

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

COALVILLE SPECIAL EXPENSES WORKING PARTY – 20 OCTOBER 2014

Title of report	2014/15 EVENTS UPDATE
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Purpose of report	To update members with regards to 2014/15 events funded within the Coalville Special Expense Area
Recommendations	THAT THE WORKING PARTY 1) NOTES THE UPDATE ON 2014/15 EVENTS PROGRAMME 2) COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT PROGRAMME OF EVENTS FOR 2015/16 AS OUTLINE AT 2.1 AND 2.2

1.0 2014/15 EVENT PROGRAMME FOR COALVILLE

1.1 The following event has been delivered in Quarter 2 (July/August/September)

Coalville by the Sea

The Coalville by the Sea event proved (once again) to be popular, with entertainment provided by Chris Cullen from the BBC with his traditional Punch and Judy shows, plus the Chuckle Chops magic show and music from Hermitage FM.

Listening and responding to feedback from last year's event, more catering stalls were provided including Mocha Mille vintage caravan which provided drinks. Other activities included a bouncy castle and the Marlene Reid activity marquee featuring creative and artistic activities.

Delivered within £1,500 budget

1.2 The following events are to be delivered in Quarter 3 (October/November/December)

‘Christmas Lights Switch On’

It has been agreed to combine the Council's Christmas event with the Coalville Town Teams Food and Drink Festival on 22 November. This event will encompass the Coalville

Town Team Food and Drink Festival during the day and the Council's Christmas Light Switch On event outside Coalville Market from late afternoon.

Santa's Grotto and real reindeer will be positioned on the new paved area at the entrance to the Market Hall and from 2pm there will also be a programme of live music and a Fairground in the car park. The Coalville Lights switch-on will take place at 5pm and include snow cannons and a fireworks display. A laser light show is being investigated as per previous meeting recommendation but costs are looking prohibitive. In order to create a Switch-on effect it is proposed to purchase a variety of large Christmas decorations for the stage (2 x spiral trees, 3 x Christmas Light boxes and 4 real Christmas trees). These will be 'switched on' at 5pm and then used in Coalville Market for the remainder of the Christmas trading period (and the lights in future years). This arrangement will incur an additional cost of up to £1,000 which can be funded by the £2,000 contingency fund set aside for Coalville Specials events.

An event satisfaction survey will also be undertaken during this year's event in order to inform future Christmas events.

Cabinet have agreed that free car parking in both Coalville and Ashby will be available on 22, 29 November and 6, 13, 20 December 2014. (The same number of Saturdays as in 2013 Christmas trading period) but a week earlier to include the Coalville event. Please note that the Saturday after Christmas (27 December) will not be free for car parking.

1.3 **Coalville Christmas Decorations**

The Christmas Light contract with Turnock for 2014/15 costs £12,500 which includes testing, minor repairs, energy consumption, storage and the erection/removal of current decorations.

An additional £1,000 allocation to repair and refurbish a number of lights which have been identified by the contractor as in need of attention was also agreed at the Coalville Special Expenses Working Party held on 15 July 2014.

2.0 **DRAFT 2015/16 EVENTS PROGRAMME**

2.1 The draft events programme for 15/16 is proposed below for members consideration and to inform the budget setting process for 15/16.

- **Picnic in the Park** Sunday 21 or 28 June 2015
Proposed Budget £11,000.
- **Coalville by the Sea** Friday 7 August 2015
Proposed Budget £1,700.
- **Christmas Lights Switch On** Saturday 21 November 2015
Subject to discussion with Coalville Town Team
Proposed Budget £8,000.

- 2.2 Officers have also received a request from Councillor Wyatt to consider holding a **Proms in the Park** (Big Band/Opera/Brass Band) on the Saturday evening prior to Picnic in the Park. This would maximise the use of the infrastructure over the weekend as it is set up the day before and it would be the most cost effective way of delivering an additional community event.

The Council has previously delivered events on the eve of Picnic in the Park and these have included an Orchestral Concert, a Big Band Performance and Battle of the Bands (for young people) A indicative budget of £2,000 would be requested if members supported the proposal.