DEREHAM TOWN COUNCIL

26th October 2021

At a virtual meeting of the **Social & Welfare Committee** held on **Tuesday 26th October 2021** on the rising of the Traffic Management meeting.

Present: Councillors H King (Chairman), H Clarke, S Green, A Greenwood and L Monument (substitute for Councillor T Monument).

Also present: Councillors K Cogman, P Duigan and C Bunting, Deputy Town Clerk Jillian Barron, Town Council Officer Gemma Drew, Carolyn Coleman and Mike Webb (aboutDereham)

1. **To receive apologies for absence.** Apologies for absence were received from Councillor T Monument.

2. **Declaration of Interest.**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Update on marking the Queen's Jubilee 2022.(Councillor H Clarke & A Greenwood)

The committee were advised that without having a budget it was difficult to plan, there were several ideas to pursue and possibly use the Queen Mother Garden but they may wait until they find out what Breckland Council and Norfolk County Council were planning to mark the Queen's Jubilee.

The committee recommended that a steering group be formed and engage with Breckland Council, the steering group would comprise Councillors H Clarke, A Greenwood and H King. Councillor L Monument would also be on the steering group although she is not on the Social & Welfare Committee.

Mike Webb (aboutDereham) suggested that maybe voluntary groups such as Dereham Lions could be included.

4. Update on marking the 100th anniversary of the War Memorial (Councillors P Duigan & H King)

Councillor P Duigan said that it is important the mark the 100th anniversary of the War Memorial as it is an important monument and a part of Dereham's history that we can all be proud of, it is a credit to the town.

Councillor H King said that is a superb memorial that we should be proud of and suggested lighting up the memorial with coloured lights and flying the Union Flag on the date of the 100th anniversary.

Councillor H King said that he would like to put the War Memorial forward for a Royal British Legion award for the best memorial in the county.

5. **To discuss the Christmas Lights Event.**

The committee were advised that at the present time there were not enough stewards for the Christmas Lights Event and should the number not increase

then there would be no alternative other than to cancel the event. Mike Webb (aboutDereham) offered to ask members of aboutDereham if they would help.

6. **To discuss a proposed Community Toilet Scheme.**

Carolyn Coleman (aboutDereham) gave an overview of the proposed Community Toilet Scheme.

Councillor H King asked if Breckland Council had been approached about the possibility of being in partnership for this scheme, Carolyn responded saying that she had spoken to an officer at Breckland Council who said that the company line was 'it was not their responsibility it was the Town Council's'. Councillor S Green said that maybe Breckland Council would be able to help with the cost of the set up with funds from the Market Town Initiative.

Councillor K Cogman asked if there would be adequate sanitary and nappy bins etc and the accountability for this, also would this be stated on advertising which business provides what facilities.

Questions were also asked about opening hours, availability should be listed and if the business is closed there should be signage advising where next nearest facility is. The start-up cost was also queried.

Councillor H King asked that aboutDereham come back to the Full Council in November with answers to the questions raised.

The committee recommended that the Town Council proceed with the Community Toilet Scheme and consider the recommendations put forward once the questions raised have been answered.

- To proceed with a Community Toilet Scheme as proposed in the report
- To accept the offers from the named businesses to take part in the scheme
- The amount of an annual payment to smaller businesses on the assumption that larger businesses will not expect payment)
- To allocate a maximum of £5,000 in the Council's budget of which up to £1,000 may be required for set-up costs
- The design of leaflets and stickers and other materials should be based on those used in Kendall which have been proven to work well
- That the Council's staff will set up the scheme and administer the scheme
- That the operation of the scheme will be reviewed in (xyz) years