**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE**

**Held on Friday 26th July 2019 at 11:00am**

**In the Conference Room at Normanton Town Hall**

**Present:** Councillor Mrs C. Appleyard

 Councillor D. Appleyard

 Councillor R. Best

 Councillor S. Hudson

 Councillor F.D. Jones

 Councillor Mrs H.W. Jones

 Councillor Mrs F. Marchant

 Councillor Mrs P. Mayne

 Councillor Mrs A. Moran

 Councillor Mrs C. Moran, BEM

 Councillor Mrs A. Wood

 Councillor B. Wood

**Absent:** Councillor Mrs E. Blezard, Councillor A. Wassell, Councillor K. Wilson, JP

**11. Welcome & Apologies**

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Mrs E. Blezard, Councillor A. Wassell and Councillor K. Wilson, JP.

**12. Normanton Gala Parade**

It was reported that a decision was made in October 2018 to limit the number of entries in the parade to 20 with a maximum of 6 HGV vehicles.

This decision was made in order to minimise risk and to ensure that the parade can safely fit on to the arena.

The entries have now reached 6 HGVs and the office staff have turned down 3 HGV bookings. This has prompted complaints from the groups affected who now wish to challenge the Councils decision.

The capacity of the parade had not previously been an issue as the number of entries and lorries had always been manageable.

2010 - 18 entries and 3 lorries

2011 - 19 entries and 3 lorries

2012 - 16 entries and 2 lorries

2013 - 16 entries and 2 lorries

2014 - 18 entries and 2 lorries

2015 - 17 entries and 2 lorries

2016 - 17 entries and 3 lorries

2017 - 22 entries and 8 lorries \*

2018 - 20 entries and 7 lorries

\* It was noted that additional entries were accepted in 2017 due to the arena size being increased as a one off to accommodate the White Helmets Motorcycle Display Team. On the day of the event, the rain prevented any HGVs from being able to enter the field and children had to be unloaded on Castleford Road which caused significant delays and a reprimand from the Police Officer on duty for exceeding the Road Closure Order.

It was clear in 2018 that it was not practical to fit 7 HGVs on the arena and this Council has a duty to manage risk caused by the parade. The number of lorries has increased significantly and there is only a certain amount of space available on the field to accommodate them.

The information regarding the Gala and bookings for the parade, dance displays and stalls had been sent out to organisations on 23rd April 2019 and members felt that organisations who wished to be involved in the Gala have had sufficient time to submit their entries if they wished to take part.

Members were satisfied with the original decision that was made and fully support the staff in declining any further HGV entries.

Any further groups wishing to take part should be advised to use a smaller vehicle no bigger than a Luton van size (aprx 7m) or enter a walking float with a support vehicle (car or small van).

Entries would be accepted up to a maximum of 20 as per the original decision.

RESOLVED that the original decision to restrict entries to the parade be upheld on the grounds of Health and Safety.