

Civic Working Party

Date: Thursday, 15 August 2013

Time: 10:00

Venue: Council Chamber

Address: Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2QF

Attendees: Mr John Burroughs (Member), Mr Barry Coleman (Member), Mrs Sylvia Pratt (Member), Mrs Colleen Walker (Member)

Apologies for Absence: Mrs Marlene Fairhead (Member)

Absent: No Members Absent

Also in attendance at the above meeting were:

Chris Moore (St Georges Theatre), Ian Hampshire (Army Cadets), Paul Williams (Royal British Legion), Irene Williams (Royal British Legion), Paul Davies (Great Yarmouth Minster Preservation Trust), Colin Tooke (Local Historian), Alan Carr (Tourism - Great Yarmouth Borough Council), Robin Hodds (Cabinet Secretary - Great Yarmouth Borough Council), Laura Goodman (Civic Events Officer), David Wildes (Press Officer - Great Yarmouth Borough Council) and Karline Smith (Senior Member Services Officer).

Minutes

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Winterton Marine Cadets.

2 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest given

3 Events for 2014

Councillor C Walker welcomed everyone to the meeting. She reported that the Council would like to hold a Civic Service on 3 August 2014 and as Norfolk County Council do not currently have any plans for commemorating WW1 it was hoped that a joint event could be arranged which would save money.

It was suggested that Ken from the Gorleston Pavillion Theatre be invited to the next meeting as in 2011 they had been happy to stage a show called "Happy as a Sandbag" which had been very popular.

Councillor B Coleman stated that the group needed to think if a concert was an appropriate way to commemorate WW1 as there may be more appropriate things that could be carried out and that this would be over a four year period and not just next year.

The British Legion reported that in conjunction with Pannel Kerr Forster they were arranging a Centenary Ball for Saturday 4 August 2014 at the Zest Room, Potters and that there would be 250 tickets on sale.

The Lions had approached Great Yarmouth Borough Council to inform them that they would like to put an event on at St Geroges Theatre and the Council had stated that they would like to be involved in this as a joint event.

Dr P Davies stated that the Minster would like to hold an event with display boards on WW1 in the Church.

Colin Tooke stated that he was writing a book on the War in Great Yarmouth and that this would be launched on 4 August 2014.

It was suggested that Margaret Gooch be invited to the next meeting as she may be able to help with getting a tank or a submarine to come to Great Yarmouth.

Dr P Davies reported that Harry Cator was a holder of the Victoria Cross and had lived in Great Yarmouth with his in-laws and could this be noted in some way. Robin Hodds reported that the DCLG were were funding a scheme for paving for the towns that had residents that were holders of the Victoria Cross and they had Harry Cator listed under Drayton as this is where he was born. The committee asked Robin Hodds to write to DCLG to see if they would still fund Great Yarmouth as he had lived here with his in-laws for some time.

Cllr B Coleman asked if the Council could fund students in going to Northern France to the War Cemeteries.

Dr P Davies spoke of the two World War Memorials in storage at the Nelson School and St Georges and that Great Yarmouth Borough Council had applied for half of the funding to repair these, however, they needed to find £750 to pay for the remaining cost. He suggested that this could involve a ceremony when installing these and it was agreed that Laura Goodman would speak to the Conservation Officer about the exact location of the memorials.

Another suggestion was to encourage town centre shops to have 1914 style window displays and offer a prize for the best dressed, which the Council Press Officer could advertise.

It was also suggested that talks on the Submarine Base and the Navy base in conjunction with Time and Tide Museum be held and that James Steward should be invited to future meetings.

It was also agreed that future meetings would be held bi-monthly.

4

Any other business

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 15 October 2013 at 10.00 am.

The Meeting ended at: 10:43