

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Christmas Lights Committee Meeting held online on Friday 9th October 2020 at 4 pm

PRESENT: Cllrs Mrs Draper (Chair), Mrs Duffield, Mrs Howley, Heathfield, Town Clerk and 1 co-opted member

1. **Apologies – None**
2. **Declarations of interest – None.**
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 14th August 2020**

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 14th August 2020 were approved and signed as a correct record. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Draper Seconded by Cllr Mrs Duffield, All in favour.

4. Matters arising from the previous Minutes and update on actions

The Natural Christmas Tree Company has confirmed a tree will be donated this year and a price of £400 has been agreed for the following 3 years.

The Memorial Hall was contacted and the Hall Committee have also decided to cancel the Christmas market.

5. To agree purchase of replacement motif

Resolved: The London Ball motif is purchased at a cost of £612.56. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duffield, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

6. To agree Christmas tree decorations to be purchased

Resolved: The colour theme will be gold and red and the Clerk is authorised to spend up to £600 to purchase baubles for the tree. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Draper, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

7. To consider options for virtual switch-on

Mr Letchford had kindly made enquiries regarding this and gave a briefing report to the Committee. Drone footage was considered, as was posting a video clip on the Councils Facebook. The Clerk was requested to make further enquiries and report back to the next meeting.

A discussion took place with regards to having Santa push the plunger. Rotary will be asked if they will be visiting the streets with Santa.

Mr Letchford agreed to take photos.

8. To review budget update and agree any further expenditure

The budget was reviewed. Ermin normally give a significant discount on the plant hire, in return for advertising at the event. The Committee agreed Ermin could erect a banner around the tree if they were willing to give the usual discount.

Resolved: £150 is allocated to consumables/miscellaneous items. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Draper, seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Friday 23rd October at 4 pm.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 4.37 pm.