Fireworks Meeting 28th November 7.30pm

*Clay Cottage, Harwich Rd, Wix*

Present: Guy Nelson, Sue Lusher, Kerry Mitchell, Steve Pilling, Bob Jemmett, Tony Lusher, Adam Mitchell

Apologies: Ray Murray, Emma Cansdale

1. It was decided that the purpose of the Firework Display is to provide an event for the village, which if possible raises money for good causes within the village.
2. Steve questioned the accuracy of the finance statement pertaining to the firework accounts, and is going to check the statements with Emma.
3. There is enough money from this and previous years fireworks to finance the display next year.
4. There was some confusion over the timing of the fireworks this year. It was decided that next year the gates will open at 5pm, the bonfire will be lit at 6pm, and the fireworks display will start at 7pm

Going forward it was agreed that the event should take place on the nearest Saturday to the 5th November.

1. No final decisions were taken regarding the catering. The majority of those present felt that the school should continue to do the catering, however, there was recognition that they would need to provide more food, and increase the speed at which food is served. Sue Lusher is going to speak to the school to obtain their feedback.
2. It was agreed that it is very difficult to control the size of the event. Next year steps will need to be addressed to improve the parking situation.
3. Although the raffle tickets worked it did slow down entrance to the Firework Display. It is not practicable to tear off the tickets in advance because they would blow away. The requirement is for more volunteers to man the tickets and gates.

Next year there is also a need for more pound coins. It was suggested that the float and takings could be kept in the boot of Sue’s car which would be parked adjacent to the gates.

1. There is a definite requirement for more helpers – probably in the region of 15-20 more. Individual councillors are to try and recruit more helpers, and Kerry will put requests out on Facebook and Website.
2. There were some suggestions put forward as to possible solutions to the parking problems encountered this year:
3. Recruit more volunteers to help with traffic management and parking
4. Investigate the possibility of local residents offering their driveways for parking for the event
5. Hire the British Legion Hall for the purpose of using their car park – Guy is going to speak to them re this
6. Look into the possibility of borrowing Police traffic control cones.
7. Any other Business
8. The Guy competition should remain.
9. Entrance prices should remain the same
10. The school and pre-school children should receive free entry vouchers again
11. Banners should be produced stating that Sparklers are prohibited, and also a banner to indication the location of the First Aid Station
12. Adam agreed to update this year’s banners with next year’s date and timings
13. Firework budget to be increased to £2200 to enable the purchase of an additional Waterfall for the finale.
14. A budget of £500 to replenish novelty stocks.
15. It was agreed to investigate firework training courses so that there are more trained personnel
16. Emma will be asked to find out if there are any legal requirements for first aid cover in terms of number of trained first aiders per crowd size

The meeting was closed at 9.10pm