

# DAVENTRY TOWN COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Services Committee held at 3, New Street, Daventry on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022 at 6.30pm

**PRESENT:** Cllr John Tippet - Chair

**Councillors:**

Mike Arnold  
Emily Carter  
Stephen Dabbs  
Malcolm Ogle  
Wendy Randall  
Holly Steenson  
Lynne Taylor  
Karen Tweedale

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Deborah Jewell – Chief Officer (CO)  
0 Member of the press  
1 Member of the public

### OPEN FORUM

A representative from Discover Daventry and Daventry Retail Forum thanked the Council for the recent programme of events in the Town, which had been well-organised and had a positive impact for businesses in the Town as they all reported an increase in footfall and sales. The representative also praised the work of the Community Ranger, her presence was seen by both the traders and visitors to the Town as a great asset, making the Town feel a safe and welcoming place to shop and enjoy the wonderful cafes the Town now has to offer. The representative advised members how important the Christmas season was for retailers and asked if the Christmas lights could be put up earlier than the planned mid-November date.

The Chief Officer thanked the representative for the positive feedback and advised that dates for the installation of Christmas lights were scheduled in May/June, therefore this could not be altered for this year, but could be considered for 23/24.

### CS2206.1 APOLOGIES

Councillor	Apologies	Resolved
Katie Thurston	Received and considered	Apologies Approved

### CS2206.2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor	Declaration Of Interest	Minute Number
Wendy Randall	West Northamptonshire Council Councillor - non-pecuniary	General
Holly Steenson	Member of Retail Forum and relative to key personnel within Discover Daventry	General

### CS2206.3 MINUTES

<b>RESOLVED:</b>	The Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee meetings held on 1 <sup>st</sup> August 2022, be approved, and signed as correct records (Appendix 01).
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**CS2206.4 Projects 22/23.**

Members noted the report from the Projects Officer on projects for 22/23 and agreed it had been a year packed with activities that engaged with diverse sections of the community. Members considered the summer activities programme and concurred this had been proven to be good value for money and agreed monies needed to be included in the budget for 23/24. Members also noted the excellent work being done by the Projects Officer in partnership with Daventry Primary Care Network, Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, The Parker E-Act Academy, DSLV E-Act Academy, Northamptonshire's Children's Trust, Daventry Mind, and other organisations that provide services to Children and Young People i.e., Service6.

**CS2206.5 Town Events.**

Members noted the report from the Events Officer and were supportive of all the events to date, in particular the introduction of the Heritage Bus Tours as part of Daventry Museum's Heritage Open Day offer and adding an entertaining element to the Farmers' Market.

**CS2206.6 Floral Displays.**

Members referred to the report from the Projects Officer and noted the overspend in relation to the extremely dry weather requiring an increase in watering costs. The CO advised these costs would be absorbed in underspends on other budget lines within the events budget. The CO also advised receipt of a quote for 2023, advising members that this would need to be approved to enable the supplier to order the necessary plants to enable them to be grown in time for the next season. Members advised their approval of the current planting scheme and that they preferred to go with the abundance of colour as opposed to an all year round, less colourful scheme for the troughs.

<b>RESOLVED:</b>	(i) That the quote DEN02 be approved for the provision of hanging baskets and troughs for the summer season 2023. (ii) That the projects officer provides a further report with more detail in relation to the use of all year-round planting in the troughs for consideration in 2024 budget.
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**CS2206.7 Christmas Lights.**

The CO confirmed the Christmas lights would be installed on w/c 7<sup>th</sup> November and the lights would come on at 15:30 and off at Midnight. Members asked if the lights could be scheduled to come on after Remembrance Day, the CO advised this could be done, but the Council would need to pay a call out charge to the service provider for making a special trip to turn the lights on. The CO suggested as the lights didn't come on until 15:30 they would not affect the Remembrance Day proceedings.

The CO advised members that due to the recent pollarding of the London Plane, it was not possible to hang the stars from its much-depleted branches, therefore the stars were going to be added to the cross-street swags and the tree would be wrapped to ensure this area of the Town remained lit during the festive period.

The CO concluded by confirming that the new owners of Bowen Square had agreed to fund the Christmas tree and lights, along with icicle lights in Bowen Square and that the community crochet Christmas Tree project was making good progress and would be accompanied by a Crochet Christmas Tree Trail to engage with all ages and encourage people to visit and explore the Town.



**CS2206.8 Community Transport.**

Members referred to the report from the Responsible Finance Officer on the funding and provision of community transport in Daventry town. As no requests had been received to review the current Agreement, it was

<b>RESOLVED:</b>	To retain the current sum of £7500 in the budget for the financial year 23/24
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**CS2206.9 Committee Budget.**

Members noted income and expenditure reports, for Community Services Committee to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 and agreed no actions or decisions required.

Members then discussed the draft budget for 23/24, agreeing to maintain the majority of budget lines at their current level. It was noted that many of the costs for advertising and promotions were accounted for within the individual events budgets, therefore the budget was reduced by £2k; and following the success of the summer activities programme it was agreed to increase this budget by £1k. Major adjustments were made to reduce the £10k annual budget for new Christmas lights to £0, as the earmark for this fund was currently £20k and the Christmas lights were in good condition and of good design; lengthy discussions were held in relation to the budget for Fireworks, the CO advised that costs for this event are predicted to rise by £6k. Members debated the value of this event and agreed it was difficult to put a price on it, as so many people looked forward to the event, and enjoyed the benefit of it being free for everyone to attend. Following due consideration, it was

<b>RESOLVED:</b>	To retain the predicted costs within the draft budget and discussions on its retention be debated at full council
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**CS2206.10 Communication**

Report noted.

**CS2206.11 Correspondence**

None received.

**CS2206.12 Date Of Next Meeting**

To note the date of next meeting Community Services meeting as 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

Meeting Closed at 20:50 hrs

Signed



Date

6/12/2022