

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Christmas Lights Committee Meeting held online on Friday 14th
August 2020 at 3 pm

PRESENT: Cllrs Mrs Draper (Chair), Mrs Duffield, Mrs Howley, Heathfield and Town Clerk

1. **Apologies – None**
2. **Declarations of interest – None.**
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 4th November 2019**

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 4th November 2019 were approved and signed as a correct record. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Howley, Seconded by Cllr Mrs Duffield, All in favour.

4. **To consider options for an event**

The Committee did not feel a large event would be possible this year due to the current pandemic, so the focus should be on enhancing the light display and the focal point being the Christmas tree. The possibility of holding a virtual switch-on will be looked into. **Resolved:** An event will not take place; however, the light display will be increased. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Draper, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

5. **To consider correspondence received**

5.1 The Natural Christmas Tree Company – To consider Christmas tree offer
An offer to give the town a tree for free this year providing the company is allowed to advertise and that the Christmas trees for the next 3 years are purchased from the company was considered. **Resolved:** The offer is accepted with a price of £400 as a starting point being offered for the next three years trees and a maximum amount was approved. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Heathfield, Seconded Cllr Mrs Duffield, All in favour.

6. **To consider lights condition report and agree purchase of lights**

The candle motif which is normally displayed on the side of the Red Lion needs replacing as it no longer works. **Resolved:** A maximum of £1,000 is allocated to purchase a new motif. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Draper, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

Some replacement festoons are required as they no long work. **Resolved:** 80m of festoons are purchased from company twos quotation at a cost of £1,490. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Draper, Seconded Cllr Mrs Duffield, All in favour.

It was agreed to make the Christmas Tree the focus this year, so further decorations should be purchased. **Resolved:** A maximum of £500 is allocated to purchase decorations. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Draper, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

7. To consider organising a Christmas home decoration competition

This was successful last year and positive feedback received. To continue with the community spirit seen over the past few months, street entries will be included. **Resolved:** Agreed to promote a competition for individual homes and/or a street/cul de sac. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duffield, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, All in favour.

8. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place at the end of September.

Before the end of the meeting, it was agreed to inform the Memorial Hall of the decisions.

The marketing and promotions working group will be asked to liaise with the businesses regarding holding a shop window competition.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 3.33 pm.