
Halesowen Area Committee – 14th January 2010

Report of the Chief Executive

Report of St George's Day Celebrations on 24th April 2010

Purpose of Report

1. To update members on the above event, which will be taking place on Saturday 24th April 2010.

Background

2. The Council has held St George's Day Celebrations since 2005 when the event was in Halesowen. In 2006 it was held in Dudley, 2007 in Stourbridge, 2008 in Sedgley and 2009 Brierley Hill. This year the celebrations will again be held in Halesowen.
3. Preparations have been taking place for some time and the Safety Advisory Group has approved the event and the route.
4. The celebrations will commence with a Traditional Parade led by "St George" in costume. Children from the local schools have been invited to participate in the Parade and invited to carry a Chinese Style Dragon. The Parade will also comprise "Morris Men", costumed re-enactors, members of the Community and Voluntary Groups, members of Uniformed Organisations and Ex-service Organisations. Members of this Council and Civic Dignitaries from this and surrounding areas will be invited in the early new year to attend the event and to take part in the Parade.
5. The Parade will set off at 10.30am from Hagley Road adjacent to the Cornbow Hall and will then move along the Queensway, past St John's Church. As the Parade passes by the Church, the Mayor, Cllr Pat Martin, will take the salute. The Mayor and Civic Party will then join the rear of the Parade. The Parade will then turn right into High Street and then halt in the vicinity of Somers Square. Here a stage and P.A. system will be positioned for the day's entertainment. Hagley Road will be closed all day. The Queensway, around the Bus Station to the High Street will only be closed for a maximum of half an hour to allow the Parade to pass through.
6. After the Parade has come to a halt, the Mayor will officially open the event with a "balloon launch" then Maggie O'Hara a local singer will lead the public in song with a number of Traditional English Melodies. A programme of events along with the words of the songs will be distributed to those assembled.

7. There will be Magic and Balloon Shows, Street Entertainment, a Bouncy Castle (free of charge), Medieval Displays and a Town Crier. There will also be a farmers market in the Town on the day.
8. In addition to the above entertainment, there will be displays of armour and local history exhibitions in St John's Church. The Halesowen Library is contributing towards the event by organising a number of activities throughout the day.
9. An afternoon of entertainment including tea and dance will be taking place in the Cornbow Hall at 1.30pm with admission by ticket only. This will be advertised in the local press and members of the community will be invited to apply for a ticket. Shops in the area will be invited to participate in a 'best dressed shop' competition and the Mayor will be asked to judge the competition and award prizes at the end of the day.
10. The Zion Christian Centre has agreed to hold a children's cinema show. The event will be advertised in the local press and again tickets will be available on application.
11. The day will end at approximately 3:30pm. The details of all these events are being progressed and further information is available from the contact officer below.

Finance

12. The finance to fund this event is within the base budget for 2010/2011.

Law

13. Section 111 of the Local Government Act, 1972 enables the Council to do anything that is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of its functions.

Equality Impact

14. This report takes into account the Council's Equality and Diversity Policy and there are no direct implications for children and young people in the report.

Recommendation

15. That Members support the event and note the contents of this report.



John Polychronakis
Chief Executive

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List of Background Papers

None