

KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Keswick Town Council Events Committee held in Council Chamber, Town Hall, Keswick on **Tuesday 16 August 2022 at 1.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillor Paul Titley (PT)(Chair)
 Councillor Lewis Forsyth (LF)
 Councillor Steve Harwood (SH)
 Councillor Tony Lywood (TL)
 Vanessa Metcalfe (Keswick Tourism Association) (VM)
 Claudia Walker (Keswick Scouts and Guides) (CW)
 David Quainton (Keswick Rotary) (DQ)
 Dave Roberts (Keswick Lions) (DR)
 Chris Harper (Podgy Paws) (CH)
 Catherine Parker (RFO) (CP)
 Vivien Little (Town Clerk) (VL)

19. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Burn and Dunn, Ania Mylnczak, Mary Elliott and Phil Byers

20. Minutes

RESOLVED that the Chairman be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held on the 6 July 2022 (page 5).

21. Scruffs 2022 Review

CH gave an update regarding Scruffs event 2022. Given the change of date, plus the fact it was a very hot day, it was quieter than normal, but a good day was had by all. Wet towels were provided for the dogs. £1,047.00 was given to the Town Council for the entry fees. A £51 donation was made to Animal Rescue Cumbria in the name of Scruffs by the majority for those pre-entries who cancelled due to the change of date.

Discussion was had as to the future of Scruffs, as the Events Committee will change next May. It was agreed that it would be best to have the Town Council still put the event on, meaning free Fitz Park usage as well as coming under the Town Council insurance, though with Podgy Paws potentially doing more of the organising. Next year, buckets would be out for collections as well.

RESOLVED that a report be brought to the October Town Council meeting, recommending a budget of £2,500 be set aside for Scruffs next year, with the potential for an extra £1,000 from the Events contingency fund.

22. Christmas Lights 2022

Keswick Mountain Rescue will be switching on the lights, with Local Vocals performing, as last year.

PT, TL, VL and CP were meeting with representatives of Fizzco, the lights providers that afternoon to ensure that progress was being made with preparations. Discussion was had regarding how long the lights should be on for – given the climate pledge the Town Council has made, as well as showing responsibility during the cost of living crisis, it would not be appropriate for the lights to be on all day.

Keswick Rotary would be planning their usual event in Packhorse Court that same night.

RESOLVED that the lights be switched on from 3pm-12.15am every day, with the exception of New Year's Eve, where the lights would remain on until 1am.

23. Future of 2023 Events

After discussion, it was agreed to not put on the Rock Night next year, as the additional cost of applying for a Road Traffic Order to close the Market Square, as well as the risks involved in running the event would make it unviable.

Instead, the Prom would permanently become a Pop and Prom Event, lasting from early afternoon to the evening. The date for next year's Pop and Prom and Scruffs were set as 24th and 25th June 2023. Shelagh Hughes had offered to help prepare the performers once again.

LF brought forward an idea regarding a potential 'Keswick Fringe', bringing together all aspects of the thriving cultural scene in Keswick. Discussion was had regarding this, which was felt to be a strong idea, and further work was to be done on this. The money which was normally set aside for Rock Night could go towards sponsorship for such an event, with grants applied for as well for new arts events. Members of the Committee were supportive of the idea.

RESOLVED that

- i. Rock Night will no longer be organised, and that Pop and Prom would become a regular feature to be held on the usual last weekend in June; and
- ii. Councillor Lewis Forsyth begin work on preparing a proposal for a 'Keswick Fringe' festival, to be brought to a future meeting of this Committee.

24. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Friday 16 September at 12.00pm.

The meeting ended at 2.27 p.m.

Chairman

Date