



stage of the pandemic at the current time and whether there was likely to be any emergency funding still required. Members also considered whether the grant fund should be opened-up to an occasional grant scheme process at this time of recovery.

It was noted that the responsive way in which Members were currently able to review applications as they were received allowed Committee to be flexible. It was agreed that any applications for grants that were not related to the impact of the coronavirus could be considered at the next meeting on 16 September.

Members also discussed how local community groups may be struggling to use IT and online communications tools to enable them to stay in touch while they were unable to meet in person. It was known that many local groups would have members who may be required to shield for a longer period and learning basic IT could help a lot of the local community. It was agreed that offering a virtual training event on how to run a meeting or quiz online could be a useful resource for many groups.

**It was RESOLVED that:**

- i. the Deputy Town Clerk should approach local groups to discover what help is needed for IT and whether this is something the Town Council can assist with;**
- ii. an article on grants and IT support should be published in Council's Summer Magazine; and,**
- iii. further consideration be made at the Civic & Community Committee meeting on 16 September to whether the Coronavirus Grant fund is still required for emergencies due to the pandemic.**

## **70. VE DAY 75 FUNDS**

It was noted that the funding raised for the cancelled VE75 event had been returned to the Council's General Fund Reserve. Following a discussion Members agreed that the funds should be moved to an Earmarked Reserve for a similar type of event in the future.

The Chairman invited Cllr D Aitchison to address the Committee. Cllr Aitchison explained that 15 August 2020 would be both the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VJ Day and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the unveiling of Felixstowe War Memorial. Committee agreed that whilst it was unlikely that government restrictions would be lifted to enable a large-scale public event around this time to mark the occasion, it would be good to mark the occasion in an appropriate way.

The Clerk advised that he would be meeting with the Royal British Legion and local clergy soon to discuss plans for Remembrance and this could be discussed.

**It was RESOLVED that:**

- i. a recommendation be made to Council to transfer the funds that were put aside for the VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> Event into a new Earmarked Reserve for the purposes of funding similar activities at the future; and,
- ii. the Town Clerk should contact East Suffolk Council to advise of the above and confirm whether the Councillors who approved funds from their Enabling Community Budgets would be happy for the funds to be kept in an Earmarked Reserve for a similar event in the future.

#### **71. FELIXFEST/WOMEN'S TOUR**

Members noted the update on the rearrangement of the Women's World Tour event and looked forward to receiving further updates during the year.

**It was RESOLVED that the Felixfest/Women's Tour update be noted.**

#### **72. REMEMBRANCE 2020**

The Chairman invited Cllr D Aitchison to address the Committee about Remembrance 2020. Cllr D Aitchison confirmed that the Royal British Legion had been planning to hold their usual Festival of Remembrance this year at the Spa Pavilion (in previous years it had been held at St John's Church). The acts had been provisionally booked but the event was currently on hold awaiting Government guidance.

Regular virtual meetings would be held between Council officers, the Mayor, local Clergy and the RBL to coordinate plans for Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day. It was anticipated that events may not be able to go ahead as previous years but preparations for adaptations would be made as necessary. Committee would be kept updated.

**It was RESOLVED that the Remembrance 2020 update report be noted and a regular update would be brought to Committee as plans are made.**

#### **73. TOWN COUNCIL MAGAZINE**

Members congratulated the Town Clerk on the Magazine which contained an array of information and thanked the Deputy Town Clerk for her work with local Community Groups in the gathering of interesting articles.

Members noted the delay to the Summer Magazine because of the Coronavirus and suggested some additions to the magazine. It was suggested that space permitting it would be useful to have a photograph thumbnail beside Councillors contact details so members of the public could recognise the Councillors. It was also agreed that information on new parking rules would be useful and ways in which people may be able enjoy the season locally in lieu of the usual events.

**RESOLVED that the feedback for the Town Council Magazine be noted for consideration in the Summer edition.**

**74. FELIXSTOWE IN FLOWER 2020**

The Business Services Officer updated committee on the hanging baskets, tubs and troughs that were currently being erected around the Town. It was noted that a Perspex screen had been installed in the truck to enable two members of staff to travel together to carry out the widespread watering while social distancing. Members gave thanks to the Council's grounds staff for their hard work in making Felixstowe a town to be proud of.

**RESOLVED that the Felixstowe in Flower report be noted.**

**75. SUMMER BEDDING**

Members considered the report on Summer Bedding and recorded thanks to East Suffolk Norse for the excellent display of bedding plants.

Members considered the suggestion by Council's grounds staff to use an organic manure as the soil is currently lacking any form of structure, having used artificial fertiliser for many years. Members considered ideas to lay the beds empty over the Winter, or to rotate the beds so that some are planted up and some laid empty on a rotational basis. It would be important to let people know why beds lay empty. It would also be very important to ensure that the tubs throughout the town are planted up. At the last meeting Members had suggested using sustainable bedding. Members agreed it would be useful to obtain some advice from East Suffolk Norse as to what they would recommend.

**It was RESOLVED that:**

- i. the Summer Bedding report be noted; and**
- ii. the Clerk contacts Paul Tynan, East Suffolk Norse for advice on the various options for the bedding.**

**76. FLAG RAISING EVENTS**

Members noted the report on the flag raising events and requested confirmation of the time of the raising of the Red Ensign flag on 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

**RESOLVED that the Flag Raising report be noted, and notification be given to all Members of the time of the flag raising on Merchant Navy Day.**

**77. SUFFOLK DAY 2020**

Members noted the report on Suffolk Day and hoped that next year would return bigger and better. Members noted that the Suffolk flag would be raised for the weekend, but this would not be a public event. Photos of the flag raising and information would be posted on social media.

Cllr S Harkin gave an update on the Suffolk Remembers event which would be going ahead as a virtual event online. This will be promoted on the Town Council's website news post regarding Suffolk Day along with the Suffolk Day website.

**RESOLVED that the Suffolk Day report be noted and Suffolk day be promoted on social media.**

**78. TOWN TWINNING**

Members noted the update report on Town Twinning and were pleased that enjoyed the Bürgermeisterin of Wesel, Ulrike Westkamp had been able to attend the recent Annual Council meeting. Members enquired whether it would be possible to have a virtual return visit to Wesel and/or Salzwedel by the Mayor and Chairman of Civic & Communities, who would be able to do a speech in German.

**It was RESOLVED that the Town Twinning report be noted; and enquiries be made into a virtual meeting with Wesel and/or Salzwedel.**

**79. BLUE FLAG AND SEASIDE AWARDS 2020**

Members received an update on the current situation with the Blue Flag. It was proposed that a soft launch be carried out in Council's Summer magazine and with a wider press release issued once the flag could be raised.

It was noted that there were currently two flag poles, one near Arwela Road and the flagpole at the Town Hall, and a discussion took place with regards to the possible location of another flag pole, possibly near the Tourist Information Beach Hut or raising two flags on one pole. If a new flagpole was preferred reuired this could come back to Committee to discuss as there may be remaining budget in Civic Events that could be used for this.

Members thanked Cllr S Bennett for his support in achieving the Blue Flag and Seaside Award for Felixstowe and looked forward to being able to raise the flag in due course.

**It was RESOLVED that the Blue Flag and Seaside Awards 2020 report be noted; and any update be returned to Committee regarding the launch and flagpoles.**

**80. CCTV REPORT 2019/20**

Members noted the CCTV summary from STC Solutions and were pleased with the work that had been carried out over the past year. Members requested a meeting be arranged with Sergeant Russ Mason to discuss monitoring. Members suggested that as the contract enters its final year, some consideration be given to new technologies and that this be reported back to Committee in due course.

**It was RESOLVED that:**

- i. the 2019/20 CCTV report from STC Solutions be noted as received;**
- ii. the Deputy Town Clerk arrange a meeting with Sergeant Russ Mason to discuss CCTV monitoring arrangements; and,**
- iii. a report be brought to Committee on the future options for CCTV and available new technologies, prior to the maintenance contract end date in July 2022.**

**81. CLOSURE**

The meeting was closed at 9.03pm. The next meeting was noted as being scheduled for Wednesday 16 September 2020 at 7.30pm.

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_