

Motion to Council

“That this Council earmarks £6,000 pounds from the unspent budget for 2021/2 to fund the street Bunting and Flag display in Bexhill on Sea town centre being planned by Light Up Bexhill CIC to celebrate Her Majesty the Queens Platinum Jubilee”

Brian Drayson, Councillor, Bexhill Kewhurst Ward.

A. Background

1. Thursday, 2nd June 2022 marks 70th anniversary of Her Majesty, The Queen’s Coronation and plans are in place to celebrate this remarkable milestone across the country and the Commonwealth.
2. The Platinum Jubilee will be celebrated in many ways from pomp and pageantry to street parties, from Pop concerts to Beacons and, to my mind, the town of Bexhill on Sea should be very much part of those celebrations.
3. Nationally, Public Holidays have been moved and created so that the focus of the UK’s celebrations will be from Thursday 2nd June 2022 (Coronation Day) to Sunday 5th June 2022 as follows:

Thu 02/06/22	Trooping the Colour at 10:00, Town Crier Proclamations at 14:00 and Jubilee Beacons at 21:45
Fri 03/06/22	HM The Queen attending a Thanksgiving Service at St Paul’s Cathedral
Sat 04/06/22	HM The Queen attending The Epsom Derby followed by The Party at the Palace – to be broadcast live on BBC TV
Sun 05/06/22	The Big Lunch (Street Parties) and The Platinum Jubilee Pageant (London)

4. To my knowledge, at this time, the only public events Bexhill on Sea are the ‘Light Up Bexhill’ lighting of the Beacon on Galley Hill (Thursday), a ‘Made in Bexhill’ event in Egerton Park (Saturday) and a ‘Bexhill 100 Club’ event on The Metropole Lawns.

B. Proposal

1. As part of the overall celebrations Light Up Bexhill would like to erect bunting across Western Road and St Leonard’s Road and a combination of Union Flags and Platinum Jubilee Banners across Devonshire Road, Sackville Road and a small section of Sea Road from Friday 27th May to Monday 13th June 2022 inclusive (to cover Her Majesty’s actual birthday on Saturday 11th June).

2. The bunting and flags will be visible to every resident and visitor entering central Bexhill over the period and the Town will take on a celebratory feel which may help with people's mental health.
3. This proposal will allow the Town and its residents to be part of a world-wide celebration of a once in a lifetime event and have pride in their town.
4. For the Town not to celebrate this event, would in my opinion, have a massive negative effect, particularly when most residents have only known Queen Elizabeth II as their Monarch and quite a large number will have witnessed the Coronation in 1952.

C. Estimated Costs

1. Current estimates are:

Event Insurance	£250	Bunting/Flags	£2700
Erection Licences	£250	Catenary Testing	£1000
Install/Dismantle	£750	Contingency	£150

Total £5100

£6000 is being sought to cover unexpected costs.

2. If approved, a full breakdown of all expenditure will, of course, be supplied to the Council with any unspent money being returned.
3. A separate Grant Application for £500 towards this proposal has been made to Bexhill Town Council under its Community Grant Scheme but LUB has recognised that the remaining costs are unlikely to be covered from fundraising and donations, hence this motion to Council to secure funding from the 'Town' for the 'Town'.
4. If this motion is passed that Community Grant Application will be withdrawn.
5. If this motion is not passed Light Up Bexhill CIC will not be able to proceed with the project.
6. Without a business, group or philanthropist stepping forward Bexhill's 'celebrations' will be limited to those shown in Paragraph A:4.

D. Light Up Bexhill (LUB)

1. The CIC was created in September 2019 originally to meet a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Rother District Council to arrange Christmas Light Displays in central Bexhill after the previous SLA was unexpectedly discontinued.

2. Since that time, LUB sought to arrange events to mark the VE and VJ anniversaries, Covid meant one was not possible and the other greatly reduced in scale.
3. The Company, which does not aim to make a profit from any single event, has applied to extend its SLA with RDC for one more Christmas before it ceases to have any direct involvement in such events.
4. LUB is organising the lighting of The Beacon on Galley Hill on Thursday 2nd June as a separate event and hopes to have secured sufficient funding by the end of April 2022.
5. Full Income/Expenditure Accounts for 2019/2020 and 2020/21 and Year to Date Income/Expenditure Account for 2021/22 have been included for the information of Councillors.

E. The Motion

1. For clarity, this Motion is proposing that the money be paid at the end of the Financial Year directly to Light Up Bexhill CIC for this project. It is not proposing the creation of a Fund for others to apply to for other projects.

F. Declaration of Interest

I, Councillor Brian Drayson, am The Treasurer for Light Up Bexhill CIC and have been involved in organising the Christmas Light Displays in Bexhill since 2019. I will not be in The Chamber when any item in relation to this motion or the event is discussed.

**LIGHT UP BEXHILL CIC Year 1
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

***26TH SEPTEMBER 2019 TO 25TH SEPTEMBER 2020**

	INCOME	2019/20	
Donations		12,121.18	(e)
Fund Raising		-	(a)
Market		455.00	
Other		19,522.65	(b)
	TOTAL IN	32,098.83	
EXPENDITURE			
Lights		28716.00	(c)
Adverts		214.00	
Parade		1,034.58	
Other		1,607.39	(d)
	TOTAL OUT	31,571.97	
BANK		469.86	
CASH		57.00	
	CURRENT	526.86	

Notes

** Date of Incorporation*

(a) Nil return as Funds raised through Friends of Bexhill Events shown as Donations

(b) RDC Grant £13,500, Loans of £6000, repayment of £22.65 for use of Bank Card

(c) Includes £14,172 and RDC Grant to Light Angels

(d) Includes £1064.74 Insurance cover for Lights and Switch On Event

(e) includes £500 towards VE Day Memorial

LIGHT UP BEXHILL CIC Year 2
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
1st October 2020 to 30th September 2021

	INCOME	2020/21	2019/20
Donations ⁽¹⁾		26,055.54	12,121.18
Fund Raising		-	-
Market		-	455.00
Other		47.99	
B/F		526.86	19,522.65
		26,630.39	32,098.83
	EXPENDITURE		
Lights		17,439.82	28,716.00
Adverts		-	214.00
Parade		-	1,034.58
Other ⁽²⁾⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾		6,484.99	1,607.39
		23,924.81	31,571.97
BANK		2,648.58	469.86
CASH		57.00	57.00
	2,705.58	2,705.58	526.86
			C/F
		2,705.58	

(1) includes RDC Grant of £17000 and £2,250 donation for Western Road from Chamber of Commerce

(2) includes £2490 for testing catenary in Western Road for Chamber of Commerce Lights

(3) includes £2250 donation returned to the Chamber of Commerce for lights in Western Road

(4) includes £47.99 paid in error to and refunded from Online Filings

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
1st October 2021 to 30th September 2022 Year 3 (PART)

	INCOME	2021/22	2020/21
Donations ⁽¹⁾		21,557.03	26,055.54
Fund Raising		-	
Market		620.00	
Other ⁽²⁾		14,603.76	47.99
B/F		2,705.58	526.86
		39,486.37	26,630.39
EXPENDITURE			
Lights		22,409.58	17,439.82
Adverts		125.00	
Parade		2,178.28	
Other ⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾		14,681.82	6,484.99
		39,394.68	23,924.81
BANK		677.24	2,648.58
CASH		-	57.00
		C/F	2,705.58

NOTES

⁽¹⁾ Includes Rother District Council Grants of £15,500

⁽²⁾ Includes an interest free 'bridging loan' of £13,500 until RDC Grant available

⁽³⁾ Includes Insurance Renewal

⁽⁴⁾ includes repayment of £13,500 'bridging loan' above