



**THE TOWN COUNCIL
OF
ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA**
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ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA
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ROBERT NASH ACIS DMS
Clerk to the Town Council

15th November, 2013

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee will be held in Meeting Room 5 at the Town Hall, Parade, Royal Leamington Spa on **THURSDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2013 commencing at 6.30 pm.**

The business will be as set out below.

Yours faithfully,

Clerk to the Town Council

To:- Councillors H. Calver, J. Clarke, R. Copping, G. Dulay, S. Ingleby, Y. Moore, Mota Singh and A. Stevens.

Mr J. Mather (Leamington International Twinning Society)

(All other Members of the Town Council – Agenda for information only)

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members are invited to declare any interest they may have in an item identified for discussion at the Meeting.

3. **PUBLIC FORUM**

To receive representations from Members of the public in accordance with Council Standing Orders, including:-

(i) **Community Arts Workshop**

Francis Godwin, Artist and Creative Community Worker, will attend the meeting and provide a progress report on the development of CAW since its relocation to the Westbury Centre.

(ii) Saturday Friendship Group

The Meeting will be attended by representatives of the Saturday Friendship Group who will outline latest developments and work undertaken with the help of the grant funding awarded by the Town Council in 2012.

4. TOWN TWINNING MATTERS

(i) Bruhl

To consider the following:-

- (a) Arrangements for the visit to Leamington of a delegation from Bruhl on 5th September 2014; and
- (b) To consider a possible location for the bench presented to the Town by Bruhl at the anniversary celebrations in October 2013.

(ii) Other Twinning matters

To consider other Twinning matters arising including progress in relation to promoting links with other key partners in the Town and District.

Members of Leamington Twinning Society are in attendance for these items.

5. MINUTES

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee held on 10th October 2013 (Report No. 5)

6. BLUE PLAQUE UNVEILINGS

To note the success of the recent unveiling of three plaques and consider preferences for a further plaque funded by the Town Council in 2014. (list of potential Candidates enclosed)

7. Community Grants Applications

To receive and consider Monitoring Forms in relation to grants awarded in 2012/13:-

- (i) Friends of the Dell
- (ii) Shree Krishna Community Centre
- (iii) St Mary's Allotment Association
- (iv) Heritage Matters
- (v) Lillington Community Fun Day

(Monitoring Forms in relation to these applications will be circulated to Members by email)

8. LILLINGTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

To consider correspondence from Lillington Local History Society (Report No.8)

9. LEAMINGTON WALKING TOURS 2013

To consider the attached Report (Report No.9)

REPORT No. 5

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CULTURAL & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
HELD ON 10 OCTOBER 2013

Present: Councillors Sue Ingleby (Chair), Heather Calver, Roger Copping, Gurpreet Dulay, Mota Singh, Amanda Stevens and Yvonne Moore

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Judith Clarke.

In attendance: Mr John Mather and Mr Peter Cantlay (Leamington International Twinning Society)

17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Declarations of Interest were made:-

Councillor R. Copping declared a personal interest in Community Grant Report No.6 in relation to the application by Telford Junior School PTA and a disclosable pecuniary interest in the application by Older People in Action.

Councillor Mota Singh declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in Community Grant Report No. 6 in relation to an application by Sydenham Neighbourhood Initiatives.

Councillor H. Calver declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in Community Grant Report No. 6 in relation to the application by Armonico Consort.

18. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

19. TOWN TWINNING MATTERS

(i) Bruhl 40th Anniversary Celebrations

Mr Mather summarised the outcome of the recent Anniversary celebrations at Bruhl which had been attended by members of Leamington Twinning Society, Town Councillors, past Mayors and representatives of both Myton and Trinity Schools.

He commended the Town Council for its support both in terms of attendance of members and the support received from the Town Clerk and Council staff which had helped to make the occasion an unqualified success. Mr Mather also read copies of letters he had sent to the Chairman of the Bruhl Twinning Society and the Town Clerk together with a letter to the Head Teacher of Myton School with regard to the contribution made by members of the school who had performed at a musical concert and which had drawn considerable appreciation from the hosts. Mr Mather then outlined four key measures which had been agreed following the various discussion groups at Bruhl as a means of promoting twinning activity in the future:

- (i) Councillor Mota Singh would approach both Warwickshire County Council and Warwick District Council to encourage the authorities participation and support in relation to future twinning activity;

Cultural & Community Meeting – 10 October 2013

- (ii) District Councillor Goode would act as a local champion linking local organisations such as scouts, guides and statutory bodies including police and fire, to the opportunities arising from exchange visits;
- (iii) Opportunities would be taken to strengthen links between families in Germany and England, particularly via contacts with the schools and colleges;
- (iv) Stephanie Kerr of Leamington Business Improvement District had agreed to assist in identifying organisations in the business sector that might assist with two-week work experience programmes.

The Committee thanked Mr Mather for his diligence and the contribution that LITS had made to the Twinning Anniversary and looked forward to progressing the various action points which had been identified.

RESOLVED that progress in relation to the action points identified at Bruhl is monitored and reported at future meetings of the Committee.

(ii) Other Twinning Matters

Mr Mather advised on key dates occurring in respect of twinning activity over the next twelve months which included:

- 4-8 April 2014: Twinning exchange to Sceaux
- 6-9 June 2014: Twinning exchange to Bruhl 50th Anniversary partnership between Bruhl and Sceaux
- 19-23 June 2014: Twinning exchange to Heemstede
- 5-9 September 2014: Twinning exchange from Bruhl to Leamington

The Committee noted these dates.

Following this item Mr Mather and Mr Cantlay left the meeting.

20. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Cultural & Community Meeting held on 11 July 2013 are approved and signed as a correct record.

21. COMMUNITY GRANTS

Consideration was given to a report (Report No. 6) setting out the applications for assistance within the Community Grants Fund 2013-14.

Having considered the applications, including background papers, it was

RESOLVED that the following grants are awarded:

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No.	Organisation	Project Title	Awarded
1	Telford Junior School Parents Association	Library and Learning Resource Centre	£2,000
2	Motionhouse	Motionhouse Junior	£1,605
3	Warwickshire Association for the Blind	Leamington Spa VIP Club	£1,100
4	Saturday Friendship Group	Saturday Friendship Group	£2,000
5	Older People in Action	New Year - New You	£1,000
6	Asian Elderly Men's Group	Kitchen Refurbishment	£500
7	Brunswick Healthy Living Centre	Community Welfare Access Project	£2,000
8	Elderly Women's Group	Womens' & Young Peoples' Health & Multicultural Event.	£1,000
9	Rotary Club of RLS	Life Education for Schools	£1,000
10	Armonico Consort	Musical Development & Performance workshops at Round Oak school	£1,500
11	Relate Warwickshire	Moving on, Moving Forward	£1,722
12	Brunswick Elderly Asian Men's Group	Entertainment Equipment	£400
13	Sydenham Neighbourhood Initiatives	50 years of Sydenham	£2,000
14	BABPA	Diwali Lights	£2,000
15	Life community Church	Parents & Toddlers Group	£0
		Total awarded	£19,827

Note: In accordance with the Council’s Code of Conduct the following members of the Committee declared disclosable pecuniary interests and left the meeting in each case:

Application No.	Applicant	Councillor	Nature of Interest
5	Older People in Action	Roger Copping	Trustee of Older People in Action
10	Armonico Consort	Heather Calver	Governor of Round Oak School
13	Sydenham Neighbourhood Initiatives	Mota Singh	Trustee of Sydenham Neighbourhood Initiatives

22. TREE RENEWAL

Consideration was given to a report (Report No. 7), a copy of which was circulated at the meeting and is attached to the signed Minutes.

The Committee endorsed the various locations suggested for new trees and approved these for further investigation by the relevant officer at Warwickshire County Council.

It was noted that in 2012 a request had been made to consider trees along the verge in Villiers Street and, if possible, this location should be looked at once again this year.

RESOLVED that the schedule of proposed trees for planting in 2014 is approved for further consideration together with a suitable location at Villiers Street.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and ended at 8.45pm

Chairman

Date

APPROVED BLUE PLAQUE CANDIDATES IN ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA

AMEY, William (5.3.1881-28.5.1940)	VC, MM	Born: Aston, Birmingham Lived: 13 Willes Road, Leamington Spa Died: Warneford Hospital, Leamington Spa Buried: All Saint's Churchyard
BURGESS, John (1813-11.6.1874)	Artist	Born: London Lived: 32 Regent Street (1839-?) 6 Upper Parade Wellington House, Grove Street (?-1874)
CROWLEY, Aleister (12.10.1875-1.12.1947)	Occultist/mountaineer/ Philosopher/writer/mystic	Born : 30 Clarendon Square
GERE Charles	Artist and Designer	Born Gloucestershire lived at 2 Willes Terrace 1893
LOCKHART, Sam (1851-1933)	Elephant Trainer	Lived : 1 Warwick New Road
ROBINSON, Henry Peach	Photographic pioneer	Studios at 15/16 Parade
SPILSBURY, Sir Bernard (16.5.1877-17.12.1947)	Pathologist	Born: 35 Bath Street Died: London
THOMAS, William (1799-26.12.1860)	Architect	Born: Suffolk Lived: 81 Upper Holly Walk Died: Toronto, Canada
WICKES, SL Whittington	Illusionist	Born: 65 Avenue Road Died : 80? Radford Road Creative studio: The Cottage, 14 St. Mary's Road

LIST OF POSSIBLE PLAQUE CANDIDATES IN ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA

ALLWOOD, Job (?8.1835-?1903)	Survived Charge of the Light Brigade, Crimea Medal	Born: ? Radford Road Lived: 1 Upper Grove Street Stables, Oakfield House, Binswood Avenue 34 Moreton Street
AUGUSTA, Princess Vic.	Cousin to Queen Victoria	Stayed : 74 Parade

Report No. 6

BARRETT, John C.(Col) (10.8.1897-7.3.1977)	VC	Born: Leamington Spa Died: Leicester
BAX, Ernest Belfort (23.7.1854-26.11.1926)	Journalist/philosopher/ Marxist theorist	Born: 27 Clarendon Square Died: 204 Bedford Hill, Balham, London
BISSETT, James	Local note	Lived: 19 Bath Street
BROWNE, William Denis (3.11.1888-7.6.1915)	Composer/critic	Born: Lynwood, (111?) Lillington Road Died: Dardanelles (WWI)
CUNDALL, John (18.5.1830-4.4.1889)	Architect	Born: ?21 Regent Street Lived: Gower House, High Street Died: Gower House, High Street
DICKENSON, William B. (1800-1870)	Surgeon	Born: Hinckley Lived: 5 Lansdowne Circus (1841-1870) Died: 5 Lansdowne Circus
DOORLY, Eleanor (?-1950)	Writer of children's books	Born: Jamaica
DUGGINS, James Edward (1881-1968)	Artist and photographer	Born: 1881 Cubbington Died: 1968 at 23 Regent Grove (now 36/37 Regent Grove) Taught at The Boys' College, Binswood Avenue and The Art School, Leamington Photographic studio: The Grove Studio, 23 (now 36/37) Regent Grove
ENRIGHT, D.J. (11.3.1920-31.12.2002)	Academic/poet/novelist/critic	Born: 29 Camberwell Terrace Lived: 6 Church Terrace (?1923-1933), Prospect Road Died: Trinity Hospice, Clapham, London
FELL, John (?1848-?1926)	Mayor/ builder Built Leamington Town Hall Promoted the Tramway	Born: Leamington Lived: ?26 St. Mary's Crescent Hollyhurst, Holly Walk
GOODFELLOW, Charles A VC (Indian Mutiny) (29.11.1838-1.9.1915)		Born: Essex Lived: Avon View, Warwick New Road Buried: Leamington Spa Cemetery
HAVERGAL, Francis Ridley Hymn Writer (14.12.1836-3.6.1879)		Born: Astley, Worcestershire Lived: 37 Binswood Avenue Died: Wales

HILL, Robin (2.4.1899-15.3.1991)	Biochemist	Born: Normanhurst, Warwick New Road Died: Nursing Home, Cambridge
HOOPER, Mary Ann (1829-1904)	Prof of Domestic Economy	Born: 47 Bath Street Died: ? London
LODGE, Sir Oliver (12.6.1851-22.8.1940)	Physicist/writer	Born: Penkhull, Stoke on Trent Died: Lake, Wiltshire Lived: Lillington?
MATTHEWS, Denis (27.2.1919-25.12.1988)	Pianist/writer	Born: Coventry Lived: Woodville, Kenilworth Road
MAUDSLEY, Henry E (21.07.1921- 16.05.1943)	Dam Buster Pilot	Born Leamington Lived 1 Vicarage Road
MELLERS, Wilfrid (26.4.1914-17.5.2008)	Composer, writer	Born: Leamington Spa Died: ?
MULLEY, Fred (3.7.1918-15.3.1995)	Politician/Labour cabinet minister	Born: 42 Clemens Street Died: Sheffield
NEWMARCH, Rosa (18.12.1857- 9.4.1940)	Influential writer on music Poetess	Born: 29 Lansdowne Place, L/Spa Died: Worthing Lived: 60 South Parade, L/Spa
PAYNE, Jack (John) Wesley (22.8.1899-4.12.1969)	Bandleader	Born: 10 Church Street (site of) Died: Tonbridge, Kent
ROBINSON, Henry Peach (9.7.1830-21.2.1901)	Photographer	Born: Ludlow, Shropshire Died: Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent Studio: 15 & 16 Parade (?1855-1864)
SATCHWELL, Ben (3.1.1732-1.12.1810)	Postmaster/poet Promoter of the town	Born: ?Cottage corner of New Street, Died: ? “ “
SCHRODINGER, Erwin (12.8.1887-4.1.1961)	Physicist	Born: Vienna Died: Vienna Stayed: 14 Portland Place
SMITH, Evelyn (27.12.1885-22.3.1929)	Writer of children's books	Born: 21 Brunswick Street Died: ? Glasgow
TAUSKY, Vilem CBE (20.7.1910-16.3.2004)	Conductor	Born: Moravia – later Czechoslovakia Died: London Lived: The Parade as part of the Czech Free Army

Report No. 8

LILLINGTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Leamington Spa, Warwickshire



Established 2008

Telephone: 01926 426942

E-mail grahamxcooper@lineone.net

151, Cubbington Road,
Leamington Spa,
Warwickshire CV32 7AZ.

22 October 2013.

Dear Robert,

Following our recent exchange of e-mails, I am pleased to let you know that, at our recent Annual General Meeting, members agreed to invite the Town Mayor of Royal Leamington Spa to be ex-officio President of our Society.

There would be no duties to undertake, apart from receiving invitations to attend some events, such as the Annual General Meeting, which the Mayor could accept if convenient. Our Society has been in existence for some five years and is playing a part in giving Lillington its own identity within Leamington, with the catch phrase "Lillington has a history too". We meet at the Free Church in Cubbington Road on the first Friday in each month (with the exception of August) at 4.30 p.m. when interesting topics are covered - sometimes by members and sometimes by invited speakers. In addition, we hold occasional public meetings, as, for example, a presentation on the History of the Postal Service in Warwickshire, at the Octagon at Lillington Parish Church at 7.30 p.m. on Saturday, 23rd. November.

We hope very much that the Mayor will be pleased to receive our invitation to become our President, and should you have any queries about our Society, please do not hesitate to let me know.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Graham

GRAHAM E.COOPER
Vice-Chairman.

Robert Nash Esq.,
Town Clerk,
The Town Council of Royal Leamington Spa,
Town Hall,
Parade,
Royal Leamington Spa,
Warwickshire CV32 4AT.

Guild of guides report on Leamington Walking Tours 2013

To 1. Leamington Town Council Cultural and Community Committee
2. Leamington History Group Committee

From Michael Pearson, Organiser Guild of Guides

October 8th 2013

1. Synopsis

This report gives the background to the walks, describes the walking tours of Leamington for 2013 and the publicity and costs involved, outlines the number of volunteer guides, number of walkers and then makes recommendations for 2014.

2. Background

Historic walking tours of Leamington have been provided free of charge to local people and visitors for over twenty years. The Guild of Guides consisting of volunteer guides provided the service. They were managed by the District Council for many years and latterly by the Leamington Town Council. The walks usually ran from June to September each year and took place every evening during weekdays lasting around one and a half hours.

Unfortunately in 2012 the walks were discontinued due to a decrease in the number of guides and the difficulty in maintaining the extensive walk programme then in place.

However in 2013 an initiative between the Leamington Town Council and the Leamington History Group led to the Cultural and Community Committee of the Town Council agreeing to the History Group taking over the management of the Guild of Guides. The Town Council agreed to provide financial and administrative support to the scheme.

3. Walking Tours 2013

During the early part of 2013 the History Group Committee discussed the arrangements for the tours. It was decided to reduce the number of walks carried out in the past in order to lessen the strain on the guides. It was felt that two mid-week walks would be sufficient and these would be carried out on Tuesday and Wednesday. It was also felt that different times should be tried during the day to allow for the differing needs of both locals and visitors.

Times of 10.30am, 2.30pm and 7pm were agreed upon.

4. Publicity and costings

The Leamington History Group Committee decided on a limited publicity campaign consisting of flyers advertising the walks, plus posters to be displayed on 'A' boards outside the Town Hall and the South Lodge, Jephson Gardens. Artwork for the posters and flyers was done in-house by the History Group at no cost and items were printed locally by T W Printing Ltd whose MD is known to the History Group chairman and whose quotes were very competitive[see enclosed examples]. Both the Town Hall and the Visitor Information Centre in the Pump Rooms displayed the flyers. The Community Ranger at Jephson Gardens agreed to put flyers on all the WDC notice boards within the Gardens. Most town centre hotels also agreed to advertise the walks for their guests.

Guild of guides report on Leamington Walking Tours 2013

The *Leamington Spa Courier* ran an article early on and Radio Coventry and Warwickshire interviewed the Walks Organiser, Michael Pearson on two occasions about the walks.

Walsgrave Hospital Radio also joined a walk to develop an hour long programme about the walks for Warwick Hospital patients.

The Leamington History Group and the Leamington Town Council websites both carried full details of the walks.

The Cultural and Community Committee allocated £500 to fund the walks for 2013.

5. The Guides

By agreeing to combine the Guild of Guides with the History Group it was pleasing to note that five of the original Guides were willing to continue with the tours, joined by four volunteers from the History Group and the Park Ranger. This meant that we had a pool of ten guides to take forward the walks for 2013. All of the guides were willing to give up their time voluntarily and it does them great credit that they were willing to devote their time to promoting the history of Leamington Spa to both locals and visitors alike.

6. Walks statistics for 2013

As previously stated, the walks were arranged on different days (Tuesday and Wednesday) and at different times. They commenced on 18 June and ended with the Heritage walk on 12 September.

In total 28 walks were advertised with 7 held at 10.30am, 13 at 2.30p.m and 8 at 7.30pm. In addition three pre-booked group walks were held, adding a total of 41 people to the number of those who participated in the advertised walks programme.

For the 10.30am walks, 34 people were accommodated plus 36 people on the Heritage Open Days walk in September

For the 2.30pm walks, 116 people were accommodated and for the 7pm walks a total of 84 people were accommodated.

This resulted in a total of 311 people enjoying a short historical tour of Leamington Spa over the 31 walks. The resulting average of 10 people per walk is a remarkable achievement considering that the walks were cancelled last year and figures we have for 2010 and 2011 were 7.7 and 5.0 people per walk respectively during those years.

It was also pleasing to note that the ratio between locals and visitors was fairly even which means we were able to attract even numbers of both local residents and visitors alike.

Further analysis shows that evening walks attracted an average of 10 people per walk, the afternoon walks 9 people per walk and the morning walks 6 people per walk, excluding the Heritage Open days walk, which as previously stated, attracted a total of 36 people.

The weather in June was quite cold but it became much warmer later in the Summer and this was reflected in a greater numbers of walkers in July and August. Even when it rained people still turned up for the advertised walk which meant that every walk had people attending and on no occasion was there a nil return.

At the conclusion of each walk, those attending were given a printed postcard with the compliments of the tour guide giving contact details of the Leamington History Group as a promotional tool [See attached sample].

7. Conclusion

The partnership between Leamington Town Council and the Leamington History Group has proved to be extremely successful in promoting historic Leamington as a valued part of Warwickshire's past. Despite not being involved in 'Shakespeare's Warwickshire' these tours have given many people, both tourists and visitors alike, a valuable insight into Leamington as a 19th century spa town.

The feedback from the walkers has suggested that they have found the tours extremely enjoyable and informative and an important part of promoting Leamington as one of England's most attractive and historic Regency towns.

8. Recommendations

- That the walks be continued in 2014 under the auspices of the Leamington History Group.
- That Leamington Town Council continue to provide financial and administrative support for the walks.
- That publicity for the walks be increased and integrated into other Leamington Spa events and activities. The Leamington History Group are looking to design new 1/3 of A4 flyers in a consistent house style for next years Programme of Walks [see attached]
- That the booking programme for walks be developed further and include local schools.
- That consideration be given to the provision of loudspeaker equipment for the guides especially as some walks consisted of over 20 people.
- During the Summer we identified a need for occasional pre-booked walks for special-interest groups at times and dates other than those advertised and three such walks were arranged. [Item 6 para 2 above]. We plan to accommodate such requests in future and ask that this initiative be supported.

Michael Pearson Walks Organiser Leamington History Group 8 October 2013

