

Snodland Events – 23rd April 2024

Attendees:	Steve Cameron, Maria Ellison (Chairman Snodland Scouts), Gary Ellis (Snodland Brownies/Rainbows), David Higgs, Chris Bosman (STARA)
Councillors present:	G Miners, Mrs V Barker, Mrs D Crook, Mrs S Bell, Ms D King, A Bennison
Council Members present:	Mrs K Sowten (Chief Executive), Mrs Helen Comber, Mrs Trudi Kinslow,
Apologies:	Cllr P Hickmott, Cllr Mrs K Mordecai-Woolf, Cllr S Loader, Cllr Mrs J Ayers, Clare (3 rd Snodland Brownies), Rev Danielle Pearson-Smith (All Saints with Christ Church),

1.	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> See above
2.	<u>Charities</u> A discussion on potential charities for support took place. Various suggestions were put forward, including the Air Ambulance, Snodland Community Cycleworks and the Fox Project in Sevenoaks. It was agreed that nominations would be collected and sent to the council for final decision.
3.	<u>Minutes – To Agree the minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2024</u> The minutes of the meeting held on 20 th February 2024 were agreed as a true record.
4.	<u>To receive an update on volunteer recruitment</u> There was a brief update on volunteer recruitment efforts. Men's Mind is expected to engage some volunteers, and other clubs were encouraged to encourage participation. After the initial call for volunteers, the council received responses from only 5 individuals. Each of them has been reached out to, providing us with insights into their capabilities and limitations.
5.	<u>Date of the next meeting</u> Tuesday 11 June 2024 at 7pm

D Day – Thursday 6th June 2024

1.	Plans for the D-Day event were reviewed. Fish and chips have been arranged, and a grant application is underway. The event is well-organised, with 41 residents on the list to date. The Committee were asked to put forward any further names of residents over 70 years of age that they would like to be invited to contact the Council by email with their
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	<p>details. Smurfit Kappa have kindly donated the cost of the Fish and Chip lunch. A singer has been contacted who will provide entertainment at the lunch. We are waiting for final confirmation that the new sound system will be installed in the church ready for the film. The singer will perform again at the informal evening event at the football club prior to the lighting of the Beacon. A new Beacon is being made and will be placed in a permanent position in New Potyns. The film and film licence needs to be purchased. Sufficient volunteers have come forward to assist with this event.</p>
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Carnival – Saturday 6th July 2024

1.	<p>Early preparations for the carnival were discussed. Stall applications have been sent out, but there is concern over low uptake. This may be due to the need for stall holders to have their own public liability insurance.</p> <p>A Company has been approached and are currently looking at musical entertainment for the raised area within the football club grounds.</p> <p>No update has been received from the football club regarding the organisation of the “fun corner” with the old fashioned games.</p> <p>The decision to cancel the parade has stirred significant controversy within the community. The decision to cancel the carnival parade was made due to various logistical and participation issues. While the parade has traditionally been a highlight of the event, dwindling interest and practical constraints have necessitated a re-evaluation of its feasibility. Despite initial calls for volunteers, recruitment efforts have fallen short, leaving the organising committee understaffed.</p> <p>Securing floats, volunteers, and public liability insurance has proven to be a significant hurdle, further complicating the planning process.</p> <p>Suggestions were made to attract more businesses and widening the scope of the carnival. The Committee were mindful that the Carnival is a event for the community and not a money-making exercise. A dog show was suggested, however it was re-iterated that Dogs are not permitted at Potyns due to park Bye Laws. Planning is already underway to create a “party in the park” atmosphere for next year.</p>
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Fireworks – Wednesday 6th November 2024

1.	<p>Planning regarding the fireworks event is underway with the fireworks booked.</p>

Christmas – Saturday 30th November 2024

1.	<p>Plans for the Christmas event were discussed, including a lantern parade before the turning on of the lights.</p> <p>Cllr Bell and the CEO met with representatives from Cohesion plus, to collaborating on a Lantern Parade from Potyns to the High Steet with both Sleighs taking part, along with a band.</p>
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	<p>Cohesion has a company that visits local primary schools to facilitate lantern-making workshops, involving both children and parents. Plans include extending this initiative to local clubs as well.</p> <p>Suggestions were made to have a photo session with children on the sleigh asking for donations. It was concluded that the best location for this would be at Potyns before the parade started.</p> <p>Early indications for the cost of the Lantern Parade are estimated to be around £7,000. It was agreed to use £2000 from the Christmas in Snodland fund. Cllr Bell is currently applying for other grants to help with the costs and it was suggested contacting local businesses for contributions.</p> <p>The Scouts have yet to confirm if they will be taking over the running of Santa's grotto, again this is dependent upon volunteers.</p>
2.	<p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>The current balance in the Christmas in Snodland Fund is £ 4619.22. £2000 of this will be allocated to the Lantern Parade.</p>

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 19:50