

Heacham Parish Council
THE COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 14th JANUARY 2025 AT 7.00 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT Cllrs J Waldron (Chairman), S Bolt, E Hammond, R Pritchard, D Rawnsley.
Also present Cllr Pomeroy, Mrs P Sewell and L Liddington (minute taker)

1. APOLOGIES Mrs Gilbert and Cllr Reader.

There were no declarations of interest.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes from 12th November were agreed and signed as a true record (there was no meeting in December).

3. MATTERS ARISING

On behalf of Heacham In Bloom, Mrs Sewell circulated a poster with the Brownie's scanned drawings from the crocus planting.

Cllr Rawnsley was pleased to note that the poster referenced the Parish Council sponsorship. Cllrs Hammond and Pritchard both suggested that whilst a laminated A3 copy might serve in the short term, a more permanent sign should be considered for each planting. Mrs Sewell would follow this up.

4. OFH COFFEE MORNINGS, SIGNAGE

The Parish Clerk Assistant reported that the new external sign has been made and that The Clerk would be collecting it.

5. LIBRARY

Mrs Sewell gave a short report this month, however it is the intention to give a fulsome report at the February meeting which will include a 'shopping list' of items including a new shelf.

Customer figures for December are up by nearly 19% over Dec 23 which is good to see. Unfortunately in the last week, one volunteer has stepped down due to family commitments and another will be off on long-term illness. Plans are in motion to recruit more volunteers.

The current display is New Year, New You!, sign posting local Health and Wellbeing services. Work is underway to host a display in March through April on the Heacham Wildfowlers in conjunction with Heachamites Recollections Group. The Library will also be marking VE Day on 8 May and VJ Day on 15 August with a small display using books in the Military collection, team intended to purchase appropriate table size flags. IT / Tech advice sessions project has now been extended to September 2025. Mrs Gilbert has offered, if

required, for the Library to send an email in support of the initiative as the sessions are well supported.

6. CARNIVAL

Cllr Rawnsley is to speak to Naomi (stilt walker) with regards to what her fees will be this year before a decision is taken to book her again for this year's Carnival.

Cllr Pritchard suggested it would be nice to have a Chinese Dragon in the parade and Cllr Hammond said that there had been one in the Hunstanton parade last year. Cllr Rawnsley to contact the group responsible for putting the dragon in to see if they would enter our parade this year.

Cllr Hammond suggested that we invite vintage car owners to enter cars into the parade and Cllr Bolt said that he would look into the possibility.

Cllr Bolt said that he had spoken to a local businessman who has connections with Heacham Football Club regarding a few of them dressing up to walk with the parade and would speak to him again.

The state of our trophies was discussed and it was decided to look into purchasing new ones and the Clerks Assistant is to research this on behalf of the Committee.

7. OTHER EVENTS

There was a long discussion regarding the 80th anniversary of VE and VJ day and how VE (8th May) and VJ (15th August) days should be marked. Cllr Pritchard said that the beacon would be lit for VE day but after discussion the Committee as a whole felt that VJ deserved to be marked the same. Cllr Pritchard has asked the Vicar from St Mary's Church Heacham to attend and say a few words, Cllr Hammond said that Rev Ncube should be invited also as he spoke so well at our last event.

The laying of wreaths at the War Memorial on each day was also suggested and it was decided that a road closure would not be necessary and that the Clerks Assistant would look into ordering wreaths from the RBL.

The making of posies for each individual grave in the churchyard by school children was also suggested as was asking Richard Dix to provide equipment to play the last post.

- ***Recommendation to Full Council: that Heacham Parish Council mark both VE and VJ day with a beacon lighting.***

The possibilities of something for the community to enter into to celebrate Easter were also discussed and it was felt that the Committee needed to know what if anything the church were doing that the Council could support in some way. Clerks Assistant to email the church. Gravesham Town Twiners have been in contact with the office to try to organise some kind of tour for some American visitors for the 400th anniversary of the death of Pocahontas. On discussion Cllrs Waldron and Pomeroy volunteered to be involved with the tour although neither had the historical expertise to conduct and 'informative tour'. It was decided that the Clerks Assistant is to reply to the lady's email asking for confirmation of dates/times and to inform them that we lack expertise, but were happy to help. She should also offer to email the new owner about access to the lake and suggest they take luncheon at the Heacham Manor Hotel due to it's own connections with the historical events regarding Pocahontas.

Christmas was briefly discussed and a suggestion of asking the Salvation Army to play Christmas Carols, perhaps in the Public Hall, would be a nice thing to do. This subject will need further discussion including with the Club and the Salvation Army themselves.

8. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 11th February 2025, 7pm at the Old Friends Hall.

Meeting closed at 20.25.

.....Chairman

.....Date