



## **NORTHAMPTON TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Community Services Meeting – 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**To: Members of the Community Services Committee:**

Councillors Birch (Chair), Holland-Delamere (Deputy Chair), Ashraf, G Eales, T Eales, Hallam, Hibbert, Ismail, Lane, Marriott, Miah and Soan

**You are summoned to attend the meeting of Community Services Group of Northampton Town Council to be held via Zoom Video Conferencing platform on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 18.00**

**The meeting will be streamed live via the Town Council's YouTube channel**

This committee meeting is open to the public and press to attend and those attending the meeting shall be informed that it is being recorded. Public participation is in accordance with the Town Council's public participation policy. Members of the public wishing to take part or ask a question of the committee are required to contact the Town Clerk in advance.

Cc'd electronically to all other councillors for information

**Stuart Carter  
Interim Town Clerk  
15<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**Guildhall  
Northampton  
NN1 1DE**

### **A G E N D A**

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Declarations of Interest**
- 3. To authorise the Chair to sign the minutes of the last meetings and ask questions as to the progress of any items:**
  - a) 21 June 2021 (not attached – sent out with Council agenda 19<sup>th</sup> July)
  - b) 18<sup>th</sup> August 2021 (Extraordinary meeting) – attached (p 3)
- 4. To receive the minutes of the Grants Sub-Committee meeting held 13 September 2021 for consideration and adoption of its recommendations (attached p 5 – 7)**

**5. Events Update**

Administration Officer's report attached (p 9 – 10)

**6. Christmas Events**

Administration Officer's report attached (p 11 – 13)

**7. Proposed events to mark Eid**

Covering report attached (p 15)

**8. The Knife Angel & National Educational Anti-Violence Tour – visit to Northampton in May 2022**

Background information attached (p 17) – Cllr Holland-Delamere to give a verbal report

**9. Covid Memorial Update**

Verbal update to be given

**NORTHAMPTON TOWN COUNCIL  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

*This is a record of decisions taken by the Town Clerk in accordance with the authority delegated to him by the Council at its meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021. All decisions were taken having consulted remotely by Zoom members of the Environmental Services Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and were in accordance with the views of those members.*

**Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held at 17.00 on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2021  
via Zoom Video Conferencing Platform  
and live streamed on the Town Council's YouTube channel**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Birch (chair), Cllr Holland-Delamere, Cllr Ashraf, Cllr Lane, Cllr Ismail, Cllr Marriott and Cllr Miah

In attendance: Mr S Carter (Interim Town Clerk), Mrs J Thorneycroft (Administration Officer)

The Chair welcomed councillors to the meeting, explaining that it was likely to be short given that they were there to scrutinise and if in agreement adopt the recommendations of the Grants Sub Committee meeting. Some of the applications were time sensitive which was why an extraordinary meeting of this committee had been called.

**8. APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been submitted by Cllr Hibbert, Cllr T Eales and G Eales.

**9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Holland-Delamere declared a non-pecuniary interest in the minutes of the Grants Sub-Committee since two of the applications were from his allocation of Councillor Grants funding.

**10. TO RECEIVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE MINUTES OF THE GRANTS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 3 AUGUST 2021**

The Minutes of the Grants Sub Committee were circulated with the agenda for comment and for their recommendations to be approved.

**RESOLVED:** That the recommendations contained within the minutes of the Grants Sub-Committee and as attached as an appendix to these minutes be approved.

The meeting closed at 17.10

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**Northampton Town Council  
Grants Sub-Committee**

*This is a record of decisions taken by the Town Clerk in accordance with the authority delegated to him by the Council at its meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021. All decisions were taken having consulted remotely by Zoom the members of the Grants Sub-Committee on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021 and were in accordance with the views of those members.*

**Minutes of the meeting held at 11.00 am on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
Using the Zoom Video Conferencing Platform**

**Present:** Cllrs Birch (Chair), Holland-Delamere and Hibbert

Also present: Cllr Soan

**Officers:** Mr S Carter (Interim Town Clerk) and Mrs J Thorneycroft (Administration Officer)

**6. APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been submitted by Cllr Lane.

**7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Holland-Delamere declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Councillor Grant applications (a) and (b) Community Spaces Northampton and Emmanuel Group of Churches as he had endorsed them and they were to come from his councillor grant funding and (c) Emmanuel Group of Churches (second application) as he was a Trustee of the organisation. Cllr Holland-Delamere took no part in the deliberations of the applications (a) and (b).

Cllr Birch declared a non-pecuniary interest in application (d) to the Councillors Grant Scheme, little Fishes Pre-School since they were based in Lodge Farm Community Centre, and she was a Trustee of the organisation which managed the Community Centres.

**8. GRANT APPLICATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY GENERAL FUND FOR THIS FINANCIAL YEAR**

The members of the Sub-Committee considered each application and the supporting information included in the agenda. It was noted that the grant awards could be made in accordance with the General Power of Competence which the Council held. It was noted that the budget heading for Community Grants had £50,000 in the present financial year of which £7,325 had been allocated at the previous meeting leaving £42,675.

**RECOMMENDED:** that the decisions as detailed in the table below are taken to the next meeting of the Community Services Committee for adoption.

Name of Organisation & brief description of project	Total grant requested (£)	Outcome of Sub-Committee	Comments
Northampton & District Indoor Bowling Association – Purchase of tow powered bowls wheelchairs	£5,000	Agreed	Subject to confirmation of the price of the wheelchairs from the applicant
Pearls of Peace – Coffee mornings, yoga provision, support for women	£2,500	Agreed	
Sport4Fitness CIC – Installation of enhanced toilets at Fernie Sports and Social Club	£3,685	Agreed	
St Edmunds Residents Association – Installation of 2 planters to be sited at fly tipping hotspots at Cranstoun Street and Hood Street	£2,382	*Agreed	*Commented that this was below £2,500 and for one ward and would be better suited coming from the Councillors Grant Scheme. Agreed to fund if the Castle ward councillors agreed that the funding be allocated from their grant allocation

*\*Clerk's note: The Castle Ward councillors have agreed to fund the St Edmunds Residents Association application from their Cllr community grants allocation.*

## 9. GRANT APPLICATIONS TO THE COUNCILLORS COMMUNITY FUND

The members of the Sub-Committee considered each application and the supporting information included in the agenda. It was noted that as with the General Grants the awards could be made in accordance with the General Power of Competence which the Council held. It was noted that the budget heading for the Councillors Community Fund was £75,000 (£3,000 per councillor) in the present financial year increasing to £4,200 per councillor for those who had opted not to take their allowance.

**RECOMMENDED:** that the decisions as detailed in the table below are taken to the next meeting of the Community Services Committee for adoption.

Name of Organisation and brief description of project	Nominating Councillor	Councillor Ward	Total grant requested (£)	Outcome of Sub-Committee	Comments
Community Space Northampton – Family Fun Day	Cllr Holland-Delamere	Rectory Farm	£650	Agreed	
Emmanuel Group of Churches – Rzone youth project	Cllr Holland-Delamere	Rectory Farm	£511	Agreed	
Emmanuel Group of Churches - Fun and Food in School	Cllr Meredith	Talavera	£300	Agreed	It was noted that they run the lunch club at half term

Holidays (FISH) Lunch Club					and other school holidays, not just summer
Little Fishes Pre School – Replacement toys following arson of shed	Cllr Choudary	Brookside	£500	Agreed	It was noted that the pre-school were working with WNC to enhance security
Radio Nene Valley - New equipment for the hospital radio station	Cllr Soan	Rushmills	£320	Agreed	Cllr Soan explained that the station is entirely volunteer led and that this would funding would buy a new CD player to enable DJs to play songs that were not in their digital catalogue
Emma Rice and WEJ Knight Almshouses – Contribution of Quinquennial inspection of Almshouses	Cllr Stevens	Phippsville	£1335	Clarity sought before formal approval	Clarity was sought on whether the applicant had a contract with NPH that would mean they were obliged to use their contractors regardless, therefore rendering the inspection pointless. If the contract permitted the applicant to choose the contractors, then the committee were minded to approve the request.
Eastfields Residents Association –Repair of community noticeboard	Cllr Joyce	Eastfield	£150	Agreed	
Aliston Gardens Youth and Community Centre – Relaunch event following the pandemic	Cllr Marriott	Semilong	£550	Agreed	

## 10. FURTHER INFORMATION ON DEFERRED APPLICATION FOR FAWN

Circulated with the agenda was the response from FAWN following the different of a decision on their application to the general grant fund for £7,500.

The committee considered the responses and were of the opinion that funding for the logistics of this project were not necessarily within the remit of the Town Council's grant fund policy. However, they recognised that they did important work in supporting food banks in the area.

**RECOMMENDED:** That an award of £2,500 be made to FAWN for this project as a gesture and in recognition of the work they do in Northampton.

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**Northampton Town Council**  
**Community Services Committee**

**Update on events – report of Administration Officer**

**Purpose of report:** To update the committee on the events taking place in Northampton.

**Recommended:** It is recommended that the committee note the report.

**Background**

At the time of writing, WNC were continuing to take the lead on events with some input from NTC officers. The budget is yet to be transferred from WNC, though the Heads of Terms for this have been agreed. We are awaiting WNC's legal team. The Leader and Town Clerk have sought clarity from WNC about the budgets and what is being spent on each event, in real time.

**Northampton in Bloom**

Progress on this project is reported through the Environmental Committee.

**Bands in the Park – Abington Park – Sunday afternoons throughout the Summer**

The majority of the booked bands were able to perform however 2 bands had to cancel in September due to band members having to self-isolate.

**Party in the Park – Abington Park**

27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> August (12:00 – 11.00pm)

WNC (NTC) events funding supported the stage, pa, lighting and waste collections /removal for the event. No additional NTC funding was provided.

This was the first year for this event and was a success with many visitors expressing positive comments through various social media outlets. No additional NTC funding was allocated to this event.

**NMF21**

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September a very successful event took place offering 6 stages across the town centre, the date for NMF22 has been confirmed as **19<sup>th</sup> June 2022**.

£10,000 allocated to this event out of the WNC (NTC) events budget.

NTC were pleased to be able to support this event with a grant of £5,000 from the Community General Fund, the monies funded additional pop up stages and promotional costs.

**Pride LGBTQ**

12<sup>th</sup> September, Market Square (11.00am - 4.00pm)

Parade, performers and entertainment. The WNC (NTC) event funding provides support for this event. No additional NTC funding has been allocated on this occasion.

**Beer Festival**

Beckets Park - 9<sup>th</sup>- 11<sup>th</sup> September (11.00am – 11.00pm)

The annual beer festival at Beckets Park receives funding from the WNC (NTC) events budget which is being transferred to NTC. The funding covers the provision of the stage, pa, lighting and the waste collection and removal. No addition NTC funding has been given to this event.

### **Diwali Light Celebration**

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October, Market Square (3.00pm – 8.00pm)

21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of this event - Stage, invited guests

Schools involvement, Lantern making Workshops, Light Parade (circular route around the town centre) at 6pm – a rolling road closure is in place

Event led by IHWO Northampton with partners WNC and NTC

WNC (NTC) events budget support the event with regard to the stage, pa, lighting, traffic management and security / stewards.

### **Fireworks Event –**

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November, Northampton Racecourse

4:30pm – Entertainment

6.00pm – Fireworks

Fireworks, stage, stage crew, security, sound system, children’s entertainment etc. booked

NTC additional funding of £7500 was added to this existing WNC event funding (agreed at NTC Executive Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> April).

The additional Firework enhancement funding included extending the firework display content (bigger bangs) to provide a more spectacular finale - £5000

Plus 2 x additional LED Screens and sound - cost £2440

Total additional spend = **£7440**

### **Remembrance Parade – Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November**

Parade and All Saints Church Service.

The parade of armed forces (cadets, serving and retired) will marshal-up on the Market Square for a 9.30am parade down to All Saints.

The Church Service will begin at 10.00am in All Saints Church with the ceremony finishing in the memorial garden for the two minutes' silence at 11.00am followed by the wreath laying.

The parade will then march around All Saints, along St Giles Square where the formal salute will take place outside the Guildhall with the Lord Lieutenant and the Mayor, after which the parade will move along St Giles Street, into Fish Street and finish in Abington Street.

WNC (NTC) event funding is provided to cover various costs including all traffic management requirements, pa systems, marketing etc.

### **Christmas Plans 2021**

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November– Christmas Lights Switch On – please see separate report.

All events plus other local events are promoted through NTC website and our social media channels.

**Northampton Town Council**  
**Community Services Committee**

**Proposed enhancement to Christmas Activities – report of Administration Officer**

**Purpose of report:** To update the committee on the current position with regards to the Christmas plans in Northampton

**Recommended:** It is recommended that in order to support the existing Northampton 2021 Christmas plans and to work with partners (WNC, Northampton BID, theatres and Grosvenor Centre) to encourage visitors to the town centre that NTC provide additional street entertainment throughout the Saturdays in December and introduce a Christmas Augmented Reality Trail (see details below).

**Background**

The shadow Council agreed a budget of £15,000 to enhance Christmas events in 2021. The original minute proposed free standing illuminated attractions, a moving light show on the Guildhall (subject to consent of WNC), and additional street entertainers in the lead up to Christmas. These options have been looked at further in conjunction with WNC and the Northampton BiD, the details of which are covered in the Enhancement section.

**Christmas 2021 - Key Dates and activities**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November– Christmas Lights Switch On**

Times: 11 - 5:30pm

Stage and activities on Market Square

Local Pantomime Stars – R&D and Deco

4 x 40-ft spruce trees Market Square, St Giles Square, All Saints Plaza, Abington Square and 2 x 14-ft spruce trees outside the Guildhall (all trees to be installed Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November).

200 small Christmas trees in the business hanging basket brackets at various business premises on the Wellingborough Road and around the town centre.

The 2021 Christmas Lights will be the same as previous years which includes decorations in the Town Centre, Wellingborough Road and St Leonards Road.

As in previous years the lights on the Market square and Guildhall will be installed prior to 30<sup>th</sup> October to enable switch on of these lights as part of Diwali 2021 celebrations. These will be switched off after Diwali and back on with the rest of the Christmas lights on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November.

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November – Frost Fair – Market Square**

Times 11 – 4pm

Christmas parade provided by Festive Road (traditional theme

Stage entertainment on the Market Square

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Family Activity 11 – 3pm**

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Family Activity 11 – 3pm**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Family Activity 11 – 3pm**

**Northampton Town Centre BID**

- The annual Golden Ticket competition will be launched at the town Fireworks event, there will be 14 post boxes around the town from Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Nov – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December. 4 x £500 prizes, Prize draw to be held on Sat 11<sup>th</sup> December
- Christmas Shop Window competition
- Shop Local showcase online
- Looking to provide a Santa’s Grotto on Market Sq. on Lights Switch On day plus 2 x roaming characters
- The BID manager is speaking to WNC regarding the possibility of free parking – TBC
- Considering a late night shopping event on 16<sup>th</sup> December depending on the outcome of consultation with local businesses, BID would provide a Snow Globe photo opportunity on the Market Square.

#### **Enhancements to activities – NTC – additional budget £15,000**

1. **Illuminated display** - Christmas Sleigh (St Albans) or illuminated Arch (Leighton Buzzard)  
These could be in place for a day, week or the whole Christmas period and provide photo opportunities. **Please note** overnight security costs could be an issue if displays are positioned outdoors, the illuminated display would need to be near a power source and installed in a way that they cannot be climbed on etc.
2. **Illuminated buildings** – considerations include timings, which buildings and what is our audience? Some buildings i.e. the Guildhall and All Saints are already lit up for Christmas. The lighting is not visible during the daytime when we need to encourage families to come in and support local retailers. Will people make a trip into town just to see a building that has been lit up, does this appeal to families?
3. **Provision of additional ‘family street entertainment’ around the town** centre on the weekends of Christmas activity in December. As part of the existing Christmas activities roving street entertainers could “pop up” in places other than the main shopping streets and encourage people to explore the whole of the town. This offers a broad brush approach and introduces people to new areas and shops they may not have visited before. Cost approx. £10,000 to be spread across the Christmas family activity days throughout December.
4. **Introduce a Christmas themed Augmented Reality Family Trail**  
The Augmented Reality Trail is a new digital activity that leads families on a journey around the town in search of different locations, markers are identified where animated characters’ pop up. Visitors are prompted to open the camera on their device and scan the area to locate and be photographed with one of 10 friendly augmented reality themed characters lurking in the streets of the town centre. Interesting fun facts or part of a story will also be revealed. Self-led trails such as this one are an engaging, and fun experience that encourage families to come into the town centre.

Previous trails held in Northampton include A Walk in the Park, the Northampton Museum & Art Gallery Shoe Gallery and the Dino Trail have been well received. All trails have been promoted through the **Explore Northampton App** which has seen over 1,500 downloads in total since the release in Dec 2020, (Installs on Android: 608 and Installs on iOS: 954).

NBC, Northampton Museum and the BID have worked with local business, AR Media to provide their AR Trails. AR media have quoted a cost of approx. £5,000 to create a story based augmented trail which could be promoted alongside the other Northampton trails via the Explore Northampton App.

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**Northampton Town Council**  
**Community Services Committee**

**Request for the Council to add facilitate two Eid events in 2022**

**Purpose of report:** To advise the committee of a request from councillors to support two Eid events in 2022

**Recommended:** It is recommended that the Committee support in principle the idea of events to mark Eid and that this be taken forward when considering budgeting in the coming months.

**Background**

The Castle Ward councillors have requested that the council consider financially supporting two events to mark Eid.

They have summarised it as follows:

*Request for the Town Council to put on two Eid events annually (season and weather permitting).*

*The purpose: -*

*The Muslim community is very diverse and this is an opportunity to bring everyone together. In these difficult times, especially for our Afghan brothers and sisters, it is ever more important to attend to the well-being of all the community.*

*This will help the families feel valued and respected.*

*The events will cater for families and children.*

*The events will include:-*

<i>Bouncy Castles</i>	<i>500</i>
<i>Funfair</i>	<i>3600</i>
<i>Food Stalls in a Marquee</i>	<i>500</i>
<i>Sweet Stalls in a Marquee</i>	<i>500</i>
<i>Staged entertainment- A Nasheed Choir, Live music</i>	<i>1200</i>
<i>Security</i>	<i>1000</i>
<i>Staff time</i>	<i>1000</i>
	<i>£ 8300</i>

Proposed by Cllrs Enam Haque, Fartun Ismail, Jamal Alwahabi.

The Committee will be looking at their budget in the coming months and can build this into that process. Costings and an event plan would need to be established and also what level of support the Council can provide beyond financial. As explained previously the Council are still working with WNC on the events budget and how it works. This could be an event that the Council could engage Stage Right Productions (current events support contractors for WNC) in assisting with.

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### **Knife Angel Background**

It is understood that the Knife Angel will be visiting Northampton in May 2022.

The sculpture, made from over 100,000 seized blades, was specifically created to highlight the negative effects of violent behaviour whilst solidifying our critical need for social change. Not only does the Angel act as a catalyst for turning the tide on violent and aggressive behaviour, but it is also acts as a beautiful memorial designed to celebrate those lives who have been lost through these violent and thoughtless actions.

Further information can be found at <https://www.britishironworkcentre.co.uk/show-areas/the-knife-angel-official>.

Cllr Holland-Delamere will give more detail on how the Town Council can be involved.