

REPORT FROM COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP MEETING

Monday 10th September at Littlethorpe Village Hall 7pm

PRESENT

Alison Clark, Eileen Hersey, Guy Jackson, Sue Gamble, Julie Whitehouse & Julia Swan

APOLOGIES

Pauline Thomas

1. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- Update on Christmas lights and hanging baskets
Julie reported that due to the poor quality of this year's summer hanging baskets, we had been offered this year's Solar Christmas Trees free of charge. The group discussed this and although we had wanted to change the Christmas trees for something different they are not available through this outlet. We felt it prudent to accept the offer and change the decorations for Christmas 2019. The group also agreed that the Trees on Station Road should be lit as previously agreed and that we should look into having lights in the tree/s on Hardwicke Park and Narborough Park which can be battery run. Littlethorpe Village Hall will also be decorated as previously agreed.

PROPOSAL

We accept the offer of free trees this Christmas and in addition to the already agreed Trees on Station Road we also look to light trees on Hardwicke Park and Narborough Park. Littlethorpe Village Hall to be decorated as previously agreed.

- Bridge cleaning
LCC be contacted to clear brambles under Health and Safety, we will also ask them to clean the bridge at the same time.

2. COMMUNITY AWARDS

- Discuss how to promote the 3 awards for this year (Jubilee, Millennium & Community) and the awards to be given:-
We will utilise The Journal, our website, notice boards and shops as in previous years, but make efforts to contact individual groups and schools as well as the Youth Council.

3. VILLAGE SHOW

- **Village Show** – needs to be revamped
This was discussed in some detail; the actual classes will be revamped at our next meeting. It was agreed we needed to make the show of interest for more people and have it open to the public longer. We looked at the income and expenditure and felt there was little financial value in the raffle or charging entry/re-entry in the afternoon. It was also felt that the prize money was a significant expense and not a major factor as to why people enter and would therefore be discontinued.

PROPOSAL

- 1. We ensure a range of stalls with varied interest are present on the day (a cost per table to be charged), also activities for children, to include face painting and a tombola (bigger than our normal, contacting businesses for prizes)**
- 2. Continue to charge per exhibit (children free) but no charge will be made to come into the Parish Centre, no raffle**
- 3. In addition to the large cups (returnable annually) and certificates currently given, these winners will also receive a miniature cup or plaque to keep. The 1st, 2nd & 3rd place slips currently printed on paper and placed next to the exhibits will be upgraded to either a small better quality certificate or rosette. Prize money will no longer be paid.**

- **PARISH IMPROVEMENTS** –discuss priority and additional ideas

The budget this year was £17,500 across the Christmas lights, Hanging baskets, Summer and winter bedding. The group agreed that due to the Parish Centre overspend we should not look to do any major projects this next financial year but plan for 2020/21. We do however feel an official opening event should be held. Suggested budget is £25k in total

PROPOSAL

To take on no new major projects we do however propose to upgrade the Christmas lights and add additional planting and baskets (mainly around the new parish centre). An event to celebrate the opening of the new Parish Centre to be held.

- **Youth Initiatives** – discuss priority and additional ideas (fun day, reality etc)

The group discussed this in some detail and whilst we recognise something should be done for the older age group we did not feel the Reality Bus was value for money. A letter has been received from some older children and Alison will meet with them along with Julie and Julia to hear their ideas for events (they liked the fun day and felt they could be included in this with other equipment).

PROPOSAL

Not to continue with the Reality Bus after this financial year. To hold 2 fun days (1 possibly on 6 acre). To engage with the older age group to see how we can better include them in activities.

4. AOB

Guy raised the car parking and new restricted parking proposal received from County Council, but the group did not feel it was in their remit and will come up on the agenda elsewhere at full council