

**RINGWOOD FESTIVAL STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2008 AT GREENWAYS**

PRESENT: Cllr B Terry (Chairman), Cllr C Ford, C Lockyer, C Polton, P Alvis,
D Cracknell, A Osborne, L Wickens, J Wickens

IN ATTENDANCE : Terry Simpson, Town Clerk, Sue Godwin, PA to Town Clerk/Mayor

1. APOLOGIES: Cllr J Terry, Cllr N Chard
2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING. The Minutes of 27th October 2008, having been circulated, were agreed.
3. CORRESPONDENCE. Cllr Terry read out a letter received from Hampshire, Fire and Rescue expressing their thanks for the donation received from the proceeds of the 2008 stating that this will be used to upgrade the uniforms of the Young Firefighters.
4. MATTERS ARISING. None
5. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS. Terry Simpson reported that the Town Council had agreed to carry forward to next year the unspent sum of £3,000 and a further £3,000 bid for the 2009 Festival had been included in next year's budget.
6. FESTIVAL EVENTS – 2009

Classical Concert

Cllr Ford reported that the Orchestra would not be able to perform on a Sunday evening. Cllr Terry reminded the meeting that the date of the classical concert had been debated at the previous meeting and it had been decided to work around the situation, rather than attempt to change the date.

Ringwood Rocks

Pete Alvis reported that he had considered an alternative venue to those suggested at the previous meeting and, in this regard, approached Legends in Ringwood. Unfortunately, this venue would not provide sufficient space for a large stage and to be able to erect lighting safely. Pete informed meeting that the tribute band 'Queen' would play free of charge, but having taken a band member to Legends, it was evident the venue would not be satisfactory.

An alternative venue was discussed, which was Long Lane Football Club, with a proposal to erect the large stage, and charge a small entrance fee to cover the cost of the stage, this being about £6,000. However, it was believed that it would not be possible to justify this expenditure solely for one event. Unfortunately, it will also not be possible for Ringwood Rocks to be held on a Sunday or utilise the Rugby Club at Parsonage Barn Lane, as it was likely that local residents would object to that location.

A number of different options were considered, including a smaller stage for use during the day, at a cost of about £3,000, and also a large truck as had been used previously. However, the more popular bands would find these smaller facilities unattractive.

ACTION Lyn & Jeff Wickens

It was noted that the economic situation would have an adverse effect on sponsorship and this would need to be taken into account in determining a way forward.

It was also noted that there are a number of brass bands in this area which might be prepared to perform in 2009.

It was agreed that in 2009 the Festival be based upon support for charity stalls, funfair rides, staging in the Market Square for day time music, dance troupes, street performances, possibly by Forest Forge, the classical concert in the church on Saturday 11th July, and provision of a 'feeder' attraction at Pedlar's Walk.

Golf Tournament

The Tournament dates for 2009, being 22 May and 10th July, had both been booked and confirmed with Moors Valley Golf Club and participants notified.

Jazz Concert

Jeff Wickens would ask Committee if they would like to put this event on in 2009 and would report back at next meeting.

ACTION Jeff Wickens

Festival Day

Structure to be confirmed at next meeting.

Pedal Car Grand Prix

Cliff announced he had stepped down as Race Director, but would be happy to organise the Concours d'Elegance. Brian Terry thanked Cliff for all his hard work in this respect and said he was sorry to hear this news. Cliff presented letters from Oakhaven Hospice and British Liver Trust, expressing their gratitude for donations, and also informed the meeting that the Echo were happy to offer their support again.

7. 2010 Festival

It was agreed that the 2010 festival date will be 10th July, with the BPCGP on the 11th July.

It was noted that efforts were being made to obtain a volunteer to undertake the marketing of the Festival and the outcome of the approaches would be reported at a future meeting.

Sponsorship

Members were asked to return to the next meeting with names of potential sponsors.

8.

ACTION All Members

8. Date of Next Meeting

5th JANUARY 2009