

Update from Events WG Meeting held on Tuesday 10th March 2026

Attendees noted and apologies for absence given. No declarations of interest received.

Meeting notes from previous meeting on Tuesday 10th February 2026 were approved.

Meeting action log was noted.

Feedback was given on the Grants And Funding Workshop: It was well attended. A positive workshop with lots of useful information, and feedback about the types of grants and funding available. Once the website updates in April, Cllr Saunders will make contact to look into future workshops that can be run, potentially for Trustees and Volunteering.

Feedback from Cllr Wheatley regarding the Dutch Exchange: The Dutch Exchange meeting was held last night (Monday). The band that was going to start at 7pm, will now start at 8pm. Volunteers names noted for helping with the buffet on the Friday afternoon between 2-5pm. For the Welcome, potential attendees were discussed and we will see who is available – it would be good to have representatives from all different groups. The TENS license has been granted and last orders for the Saturday is 12:30am. Some bunting has been found but it is not related to the Dutch Visit, so Cllr Truscott and Wheatley have offered to make some. The flag still has not been found – this is bespoke, so not easy to replace. There are a variety of photos available for the memory gallery. The group is very thankful for the Grant money from the Council. No recommendations to the Council are needed.

It was felt that the 2025 debrief Christmas Light switch-on date and time was not suitable, as not enough of the external parties would be available and it was felt that their input is important. Cllr Saunders will liaise with the office to see if we can arrange an evening meeting, potentially a Tuesday evening.

The Second-Hand Sale is progressing in that the rooms have been booked and layout looked into. Comms posts have gone out. However, to date we have only had 3 sign-ups. To make it viable we need at least 8 to fill one room. We will set a deadline for this coming Friday (13th) and if not enough people sign-up, we cancel the event and instead focus on the upcoming Fundraisers and the Yard Sale.

Jackie Howells has updated us on the Village Hall roof and the upcoming fundraiser. A good response already for raffle prize requests and they have got a lot of Easter Eggs in readiness. They are getting a surveyor for the roof, have had some monetary donations coming in and security cameras have been put in the hall. Peter Hewes suggested gift-aid. We have arranged for 2-3 tables to be brought down for the event, and Sue, Jackie and Cllr Saunders will be attending on the day.

We discussed potential Easter activities as last year's craft event was very successful, however, to due the events that have already been planned it was agreed to hold off this year and look to arranging something for 2027 when the Sports Hub may be happy to support. No recommendations to the Council are needed at this time.

It was felt there was no need for a logo for the Events WG.

Ideas for the 2026 Christmas event (to take to the relevant meeting):

Conditions on the field were bad for 2025, so looking to hold an indoor event. Rev Jane Foster-Smith has spoken to the drama circle about a potential nativity that the children of the drama circle write and then involve the community groups as actors. Depending on where the tree will be, if on the High Street it would be easy to get from Village Hall to the tree.

The Church is having the Christmas Fair on the last Saturday of November which is presumably the day of the lighting. The village hall should be free.

Need to look at a road closure if event is on the High Street. The light switch-on will not take place on the recreation ground again. Could the tree potentially be at the Village Hall? Might make the road closure easier as you could divert down Sykes Lane and Torksey Avenue.

The Christmas event group will need a project leader to organise and co-ordinate what is going on both in the run up and on the day. Any road closure will need sorting in plenty of time. We will need to advertise for residents/groups to come together to help plan, manage and co-ordinate so all parties are working together.

Recommendations to Council/Committee

Note the update

Note the action log

Christmas Light Switch-on

- a) Note the updated evening time for the 2025 de-brief meeting, open to all parties who took part. Now at 7:15pm on Tuesday 24th March.
- b) Request that a 2026 Christmas Event meeting is arranged following on from the debrief – with the Council in a supporting role.

Next Meeting

Next meeting date Tuesday 7th April at 7:15pm – in the Function Room