

Light Up Bexhill



Bexhill Town Council

Members,

I write not as a Town Councillor but on behalf of Light Up Bexhill, the Community Interest Company set up in September 2019 to ensure that Bexhill had a Christmas Lights Display for 2019.

At that time The Company entered a 3-year Service Level Agreement with Rother District Council to arrange similar displays for 2020 and 2021.

Because of the Covid Pandemic there was a reduced display in 2020 and no 'switch on' event , so we were unfortunately not able to attract people into the town centre to celebrate.

I understand that a verbal suggestion was made to the Community Committee that the £10,000 currently shown for 'Covid Recovery' be paid to Light Up Bexhill towards this year's display. This suggestion, although welcomer, was not prompted by Light Up Bexhill, nor was it supported by the Committee.

However, I feel now, that an official request from Light Up Bexhill for a grant from that Fund is appropriate as we will be able to hold a procession and switch-on event this year and thereby contributing towards this Town's return to normality as well as lifting people's spirits and helping some with their mental health recovery.

Apart from the Grant from Rother District Council towards costs, Light Up Bexhill has to raise additional funds to cover the actual cost of the Lights and the Switch-On Event, which, if 2019's Switch Up is anything to go by, increases the trade of the various eateries in the town centre.

I respectfully ask Bexhill Town Council considers donating £2,000 to Light Up Bexhill towards this year's display.

I have supplied the Town Clerk with our accounts and will be available to answer any questions but will leave The Chamber while the matter is discussed and voted upon.

Yours sincerely

Brian Drayson