

Church Fenton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting – CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Christmas Committee of Church Fenton Parish Council held on Tuesday 25 January 2022 at Church Fenton Methodist Hall

In attendance: Cllr Sam Charlston, Cllr Seguss, Cllr Stewart Ferris, Lesley Wright (Hub), Georgina Ashton Clerk to the Council. 3 members of the public.

Meeting started at 7.32pm

1. Election of Chairman to the Christmas Committee.

Resolution: to agree that the 3 councillors present will co-chair the meetings (Cllrs Charlston, Ferris and Seguss). Unanimous.

To agree additional members of the group from Lesley Wright to represent the Community Hub, Teresa Whyte to represent the WI, Serena Lowes to represent Friends of Kirk Fenton, Matt Abraham-Thomas.

2. To note Apologies and Approve Reasons for Absence

Serena Lowes, Cllr R Higham, Teresa Whyte

3. To note any Declarations of Interest and to approve any Dispensation requests

It is a requirement in law, Localism Act (2011, s31) that Council members declare any Disposable Pecuniary Interest. None.

4. Public Participation Period (no longer than 30 mins) *Members of the public are politely reminded to speak for <5 mins.*

5. To approve Minutes of the Christmas Committee Meeting of Church Fenton PC – 25 November 2021.

Resolution: to resolve that the minutes are a true and accurate record of the Minutes of the last meeting on 25 November 2021. Unanimous.

6. Actions / Updates

a. De brief on Christmas 2021 – including Christmas lights erected and taken down, Carols round the tree, Christmas Tree, tree decorations, decorating the postbox.

(i) Christmas decorations on the tree were a huge success. A little bit of disappointment in that some groups used washable paints/pens which washed off in the weather. Perhaps encourage the youth groups to use permanent markers, stick on items to create a image that will weather better. Unanimous that this idea should go ahead in 2022.

(ii) Christmas lights – still some issues with NYCC broken light fixings. Also, need to consider for 2022 sizings, brackets and placings of the new lights this year. For example a couple of them were pushed round regularly when delivery drivers or large waggons have bumped into them. Would be good to have some sort of access platform that is more reliable eg a teleporter. RJC contractors have a telehandler and would be happy to help out in 2022 in terms of arranging this support for putting up the lights. Some of the brackets need some repair, eg bolts and nuts have rusted. Ideally have some spare brackets and plan where the individual lights go so as to consider where best to place the larger lights to avoid any damage from large vehicular traffic. Suggestion that a page spread goes into the Fenton in Focus (spring edition) – this would advertise the Christmas lights setting up, arrange a weekend well in advance so that the group can generate a group of volunteers to set aside a day/weekend of support, led by Matt Abraham-Thomas. Discussion over LED vs normal lights and the cost of replacement to change one Christmas light from normal to LED lighting. When purchasing new lights – the catalogue tends to come out in May/June time and ideally purchased by August. Sponsorship plaques for the lamppost. Need to be square number plate size, eg dibond, need to agree a size. (eg a number plate size). (Lite – David Murphy)

(iii) Christmas Tree – 14 or 15ft high – could have a potentially higher tree but need to co-ordinate this with the telehandler as this would be needed to fight lights on a higher tree.

(iv) Decorating the post box – Christmas one is partly done (knitted). This will hopefully completed for Christmas 2022 to decorate the main post box outside the community shop.

b. Future funding streams

(i) Christmas sockets – ask the parish council to purchase 4 additional sockets. This would be 8 new sockets in total for Christmas 2022, in addition to replacing the existing 8 with new. Clerk to contact NYCC Electrical Engineer to establish what work could be done by a private contractor on the lamps which are owned by CFPC.

Church Fenton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting – CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE

- (ii) Suggestion to full council – the donation/sponsorship from RJC Services – go towards the cost of a new whole Christmas light. Council to require
- (iii) Cllr Ferris to lead on approaching all businesses in the community to seek sponsorship for the 8 new Christmas lights. Cllr Seguss to approach the main pubs / takeaways in the village to ask if they are happy to have a donation/collection box at their check out this year.
 - c. Budgeting / placement of funds generated
 - Suggestion of new bank account. Agreed to ring fence funds within the PC account. Also enables the PC to claim VAT on any expenditure.
 - d. Additional Christmas Sockets plan
 - Proposal to increase the number of new sockets from 4 to 8 sockets. Ideally chose parish council owned lights. Already agreed LP2, Busk Lane and LP39 Main Street (close to The Fenton Flyer) and then LP1 and LP3 on Station Road near the railway station. Suggestion of new lampposts, LP6, opposite Brockley Close and LP10 at the corner of Oakwood Close, LP4 at Lockton Court entrance and finally LP35 on the corner of Northfield Lane.
 - e. Queens Jubilee
 - Consideration of Queens Jubilee Christmas light (Commemorative) for use year on year. Speak to Queens Jubilee committee.
- 7. Discussions / points raised from the floor
 - a) Clerk to generate a comprehensive map and spreadsheet for Matt to enable ease of planning location of lights for future years. Clerk to send link for the online streetlighting map to all committee members. Streetlight assessment and survey – photographs to establish potential areas for Christmas sockets
 - Lesley – Brackenhill Lane to Lockton Court
 - Matt – existing Christmas lights
 - Cathie – Village Hall to end of Northfield Terrace
 - Michelle – Sandwath Drive to top of Sandwath Lane
 - Sam – Nanny Lane, Common Lane, Rose Lane and Church Street
 - Stewart – Oakwood and Brockley Close
 - Sue B – Bridge Close
- 8. To note Agenda Items for next meeting:
Christmas lights, sockets and funding, (Fenton in Focus either March or April)
- 9. To confirm date and time of next meeting
Tuesday 1st March 2022, 7pm – venue tbc

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed: Cllr Charlston, Chairman, Christmas Committee: _____

Date: 25th January 2022