

# **SANDS OF TIME SEASIDE FESTIVAL**

## **NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE SANDS OF TIME 2006 COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2006 at the Council Chamber**

**PRESENT:** Cllr. D. Eldridge (Chairman), Cllr. Mrs. J. Warr.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** E. Benackova, S. Hardy, S. Holmes, B. Jones, J. Jones.

*The meeting opened at 5.39pm.*

### **1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Eldridge welcomed those present. As the meeting was not quorate it was **AGREED** to make recommendations where necessary.

### **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies of absence were noted as being received from Cllr. J. Hayward.

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members and Officers were reminded to make any declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interests that they may have in relation to items on this Agenda.

Notice should be given at this part of the meeting of any intended declaration. The nature of the interest should then be declared later at the commencement of the item or when the interest becomes apparent.

The Committee noted there were no Declarations of Interest made at this point in the Meeting.

### **4. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There was no public present.

### **5. REVIEW OF 2006 EVENT**

*As the Councillors present were unable to make any resolutions an informal discussion took place.*

Thanks on behalf of concessionaires were expressed to BRTC, this Committee and especially to the Events Officer.

With regard to the entertainment, it was felt that Saturday morning was very quiet. There was a need for someone with microphone informing people what is on, supplemented with music. Other Members also felt there was no need for a road closure on that day.

Sandcastle competition went well although there had not been as many contestants as in previous years. This might have been due to Fathers' Day. The quality of sandcastles / sculptures exceeded previous years and due to good weather there were many spectators and the beach looked full.

There were 89 classic cars plus 8 late entries. The Town Force was not able to judge the motorcycles due to being extremely busy and that caused a bit of panic. Apart from that, the cavalcade went very well, parking went smoothly and noone complained about the £5 entry fee. Points to be considered for next year:

- Dressing up appropriately to the car's age should be mentioned in the letter to cavalcadors
- Set a closing date for submission of entries
- Earlier registration on the day, perhaps 8.30am
- Arrow sign directing to the West Park for new Cavalcadors

Concern was expressed about the safety of people walking from the Esplanade to RNH as they were not using the traffic lights further down the road. This to be brought up with Police next year.

The Teddy Bears' Picnic went well. It could have been better dressed up; a marquee might be arranged for next year.

The Events Officer reported on the feedback from Sylvia Endacott. She felt that September used to be better for the Festival and many people were not aware of the date change. The History Exhibition was not all that well attended, although a banner was up outside of the venue.

The Mosaics Workshop was enjoyed by people who attended but we did not have the numbers to finish it off. People might have had problems with finding it. The Events Officer is awaiting response from ADC re the deposit for cleaning the Promenade. In case we get the money back, she would like to use it for the completion of Mosaics. The Committee **AGREED to RECOMMEND** that this be accepted. Further only sponsorship of £100 had been received instead of original £200. If the Committee decides to go ahead with this competition next year, the information packs for schools would have to be sent out well in advance and the location needs to be looked at.

It was reported that the Waterloo Square and RNH grounds were quite busy, people probably did not want to go inside due to the hot weather. Members felt that instead of holding events inside, we should look into having marquees or gazebos.

The Events Officer reported on the complaints she had received from Craftspeople. They felt there was not enough signage / banners and public was not aware of the Fair. A letter acknowledging these issues had been sent. The Committee discussed purpose of the Craft Fair and suggested organising a food fair or similar as an alternative. The Events Officer will look into this.

The Committee was informed that the donkey rides went well. The Prom had been washed each night and no stains were left.

The Butlins display was good and we should try to build on the connection with them. However the same issue applies here, not many people came to see it.

The Committee noted that concessionaires wish the Festival remains in June. The Town stays in their minds for summer holidays and they are likely to return later in the season.

A Member reported that more visible place was needed for Petanque and suggested the beach.

The Events Officer reported on the budget outturn and explained that she was still waiting for some invoices. In order to address the issues we had this year, the Publicity figures will need to be looked at.

The Members discussed possible dates for next year however due to tides, preference needs to be given to the Birdman.

**6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting TBA.

*The meeting ended at 6.10pm.*