting on 12 January 2021. The Green Advisory and Scrutiny Committee considered the matter at its meeting on 18 February 2021 as follows:

The committee considered a request from the Community Services Committee to consider what foods are provided at future events and the noise impact of fireworks.

Cllr Bowring commented that one of the biggest impacts on the environment is food production and the Town Council should consider events in terms of the carbon footprint of food served. The committee was asked to consider policies for this. Cllr Bowring also mentioned the carbon footprint of fireworks and asked for the committee to consider best practice.

Anne Smart suggested providing more vegetarian food, salads and cardboard packaging. The idea of using bread such as pitta to serve food was also mentioned as a way to reduce waste. The Outdoor Services Manager advised that there are many food providers who focus on this approach so it should be easy to find such providers.

Chinese lanterns were mentioned as a related matter as these can be very environmentally destructive. The lanterns often have wire frames which can injure or kill wildlife and farm animals.

Drone displays and light shows may be considered as possible alternatives to firework displays. It may be possible to introduce a decibel limit for fireworks and to consider the cost of drone displays compared with firework displays.

The Chair, Cllr Barody, suggested a working party to prepare a simple document setting out standards for events.

Cllr de la Harpe offered to begin work on a policy to address food waste and would report back to the next meeting.

Cllr Halliday would email the Chair and Cllr de la Harpe a copy of a sustainable food policy as an example. The Chair, Cllr Barody, would research areas in the country which have banned / limited firework displays.

Any policy which was developed would be recommended to the Community Services Committee or the Amenities and Recreation Committee as both are involved with outdoor events.

The GASC has not reported back yet. Members are asked if they would like to consider this further

13. **Noise Pollution**

To consider the noise and pollution impact on Abingdon of fireworks at Town Council events. This matter was considered at the Green Advisory and Scrutiny Committee on 18 February 2021, as reported under item 12, above. Further work is planned by that committee.

14. **Accessibility Audit**

To consider a full audit of events to assess their accessibility requirements and to consider whether this committee should make a recommendation to the Finance and General Purposes Committee, which has responsibility for property matters, to extend this audit to all Town Council properties.

15. **Platinum Jubilee**

To receive and consider a [report](#) and [appendix](#) prepared by the Communications, Marketing and Events Officer in consultation with Cllr Bowring and Cllr Oates to set out proposals to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

16. **Publicity**

All meetings of the Council and its Committees are open to the press and the public and agendas, reports and minutes are published on the website. Members are requested to make suggestions to officers of items which may be publicised.

17. **Dates of future meetings**

The date for the next meeting of the Community Services Committee is:

- 1 June 2021

The law allows members of the public and press to record meetings of the Council and its committees. Should you wish to record at any meeting which is open to the public it is requested that you inform the Town Clerk of your intention to film or record before the day of the meeting, by emailing democratic@abingdon.gov.uk or telephoning 01235 522642.

For information, whilst this meeting is being hosted virtually using Microsoft Teams the Council will not be recording the meeting.