**WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**A MEETING OF THE EVENTS COMMITTEE WAS**

**HELD ON TUESDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 6:00 PM**

**PRESENT**

Councillors Scott, Hodson, Crouch, Newton P, Meszaros.

Clerk: E. Ireton

**EVE/19/2023 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & RECORD REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr McCarthy

**EVE/20/2023 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS**

None

**EVE/21/2023 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC**

None

**EVE/22/2023 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**EVE/21/2023 EVENTS**

**4. SEPTEMBER EVENT**

Main feedback from people was to have a very similar event every year.

Some comments that there was no hand sanitiser in the toilets – in the future look at different companies to provide portable toilets.

There were plenty toilets as there was no queuing.

Some feedback that it was better organised than Wannase which had took place the week previous.

Needs to be brought up at Full Council about having the event next year.

**5. CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON**

Discussion about whether to move the event down to Barton Laws.

Cllr Scott suggested it could take business away from the shops in the town and it could also be an issue regarding the football due to the pitches potentially getting ruined.

Something to look at doing next year as it would be too rushed this year.

Could do some research with the local businesses and see if it would affect them and their opinions.

Could suggest doing a late-night shopping to the shops in the build up to Christmas.

Could ask again about free parking on Water Street car park.

Create a poster thanking all the businesses that donated a prize – put them up in the notice boards and even take them into the shops.

Agreed to keep the event in the town centre for this year.

Use local acts but have one headlining act that’s well known.

Try to find a new electrician for the lights.

Look for a stage that will fit the area – Tynedale.

11am start time and lights to come on around 5pm as there were complaints that it was too late last year.

Jenny Ball has already been booked.

Cllr Newton suggested a stall/activity that involves wreath making for people.

Blythey, Donna C, Emma Jones, Miss Dee and the Mustangz, Devonne Ashton are potential acts.

LJ Cheer have already been booked.

Howard Nicholson to potentially host the event.

Cllr Newton suggested the stilt lady.

Grinch has been booked.

Cllr Crouch suggested Jason the juggling jester.

Need to speak with SK regarding the Santa’s grotto.

Tea with Santa at Barton Laws after the light switch on in the lead up to Christmas – 22nd 23rd 24th.

Take booking slots.

Cllr Hodson has a contact for a caterer.

Need to address to the finance committee about buying new furniture in Barton Laws for it.

Could have town crier as Santa.

Provide NADT with funds to allow their grotto to happen and in return use the equipment and decorations for our tea with Santa.

John Peele theatre may help with the set-up.

Ask about using train to do a Santa’s train ride at Barton Laws before they go inside.

Cllr Meszaros to enquire about this.

Could possibly have different stalls as opposed to last year.

Cllr Newton suggested a jacket potato stall.

Taylor’s funfair on Water Street car park.

Cllr Hodson suggested water zorbing perhaps instead of ice skating.

Could be Mrs Claus for tea instead of Santa.

**Meeting closed at 19:19**

**Date of next meeting: Tuesday 19th September**