



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF**  
**THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE TOWN OF HEDNESFORD (7PM – 8PM)**  
**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021**  
**Held at Pye Green Community Centre**  
**Guests were invited to attend by Zoom**

**Present:** Cllr Emma Hunneyball (Mayor), Cllr Kathryn Downs (Deputy Mayor), Cllr Robin Kingston, Cllr Mandy Dunnett, Cllr Debbie Cartwright, Cllr Arthur Roden, Cllr Paul Woodhead.

**In Attendance:** Officers: Michelle Baker (Operations and Regeneration Manager), Ginetta Adams (Community Centre and Administration Officer).

**Members of Public:** Keith Fitch (Friends of Hednesford).

**Guest Speakers:** Shaun Middleton (Hednesford Lions), Lesley Yates (Hednesford In Partnership), Sharon Jagger (in capacity as Friends of Hednesford and not as Councillor).

**1. Apologies**

Cllr Garry Jones, Cllr Sharon Jagger, Laura Dunning (Community Officer).

**2. Welcome by the Mayor**

Mayor Hunneyball opened the meeting.

**3. Mayor's report**

Mayor Hunneyball reflected on the past year, thoughts were given to the residents that we have lost or have suffered during the past 12 months. Thanks were given to all those that have worked or volunteered to help within our community.

Hednesford Town Council has gone through changes in staffing with a new team now in place, new initiatives and events have been delivered including the Farmers and Craft Market which has been a great success.

£20,000.00 in Council grants have been awarded to businesses and community groups, to help in their post Covid recover efforts and provide support for the future.

**4. To receive updates from town organisations via Zoom**

• **Friends of Hednesford – Cllr Sharon Jagger**

It has been an emotional and difficult year, with loneliness and isolation being prevalent, however there has been great support network within the community.

Cllr Jagger thanked all volunteers and noted this was national volunteers week.

Appreciations were given to local company Fallow Forest who donated plants for the town, and to the team of volunteers who work tirelessly to plant and maintain the greenery around the town.

The Grant from HTC will be used to purchase gardening and craft tools to help with their work.

In support of Hednesford working with the Alzheimer's community the Forget-me-not flower had been incorporated into the logo.

• **Chase Pride – Cllr Kathryn Downs**

The first Chase Pride was due to be held September 2020, but was delayed due to the pandemic, planning is now underway to hold the first event in September 2022. There are

several other projects in the pipeline including, Podcasts on Spotify, educational programmes, and Picnic's in the Park.

- **Hednesford Lions – Shaun Middleton**

It has been a difficult year, which has meant several events were cancelled which was disappointing.

Work has gone on throughout the pandemic, including donations, food parcels, activity packs sent to schools and local charities.

The Spectacle Project continues which has raised over £700,000.00 to date to support vision charities.

The upkeep of the War Memorial continues and they are in the process of installing a water supply to assist with grounds maintenance.

The grant from HTC was used to provide 100 vulnerable senior citizens with fish and chips, which was greatly appreciated.

- **Friends of Hednesford Park**

Not in attendance.

- **Hednesford in Partnership – Lesley Yates**

Over the past 12 months 3 members of the committee have stood down and been replaced. Planning is now underway for the annual Summer Festival and the new Bloomin' Cannock Chase competition which all towns and community groups are invited to join, details can be found on their Facebook page Hednesford in Partnership.

- **Chase Lighthouse – Cllr Debbie Cartwright**

It has been a very busy year with the pandemic affecting many residents, including the homeless and vulnerable. CL expanded their service to include a community table every Sunday at Pye Green Community Centre as well as continuing the Friday night meet in Cannock, including the provision of food hampers that have gone out since the first lockdown reaching 100's of families in need with food support. All food for this service is provided by local supermarkets with surplus donations. CL have also expanded into the provision of donated furniture for those in need when they have set up in new accommodation. Work is currently underway to set up a community fridge to be based at PGCC.

## **5. Open discussion forum**

Councillors expressed thanks and gratitude to all of the community groups in Hednesford and the volunteers that work together tirelessly to make Hednesford the great town that it is.

6. Meeting closed