

273. RAIL STATION TOTEM

Committee considered the principle of the Town Council taking on a licence from Suffolk County Council for a Rail Station totem on behalf of the East Suffolk Lines Community Rail Partnership to address the need for better signposting of the Rail Station.

It was noted that funding for the sign and its installation had been agreed in principle by various partners to the ESLCRP.

It was RESOLVED that, subject to terms of the licence for the proposed Rail Station Totem confirming that there would be minimal liability to the Council, it be recommended and referred to Council.

274. SUFFOLK ARMED FORCES WEEKEND LEGACY FUND

Committee considered the report on the proposed Suffolk Armed Forces Weekend Legacy Fund. It had been suggested that the Town Council could administer an associated grants scheme with the surplus fund generated by the 2017 Suffolk Armed Forces Weekend Event, totalling £10,796 currently being held by Suffolk Coastal District Council.

The Clerk advised that a scheme could be administered by a sub-committee of the Civic & Community Committee which would be able to meet as and when required to review applications and make awards in a timely way.

It was RESOLVED that the following be referred and recommended to the Civic and Community Committee for onward referral to Council:

- i. the receipt of funds leftover from the 2017 Suffolk Armed Forces Weekend event totalling £10,796 from the Suffolk Coastal District Council for the purposes of setting up a Suffolk Armed Forces Weekend Legacy Fund be approved;**
- ii. given the short-term nature of the fund and the timing, coinciding with the centenary year of the end of the First World War, a responsive application process be introduced to attract a wide number of applicants throughout the year;**
- iii. the formation of a 'Suffolk Armed Forces Weekend Legacy Fund Sub-Committee' with the authority to review applications as they are received and make grant awards;**
- iv. to maximise the number of projects that can be supported, an indicative cap of £500 be suggested to applicants, with authority for the Sub-Committee to award larger amounts depending on the need and nature of the project;**
- v. the Civic & Community to receive regular updates on projects for which applications had been received and any grants awarded;**

- vi. applications to be made using a modified version of the Town Council's existing Occasional Grant application form which would also reflect the nature of the funding available and recognise the contribution made by Suffolk Coastal District Council and others who supported the 2017 Suffolk Armed Forces Weekend event; and,
- vii. to agree any further guidelines in the administration of the fund.

275. SCDC CAR PARKING CONSULTATION

Committee considered the report on the SCDC Car Parking Consultation in relation to the implementation of Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE). Members agreed that to effectively support tourism and the economy of Felixstowe's town centre and businesses, parking must be seen as a service which attracts, rather than deters, visitors.

It was further agreed that the car parking review provided an ideal opportunity to introduce an innovative 'user-centric' parking experience to the town that could offer a variety of easy to use options for payment, such as by smartphone app enabling customers to top up their tickets remotely. Members considered that the introduction of a 'rover' scheme might provide flexibility for visitor parking and contribute towards the turnover of spaces.

Members recommended that charging structures should be based on localised arrangements for each area of the district which could then be well-related and responsive to local market conditions

Committee discussed the need to keep prices as low as possible, to protect the retailers and the necessity for easily accessible low-cost parking by the seafront to discourage parking in residential streets. Members discussed how the popularity of the resort was putting pressure on parking in residential streets. It was agreed that SCDC should retain special consideration for sites such as the Garrison Lane car park which provided much needed additional free parking for visitors and residents in high season.

It was also suggested that a method should be found to rewarding the loyalty of regular visitors and of a scheme which allows a reasonable parking provision for residents should be retained.

It was RESOLVED that authority be delegated to the Town Clerk, in conjunction with the Chairman of Finance & General Purposes Committee, to respond to the consultation based on the above comments, by the end of October deadline.

276. CLOSURE

The meeting was closed at 8.48pm. The next meeting was noted as being scheduled for 22 November 2017 at 7.30pm.

Date: _____

Chairman: _____