



ROBERT NASH ACIS DMS  
Clerk to the Town Council

THE TOWN COUNCIL  
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27<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to a meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee to be held in Meeting Room 5 at the Town Hall, Parade, Royal Leamington Spa on **THURSDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER 2019 commencing at 6.00 pm.**

The business will be as set out below.

Yours faithfully,

**Clerk to the Town Council**

To:- Councillors Navdeep Atwal, Julija Boulton, David Brunson, Will Bryce, Heather Calver, Amy Evans, Jennifer McAllister, and Louisa Radice.

Mr J. Mather (Leamington International Twinning Society)

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

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### **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.

4. TOWN TWINNING MATTERS

To consider matters relating to Twinning activity, including preparations for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Twinning Agreement with Sceaux over the period 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> October, 2019.

A representative of Leamington Twinning Society will be in attendance for this item.

5. MINUTES

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee held on 5<sup>TH</sup> September, 2019 (Report No.5)

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

7. COMMUNITY GRANT FUND 2019/20

To note responses received to grants awarded at the last meeting.

8. LEAMINGTON IN BLOOM

To consider matters arising from the Report by the Heart of England in Bloom Judges relating to the Gold Award for Leamington in Bloom (Report No. 8)

9. VE DAY 75 – 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2020

To consider the Council's participation in events to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day on 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2020. (Report No. 9)

10. TREE PLANTING AND RENEWAL

To consider a programme of tree planting and renewal for 2019. Town Clerk to report.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2019 AT THE TOWN HALL, PARADE, LEAMINGTON SPA**

Present: Councillors Julija Boulton, M. Chowdry, J. Clarke, W. Gifford, Jennifer McAllister, Louisa Radice and N. Wilkins.

Sue Staddon (Leamington International Twinning Society)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Navdeep Atwal, David Brunson, Will Bryce, Heather Calver and Amy Evans

Notices of substitution had been received prior to the meeting in relation to the following members of the Committee:-

<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Substitute Member</b>
Councillor H. Calver	Councillor W. Gifford
Councillor D. Brunson	Councillor M. Chowdry
Councillor Atwal	Councillor J. Clarke
Councillor N. Bryce	Councillor N. Wilkins

10. **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

In the absence of both the Chairman and Vice Chairman, it was

**RESOLVED** that Councillor J. McAllister is elected to the Chair of the Cultural and Community Committee for this meeting only.

11. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following declarations of interest were made:-

Councillor W. Gifford declared a non- pecuniary interest in Community Grant application 1 (Saturday Friendship Group)

Councillor N. Wilkins declared a non- pecuniary interest in Community Grant application 9 (Sparks – incredible edible)

12. **PUBLIC FORUM**

No representations were made.

13. **TOWN TWINNING MATTERS**

The Chairman welcomed Sue Staddon to the meeting to discuss matters relating to the preparations for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations of the signing of the Twinning Agreement with Sceaux. A draft programme of events had been circulated with the Agenda.

The Committee was advised that the ceremony on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October would be attended by the Warwickshire Choristers and a guest speaker. An exhibition of artwork by pupils of six primary schools in Leamington Spa would be on display throughout the proceedings. The draft programme of events had now been amended as there was significant cost associated with a tour of Warwick Castle. It was hoped to provide a buffet lunch at the Town Hall following the completion of the Twinning agreement signing ceremony. The Civic Dinner would take place at Warwick School on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October to which all Members of the Council would be invited.

The Town Clerk had prepared a draft Memorandum and Declaration of Friendship that would provide a suitable document to record the affirmation of the original Twinning Agreement. He explained that many local authorities that maintained active Twinning relationships had sought to recognise these through a contemporary form of wording that reflected the changes in society that had taken place in the period since the original agreements had been approved. The Committee considered that, subject to ensuring that the revised Declaration was acceptable to Sceaux Twinning Society, this could be used for the renewal of the original agreement on 19<sup>th</sup> October. It was agreed that the original Agreement should be placed on display at the ceremony.

#### **RESOLVED**

(i) that the draft programme of events for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations of the Sceaux Twinning Agreement are noted;

(ii) that the draft Memorandum and Declaration of Friendship is used for the renewal of the original agreement, subject to the approval of the Sceaux Twinning Society.

#### 14. **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 are confirmed and signed as a correct record

#### 15. **COMMUNITY GRANT – YOUNG PEOPLE FIRST**

Consideration was given to a request from Young People First to reallocate funding granted by the Committee in May, 2019 to the Brunswick Youth Project Summer Scheme.

The Committee was advised that the charge for rent of premises used for the Summer Scheme had been less than anticipated and therefore an underspend on the grant of £693 had occurred. The Committee was requested to consider allocating this underspend to meet the cost of additional staff resources associated with the delivery of the scheme.

**RESOLVED** that Young People First is thanked for advising the Council of the circumstances relating to the original grant of £1410 and that the underspend of £693 is permitted to be allocated to the cost of additional staff resources.

16. **COMMUNITY GRANT FUND 2019/20**

Consideration was given to a Report (Report No. 8) containing details of the applications submitted under the Community Grant Scheme for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> August.

Following consideration of the individual applications, it was

**RESOLVED** that

(i) the following applications are determined:-

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Amount Requested</i>	<i>Amount Awarded</i>
Saturday Friendship Group	Drop in Service for Homeless and vulnerably housed	£2,000.00	£2,000
Leamington Spa Equalities Network	Identification of Equality issues across Leamington Spa	£2,000.00	£0
Independent Advocacy	Active By-standers- Workshops	£1,990.00	£1,000
Paintings in Hospitals	Art for Everyone	£2,000.00	£0
Central England Lip reading Support Trust	Lip reading course	£2,000.00	£2,000
Royal Leamington Spa Bach Choir	Staging	£1,400.00	£1,400
Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance	Operating costs for one flight	£1,700.00	£2,000
Leamington Football Club	Player Registration fees	£2,000.00	£2,000
Sparks - Incredible Edible	Community Garden	£1,920.00	£1,920
You can Flourish	Flourish Girls' Course	£1,322.00	£1,322

- (ii) that Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance is requested to provide the Committee with an analysis of flights undertaken during the preceding 12 months; and
- (iii) that You can Flourish is invited to attend a future meeting to provide a report on the outcomes from the grant support provided by the Council.

17. **LEAMINGTON IN BLOOM**

The Town Clerk reported that earlier in the day, Leamington Spa had been awarded a Gold certificate in the small city category of the Heart of England in Bloom Competition 2019. In addition, Jephson Gardens had received the Mike Garwood Memorial award in recognition of its status as the best public garden in the region. The Town Clerk confirmed that this was the fourth consecutive occasion in which Leamington had achieved Gold status.

The Committee expressed satisfaction with this notable achievement and commended the contribution made by the volunteers comprising the Leamington in Bloom Committee, the Council staff and Departments of the District Council which support the competition. The Town Clerk confirmed that a Press statement would be released on this success.

**RESOLVED** that the Report is noted.

18. **BLUE PLAQUES**

Town Clerk reported that the Blue Plaque Group had progressed three additional plaques that were to be unveiled on 16<sup>th</sup> October as follows:-

William Gascoyne – 12 Willes Road

J.B. Perera – 33 Avenue Road

Major H. Gem - Bericote House, 8 Hamilton Terrace

In addition the Group had recently agreed to investigate the option of a plaque to the former footballer Eddie Hapgood and several notable women including Nora Nicholson, (actress), Eleanor Doorly (author) and Mary Louise Vellacott (Suffragist).

**RESOLVED** that the Report is noted.

The meeting commenced at 6.00 pm and ended at 7.45 pm.



## VE DAY 75

Further to your successful involvement in Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute - 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018, we have pleasure in inviting your participation in **VE Day 75**, being organised to celebrate/commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WW2 in Europe, as mentioned in my last communication to you last year.

The 8<sup>th</sup> May 1945 was the day peace emerged after nearly six years of war, so the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 represents an important milestone in our history. I am sure you will agree that we cannot let this day pass without reflecting on the enormous sacrifice, courage and determination of people from all walks of life who saw us through this dark period. Our celebration, **VE Day 75**, will cover the weekend of 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> May 2020, and will be an international celebration of peace – a time to remember, reflect and pay tribute to the millions who played such a vital part in achieving it.

This includes the Armed Forces personnel from many countries who gave their lives, and those who returned home injured in body and mind; the hard-working women and men who kept the factories, mines, shipyards and farms operating throughout the years of turmoil; the ARP wardens, police officers, doctors, nurses, firemen, local defence volunteers and many others who put their lives on hold to safeguard the home front.

The official, exclusive charity for **VE Day 75** is SSAFA, the Armed Forces Charity, which also supports the Merchant Navy.

**The planned activities over the weekend are as follows, and please go to the VE Day 75 website – [www.veday75.org](http://www.veday75.org) to see the complete overview for this important anniversary.**

- The Playing of Battle's O'er & VE 75 Years
- The Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2
- The Cry for Peace, around the World
- Churches & cathedrals Ringing out for Peace
- Street parties and parties in pubs, clubs, Hotels, on town and village greens and in halls etc
- Services of commemoration and celebration in churches, including the reading of the Tribute to the Millions and the playing of the Last Post

Registration for all participants will be solely through [www.veday75.org](http://www.veday75.org). As well as adding your details you will also be able to download important documents, including a commemorative certificate, and view messages of support from individuals and organisations.

### **FRIDAY 8TH MAY 2020**

#### **3pm – Battle's O'er & VE 75 Years**

3pm is the time Winston Churchill officially announced the end of WW2 in Europe from the Cabinet Office at 10 Downing Street, London.

Pipers from around the world will open **VE Day 75** by playing Battle's O'er and VE 75 Years at 3pm local time in the country they are in, paying tribute to the millions who gave so much to earn our freedom today. Battle's O'er is the traditional tune played by pipers at the end of a battle, and VE 75 Years has been specially written for this occasion by Pipe Major Roger Bayes of the City of Norwich Pipe Band.

## Report 9

Battle's O'er will be played by pipers from the top of the four highest Peaks in the UK - Ben Nevis, Scotland; Scafell Pike, England; Mount Snowdon, Wales, and Slieve Donard, Northern Ireland – and also at the five furthest points in the UK. This has never been undertaken before.

We are encouraging pipers working that day to pause at 3pm to play the tune in their workplace. It will provide pipers throughout the world the opportunity to participate without having to take time off work. We are already aware that a nurse will be playing the pipes on her hospital ward, and that others will be playing at a railway company, in a field and outside a bakery. May we suggest therefore, that you try and source a local piper to play at a location of your choice at 3pm that day as part of this aspect of VE day 75. Pipers taking part can register their involvement at the VE Day 75 website – [www.veday75.org](http://www.veday75.org).

### **3pm – The Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2**

To coincide with the playing of Battle's O'er, we would like to encourage your Lord Mayor, Mayor, Leader, Chairman of the Council, High Steward, High Sheriff, Deputy Lord Lieutenant or another, to lead your local community in the Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2 at 3pm on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020, paying 'tribute' to the millions at home and abroad that gave so much to ensure we all enjoy the freedom we have today. Please register your involvement on the VE day 75 website – [www.veday75.org](http://www.veday75.org).

In association with the British Beer & Pub Association, the thousands of pubs throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man will be inviting their customers to raise a glass at 3pm too and take part in The Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2. All pubs taking part can register their involvement on the VE Day 75 website – [www.veday75.org](http://www.veday75.org).

### **6.55pm – A Cry for Peace Around the World**

Town Criers and members of local communities around the world will be undertaking A Cry for Peace Around the World, kindly written for this occasion by Crier Peter Taunton. The 'Cry', which can be downloaded from the website, will be performed at 7pm local time in locations around the world, starting in New Zealand. Those Town Criers and others undertaking this 'Cry' can register their involvement on the VE Day 75 website – [www.veday75.org](http://www.veday75.org)

### **7pm – Ringing out for Peace**

Bells in churches and cathedrals will ring out at 7pm in a collective celebration of VE Day 75. The sound of church bells is deeply rooted in British culture. They provide the grand soundtrack to our historic moments, calling us to wake, to pray, to work, to arms, to feast, to celebrate and, in times of crisis, to come together. This aspect of VE Day 75 could not be more appropriate, ringing out around the world to celebrate the peace we share today. Please encourage your local church to take part, registering their participation on the VE day website – [www.veday75.org](http://www.veday75.org).

### **7pm onwards – Parties and Celebration**

Parties and celebrations will take place in pubs, clubs and hotels, on town and village greens and in our streets, bringing the communities of the nation together in common friendship. Those town and cities twinned with others around the world will be encouraged invite them to join in this joyous occasion. We know that many of those taking part will be organising firework displays over the weekend too. Those taking part in this celebratory element of the event can register their involvement on the VE day 75 website – [www.veday75.org](http://www.veday75.org).

## **SATURDAY 9TH MAY 2020**

Parties and celebrations continue.

## **SUNDAY 10TH MAY 2020**

### **10.30am – Church Services of Celebration and Commemoration**

Services will take place in cathedrals and churches throughout the UK, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man to celebrate the peace we share today and remember those who lost their lives or returned home dreadfully wounded. The services will also recognise the sacrifices of those who kept the nation fed and the factories, mines and hospitals working during the most challenging of time, so please encourage your local churches to participate. Churches wishing to take part should register their involvement on the VE Day 75 website – [www.veday75.org](http://www.veday75.org).

### **Tribute to the Millions & the Last Post**

Those planning services will be encouraged to ask a representative from their local community to read out the Tribute to the Millions, which can be downloaded at [www.veday75.org](http://www.veday75.org), and involve a local bugler or trumpeter to play the Last Post and Reveille. Their participation can also be registered on the VE DAY 75 website – [www.veday75.org](http://www.veday75.org).



## Report 9

We do hope that you will take part in **VE Day 75** especially as many of those that served at home and abroad came from the Towns and Parishes of England, so your involvement will be a perfect 'tribute' to the sacrifices made by so many of them.

Please be kind enough to register your involvement in one or more of the events by going to the VE Day 75 Website – [www.veday75.org](http://www.veday75.org) as soon as possible to enable us to keep in touch with you and update you on progress, along with putting this letter up on your website, and circulating it widely via other forms of social media such as facebook and twitter.

My warmest regards,

*Bruno Peek*

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