

Yateley Town Council

Community Committee Meeting

Date: 16th June 2025, 7pm

Venue: Oak Room, Council Offices, GU46 7RP

Present:

Cllr Mark Griffin (Chairman)

Cllr Graham Cockarill

Cllr Mark Higgins

In attendance:

Julie Routley - Town Clerk

Absent Councillors (committee members)

Cllr Gerry Crisp

Cllr Alex Drage

Cllr Nicky Jones

Cllr Phelps-Jones

1. Welcome & Apologies

Cllr Griffin opened the meeting.

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Crisp, Drage and Phelps-Jones.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made for any item on the agenda.

3. Notes of Last Meeting

The notes of the meeting held on 17th February 2025 were accepted and approved.

4. Proposed Dates For Feel Good Festival 2026

To agree on provisional date(s) to recommend to Full Council for the 2026 Feel Good Festival, with final confirmation subject to the availability of staff, councillors, volunteers, and participants.

Feel Good Festival

The circulated report from Officers had advised that:

Key Challenges with September Dates:

- **Staffing:** Staff members unavailable; event delivery would be compromised.
- **Volunteer Shortage:** Low response to recent volunteer calls; larger event needs early commitments.
- **External Participation:** Schools and groups busy in September; low availability.
- **Event Clashes:** Competing local events reduce attendance and support.
- **Weather Risks:** Unpredictable weather affected turnout in previous year.

Need for Clarity:

- Ambiguity around the event's purpose (wellbeing vs. celebration).
- A clear, realistic vision aligned with resources is essential.

Preferred Timing: July is recommended due to:

- Better weather
- Higher participation likelihood
- Fewer event clashes
- Greater staff availability

Provisional Dates Suggested:

- **11th/12th July** – Avoids major event conflicts
- **18th/19th July** – Also viable, with good spacing from other festivals

Additional Considerations:

- Sunday events may be more family-friendly.
- Later start times (e.g., 12:00–17:00) could ease logistics and boost attendance.
- Consider a smaller, weather-independent autumn event for continued engagement.

Members discussed the circulated report and the broader context of the Feel Good Festival. The following key points were noted:

- There is currently a lack of clarity around the Council's vision for the Feel Good Festival — its purpose and intended outcomes need to be more clearly defined.
- Some members felt that holding the event in September could align well with wellbeing themes associated with autumn. However, it was acknowledged that if the Council is to lead on delivering the event, sufficient staffing and volunteer resources must be secured to ensure its success.

Members discussed holding a paired down event with a Fun Run/Colour run being the main event along with perhaps the Army Cadets Assault Course, the Scouts Climbing Wall with some food trucks and Air Cadets outdoor cooking (subject to arranging with all the groups). Perhaps starting later in the day at 2pm with the Colour run at 4pm perhaps followed by the outdoor silent cinema visiting.

It was noted that if this was held in July then it would work.

It was noted that this could have some stalls and possibly involve the Lions and other organisations and to start small. It was noted that there might need to be a name change.

Further discussion took place and members felt that September would be the best date if Staff were available.

Following a detailed discussion, it was agreed to recommend to Full Council:

- To proceed with a paired down event a 'Feel Good Festival Lite' (but that there may need to be a name change.) The scope would need to be defined.
- To hold it in September 2026 subject to staff availability.

5. Mayor's Charities

- i) It was noted that the amount raised for the Mayor's Charities in the Civic Year 2024/25 was £746.70 which meant £248.90 for each of the 3 charities (Vision 4 Youth, Cornerstone Counselling and Daisy Chain Café)
- ii) It was confirmed that the Mayor's Charities for 2025/26 are:
 - Vision 4 Youth
 - Cornerstone Counselling
 - Daisy Chain Café
- iii) Update on the Mayor's Charity Activities for 2025/26
The Ramble Rally had been very successful and the Mayor would like to run another one in the autumn in Frogmore & Darby Green.

Christmas Carolling in December

Gala Dinner – instead of a traditional Gala Dinner the Mayor wanted to do something different that may involve coaches to a venue.

The Town Clerk offered to research what other Councils do for fundraising and to report back with ideas.

6. Mayor's Civic Activities 2025/26

The Mayor provided an update on the Civic events he had been invited to, highlighting those that had recently taken place and outlining the upcoming events scheduled for 2025/26.

Events attended:

17.05.25 Ramble Rally– Mayor

04.06.25 Yateley Road Race – Mayor

Coming up:

21.06.25 Yateley Industries Fete – Cllr Bailey

22.06.25 Walk for Sean – Cllr Easterbrook

28.06.25 Gig on the Green – Cllr Spencer

29.06.25 Lions Fun Fest – TBC

02.07.25 Yateley Road Race – Cllr Phelps-Jones

17.07.25 Kumon Awards Ceremony – Mayor

13.08.25 Yateley Road Race – TBC

7. Information

Frogmore and Darby Green Fete – 5th July

It was noted that for this event more members are needed to man the stall 11am-3pm. Cllr Cockaril and Cllr Griffin said they may be able to attend in the afternoon.

Next Meeting TBC

The meeting ended at 8.04pm.