



**SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of The Sea Festival and Events Committee Meeting**  
**held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 at 6.30pm**

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**Chair:**                    **Councillor:**                    **Tim Prater**

**Present:**                **Councillors:**                **Simon Horton, Rosa Morris, Tracy Stephens and Adrian Watts**

**Clerk:**                                **Mrs J Tugwood**

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Meeting started 7.20 pm

1.     **Apologies for absence-** Hazel Barrett
2.     **Declaration of Interest** – none declared
3.     **Minutes of the last meeting** – the minutes of the meeting held in 31<sup>st</sup> July 23 were presented and approved as a correct record.  
       **Proposed by Tracy Stephens**  
       **Seconded by Simon Horton**  
       **Agreed by all**
4.     **Sea Festival - Feedback**  
       All Councillors stated that the Sea Festival went very well and the fireworks were really good. The Veolia cleaning team were praised for their brilliant work keeping the beach and promenade clean. The Tonbridge market on the car park was also very good and helpful. It was noted that a Drone was hovering above the crowds on the beach during the fireworks and this is a cause for concern. It was suggested that more signs be put up to let people know where all the bands are playing and when, no dogs on the beach. A gazebo for Saturday night for the stage. Volunteers to be given designated area's.
5.     **Sea Festival 2024**  
       It was noted that the event would stay on August Bank Holiday weekend.  
       Suggestions were made for next year:
  - Make posters advertising the event more and on the day having a poster that gives the times and stages that the music acts will be held.
  - Signage to let people know where the fireworks are and were to stand.
  - Get suggestions concerning events that could be put on to encourage people to stay and walk down the High Street.
  - Food demonstrations ask local restaurants.
  - Tug of War
  - Encourage local business to put on events in their premises.
  - Invite the person who organises the Folkestone Festival for ideas and come and talk to the committee.
  - Sponsorship contact local businesses, estate agents

- More children’s entertainment.
- Approach Rowing Club to see if they could do something for children and/or adults.
- Premises licence has now been issued and needs to be renewed each year.
- Prices of stalls to be £75 each and £100 if booked after May, Charity stalls to be free.
- Two music stages to remain on the promenade and Castle Road Car Park.
- Council to look into music bands
- Streets to close from 12 noon on Saturday until 6pm on Sunday
- To look into parking if Saga close.

ACTION: RFO to obtain quotes for first aid.

ACTION: RFO to re-book Tonbridge Market for the Castle Road Car Park

**6. Correspondence**

Christmas Event:

We will have Father Christmas in the Library with a free gift for children up to the age of 9.

Tim Prater to speak to the people at the Chichester hall about dates and what they can hold in the hall.

Military wives choir to be booked once a date has been set.

To involve the Golden Valley area in the plans

Father Christmas to perhaps turn on the lights at Golden Valley and also the tree lights in Sandgate High Street.

Ask shop owners if they would stay open for late night shopping on the day of the Christmas Event.

Have a poster made and distributed

Talk to the people in Golden Arrow to see if it would be possible to have father Christmas in there for half an hour on the day.

Look at another band for the event suggested Sea Cadets from Ross Way.

ACTION: RFO to check with Harmers about electricity to the tree on the green. Contact the landlord of the shop and ask if we could use their electric as in previous years.

ACTION: RFO to contact landlord of the garage which has closed and ask if we could put up a couple of trees and decorations for the event.

ACTION: RFO to inform Tim Prater of the Christmas budget.

ACTION: RFO to book Military Wives choir

**7. Information:**

No information

**8. Date of Next meeting: TBC**

The meeting ended at 7.24 pm

Signed by the Sea Festival and Events Committee Chairman.....Date.....