

Minutes of the meeting of the **St George's Day Sub-Committee** held on **8 April 2005** when there were present:-

Cllr Mrs M J Webster (Chairman)

Cllr C A Hungate
Cllr R A Oatham
Cllr D G Stansby

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs M S Vince.

OFFICERS PRESENT

H Collins - Civic and Public Relations Officer
J Bostock - Principal Committee Administrator

6 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held 24 January 2005 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

It was noted that the actual venue for the themed coffee morning being run by the Hockley/Hawkwell WI was the Parish Rooms, the Old Fire Station, Hockley

7 ST GEORGE'S DAY 2005 – FINALISED ARRANGEMENTS

The Sub-Committee considered the schedule setting out the various activities agreed by Council on 22 February for the celebration of St George's Day 2005 and the current position with regard to each.

Members reviewed the schedule on an activity-by-activity basis.

Supply of Display Pack to Non-profit Making Organisations

Members noted the details of the sixteen organisations that had so far received display packs. A response was awaited from Rochford Golf Club with regard to the letter that had been sent to the Club inviting them to be involved in celebrations given the historical importance of their building. Members were pleased to note that the Grove Infants School was going to introduce St George as an assembly theme.

Arts Workshop with St George's Day Theme in Selected Primary Schools

Workshops were being held during the week and the Vice-Chairman of the Council had been to the event at Doggetts School in Rochford. The schools would provide feedback on the workshops and a Press Release was to be issued during the following week.

Engendering the Support of Local Newspapers/Radio Stations

Articles had been published in the Evening Echo and Yellow Advertiser. The Echo had asked for details of specific St George' Day events to be sent to them. An item has already appeared in Rochford District Matters.

Salvation Army Concerts

It was agreed that consideration should be given to the possibility of substituting a location in Hullbridge with a location in Great Wakering with a view to widening geographical spread. The Civic and Public Relations Officer confirmed that the Clerk of Great Wakering Parish Council would be consulted on the possibility of utilising a location such as Community Centre grounds or the local doctors surgery.

The Sub-Committee agreed that it would be appropriate for Members to be available on the day to greet/thank the Salvation Army in the various locations and that an itinerary should be issued for Members to sign-up to.

Availability of Rayleigh Brass for a Concert in 2006 at the Freight House

The Sub-Committee was pleased to note that Rayleigh Brass had agreed in principle and that the Freight House had been reserved. It was observed that there would be merit in considering the possibilities for utilising the Rayleigh Mount in future year(s) and involvement by the Rayleigh Amateur Dramatic Society. Reference was also made to the possibility of the Sealed Knot being involved in some sort of future event.

Contact with Canewdon Church and Ashingdon Church on Highlighting their History and opening to Visitors on St George's Day

The Sub-Committee was pleased to note that Canewdon Church would be open from 10.00am all day and Ashingdon Church from 2.00pm. The Civic and Public Relations Officer confirmed that these two events would be included on the itinerary so that Members could sign-up to meeting/greeting.

St George's Theme Charity Quiz Night at Hawkwell Village Hall

There was some discussion on possibilities with regard to the final four Member places. The Civic and Public Relations Officer would pursue suggestions and include a further item in the Members' Bulletin if appropriate.

Introduction of a St George's Theme at Various Leisure Premises

The Civic and Public Relations Officer confirmed that Holmes Place would be approached on the possibility of themeing at the Mill Hall Cafe.

Dedication of Page in Rochford District Matters

The Sub-Committee felt that this page had been very effective.

The Flying of Flags on Council Properties

In noting that the Rochford offices did not have a flag pole it was agreed that, if possible, arrangements should be made for a flag to be displayed in the Rochford Reception area with smaller flags at office windows.

Highlighting the Council's Commitment to St George's Day on Front Page of Website

The Sub-Committee was pleased to note that all the information detailed in the Rochford District Matters article had been included on the Council's website.

Visit by Chairman to Themed Events

The Sub-Committee was pleased to note that the Chairman of the Council would breakfast at the Great Wakering Day Centre themed event, following which there would be a visit to the Hockley/Hawkwell WI Coffee Morning and the Rayleigh Bowls Club. The Civic and Public Relations Officer was continuing to finalise arrangements.

During discussion it was agreed that it would be appropriate to ask all Members involved in meeting/greeting on the day to wear appropriate badges of identification. It was also agreed that Members should ask local shops keepers to be involved where they can. The Civic and Public Relations Officer confirmed that arrangements were being made for a professional photographer to be present at key events to assist with publicity. It was also confirmed that any English themed prizes for the Quiz Night would be gratefully received.

The Sub-Committee thanked officers for their contributions.

The meeting commenced at 2.00pm and closed at 3.01pm.

Chairman

Date