

NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Events Working Group held on Wednesday
02 March 2011 at 7.15 pm at the Town Council Cottage Newbiggin.**

PRESENT: Councillors: R Mc Cready (Chairperson)
L Anderson W Rogers

Officer: D Earl – Town Clerk

EWG01/10 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor M Kirkup.

EWG02/10 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON

RESOLVED that Councillor R McCready be appointed Chairperson.

The Chairperson outlined the purpose of the Group to commission and coordinate a programme of events in the town particularly throughout the summer months. Delegated powers had been given by the Town Council so that early progress could be made and following discussions with Blyth Valley Arts and Leisure (BVAL) a proposal for a range of activities had been provided.

A number of key events from the opening of the Maritime Heritage Centre; European Power Lifting Championships; RNLI; Literary/Book Festival; Triathlon would all take place in the town and it was hoped in addition to the programme of Farmers' Markets some supplementary events could take place to improve the visitor attraction to the town.

EWG03/10 SPORT AND ACTIVITY EVENTS

Members considered the range of options for delivery of sport and activity events for children to be provided by BVAL both throughout the year in the community and during school holiday periods.

It was felt important to provide activities throughout the year and to link with other events and organisations in the town to maximise benefits and promotion as well as support high profile events.

RESOLVED that the following events be commissioned from Blyth Valley Arts and Leisure Limited within the 2011/12 budget:

(1) Community Sessions including a range of sports for 6-10 year olds and 11-16 year olds at the Sports Centre and at Multi Use games Areas during the summer at a cost of £3,120;

(2) A school holiday activity programme providing a minimum of five

sessions over eleven weeks (excluding Christmas) linked to the community sessions and provided at Central Park; Newbiggin Promenade; Newbiggin Beach; Spital Burn; Spital Estate at a cost of £2,200;

(3) Events to support the two Triathlon weekends in July and September and to include other partners and organisations at a cost of £1,000;

(4) An Inclusion Programme targeted at children riding pedal cycles ten weeks of activities at a cost of £600.

EW04/10 SUMMER EVENTS PROGRAMME

It had been recognized that it would be important to go ahead with an events leaflet that would advertise tourist-based events throughout the summer. Distribution by the first May bank holiday weekend/Royal wedding was the agreed deadline to have a reasonable number of events to publicized and include specific groups such as the Arts Forum, Maritime Heritage Centre, RNLI, St Bartholomew's Fayre, NCC music festivals.

Arrangements were progressing well with the Northumberland Church of England Academy; BVAL; the Library and Arts Forum for a programme of literary events surrounding the Book Festival on 18 June with the school children already working towards the conclusion of the story writing competition.

Members felt that the leaflet should be professionally produced and printed and contact would be made with the Ashington Technical College and a good news article in the News Post Leader to invite a volunteer to create the leaflet. This could provide a valuable work experience/portfolio enhancement/voluntary work opportunity for which expenses could be provided.

The following deadlines were agreed:

16th March - Respondants from adverts to express interest. Dates and events for diary confirmed.

21st March - Decision on person doing design work. Final copy deadline.

11th April - Leaflet to be designed by.

14th April - Leaflet to printers.

28th April - Leaflet from printers, for distribution from this weekend onwards.

RESOLVED that an Events Leaflet be produced as outlined above.

Signed by the Chairperson:

Date:.....