

15 FEB 2018

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

REFER
AGENDA ITEM
7i EI

Report from the Xmas Lights Working Party Held at 7pm on Wednesday 17th January 2018 in the Town Council Offices

Members Present: Cllrs A Crowe (Chair), M Eager (note taker) and E Fieldhouse.
Also Clive Jupp. Chris Hill (electrician), Alison Thomas & Brenda Hill

Apologies: None Received

1. Report of meeting 22nd November 2017 was confirmed as a verbal recollection of actions.

2. Review of 2017 Switch-on:

- i Email from Looby Lou discussed, concerns raised as to fewer face painting customers, not being in usual place and comments from parents about losing place in queue were taken on board and restore original placement this year.
- ii General agreement that the Santa Grotto, entertainment and time scale was about right though agreed that further debate re length and switch-on time to be discussed at future meeting. Discussion on presents and numbers of children with indications that there may have been fewer children though final figures to be collated.
Lantern making in the Market House did not quite go to plan (access and signage issues) and suggested booking Burgage Hall this year, to be discussed further.
Signage for all activities was discussed as seemed to be lacking this event. Switch-on for 2018 was agreed for Saturday 24th November though switch-on time and finish to be decided at future meeting.
Comments on LIB tubs not emptied & flags (fire brigade) still to be taken down.
- iii Funding similar to 2017, collection boxes still circulation, Alison & Annette to arrange collection, also Alison will place a Call for Volunteers poster (joint carnival/Xmas lights) in her window as concerns were raised re to few people do majority of work on the day. Ideas included using social media to highlight a need for volunteers on the day.
- iv Publicity – Future meeting.

Recommendation: That Saturday 24th November 2018 is Switch-on day. (timings to be decided).

Action: All comments and concerns as raised to be taken to future Working Party meetings.

3. 2018 Lighting Quotes:

Elaine & Martin had met with representatives from Gala & Lite Ltd both had submitted quotes along with existing contractor Festive Lighting.

Members not impressed (past and ongoing issues) with Festive Lights, Annette & Martin had met with representatives from Gala & Lite and indicated their preference to a more professional presentation from Lite. Both Companies had submitted similar quotes and

after discussion and perusal of proposed schemes and options it was agreed that the Lite Ltd Company was the preferred supplier for the next three years as they offered a competitive quote with knowledgeable additional details regarding current regulations for fixings etc. and with the option to change the fittings every year at no additional cost.

Members considered various lighting schemes including bringing back coloured light strings. There was some confusion regarding ownership of lights around Market House and Church Lane but members agreed on a general themed lighting plan for 2018. Members discussed additional lighting of the bushes in The Alms Houses, the coloured lights on the Xmas Tree and issues re Tree connection in the Market House.

Recommendation: That the Lite Ltd are chosen as the preferred Christmas Lights supplier for 2018/19/20.

Action: Martin & Elaine will meet (following day) with Tracey and establish ownership of lights around Market House and along Church Street.
and then.....
To ask Tracey to contact the Lite Ltd to request a further quote based on the (Archimedes Icicles) coloured lighting scheme with additional lighting on the Alms Houses.

4. Xmas Tree & Market House:

Xmas Tree lights discussed in depth with Chris Hill updating members as to circumstances of why original lights were replaced with his own lights and several strings purchased from a local DIY store. Confusion as to where original (faulty) and new lights are and who took them down...

Members felt that Christmas Tree was a little disappointing in quality, decision that different source and early booking required this year.

Further discussion with Chris Hill offering (subject to formal & detailed confirmation) to purchase/sponsor and erect (with help) the Xmas Tree, supply and install coloured Xmas Tree lights, install LTC owned lights in Church Lane and, remove and store & test said lights prior to installation the following year.

Recommendation: That LTC take up the offers made by Chris Hill subject to confirmation of ownership of fittings and further discussion with Chris re the offer as detailed above.

Recommendation: That the Xmas Lights have an independent electrical safety check (especially the Market House) following installation.

Meeting Closed 8.35 pm

Next Meeting - Wednesday 28th February 2018 starting 7pm.