

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON TOWN COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

20 OCTOBER, 2020

TOWN CLERK'S OPEN REPORT

1) Dementia Friendly Stratford & The T3 Foundation

• **To consider fundraising for the T3 Foundation**

During a recent telephone conversation with Table Tennis England, an organisation called the T3 Foundation was highlighted to Cllr Taylor.

The T3 Foundation are a UK social Enterprise, whose primary social purpose is to bring a world of health, wellbeing and happiness through their unique table tennis offer. The T3 Foundation are using their offer to engage those living with all stages of Dementia and Alzheimer's.

The T3 offer is not something that Table Tennis England are looking to build into their mass market programmes nor is it an offer that can be funded via Ping! funding.

Further information regarding T3, including costs can be found via their website here, <https://www.t3-foundation.org.uk/>.

T3 Foundation will be launching a comprehensive pack that will make it easy to Crowdfund the purchase of a fantastic T3 Foundation Kit for a local care home, so the residents can enjoy the benefits that T3 Foundation brings to adults living with Dementia and Alzheimer's.

Cllr Taylor reports that he would be happy to lead the fundraising for this cause if agreed by this committee.

2) Free Use of Town Hall

• **To review the grant application process for free use of the Town Hall**

It is asked that the Community Services Committee review the grant application process for free use of the Town Hall.

A copy of the grant application form, which was sent out to Christmas Lights and Stratford in Bloom in July 2020 for their grants, is attached as **Appendix 'H'**. These grants required funding allocation as part of the budget for 2021/22 and

were reviewed and recommended at the Finance & Scrutiny Committee meeting on 8 September 2020.

Due to ongoing restrictions as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, the Town Hall has been closed for events for most of the current financial year. Due to the uncertainty over when restrictions may end, the grant application form was not sent out to local community groups which have previously received the benefit of free use of the Town Hall. Therefore, this process has now come to the Community Services Committee for review.

Going forward, grant awards will be the responsibility of the Community Services Committee. The Finance & Scrutiny Committee has previously considered suggestions for improving the grant award process and for increased scrutiny of grant applications. Prior to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on community activities, it had been anticipated that Stratford Town Trust would undertake any detailed scrutiny of applications where significant funding was required, for example Christmas Lights, as they have the relevant experience as the town's financial grant awarding body. However, this year's grant application review process for funding from the Town Council was undertaken in line with previous years.

Based on the new Terms of Reference for the new committees, it is anticipated that the Civic, Heritage and Events Committee will determine dates when the Town Hall is available and the number of free use events which may take place. It is then the responsibility of the Community Services Committee to work with local community groups to undertake an appropriate review of applications.

Members are asked to consider the procedure for determining grant applications for free use of the Town Hall for 2021/22 and to decide whether it should proceed at this stage or whether matters should be delayed until there is less uncertainty over when events can resume at the Town Hall.

3) 'Green' Advent Calendar

- **To agree the cost to produce a 'Green' Advent Calendar**

Cllr Warren-Howles has been liaising with artist Katie Morgan who created the Mayor's Christmas card in 2019 in order to create a 'Green' Advent Calendar. This calendar was first agreed by the Climate Change Emergency Task & Finish before being taken to the Website, Social Media & Newsletter Panel. Katie has since provided a quote of £450.00 for exclusive use of a piece of artwork to use for the calendar. Drafts of this artwork are attached as **Appendix 'I'**. Members are asked whether they agree to this cost and to determine where the budget for this work would lie.

4) CCTV for the Cemetery

- **To consider the cost of a new CCTV system for the Cemetery**

At the beginning of September 2020, two separate theft incidents occurred at the Evesham Road Cemetery. Despite being chained and deadlocked, thieves stole the motor from the bowser. The following week a lady advised us that she had her car window smashed and her handbag taken from her car whilst it was parked in the far end carpark near the Tranquility Garden.

In response to these occurrences a quote for a more reliable CCTV system has been sought. The quote for this is attached as **Appendix 'J'**.

5) Town Hall Maintenance

- **To note the update on the internal and external works planned for the Town Hall**

An update will be tabled at the meeting on 20 October.

Community Services Clerk
14 October, 2020