

Initial Coronation Coordination Meeting  
11<sup>th</sup> of January 2023 @ 6.30pm  
The Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster

---

***The Ilminster Coronation Event (ICE) celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III***

**Weekend commencing the 5<sup>th</sup> of May 2023.**

This meeting was hosted by Ilminster Town Council at the above venue. See separate attendance register for those who attended as themselves or on behalf of Ilminster organisations.

The meeting was opened and introduced by Cllr Leanne Taylor (Mayor – Ilminster Town Council), who laid out the objectives of the meeting as an information gathering exercise, in so much as:

- Learning what organisations/residents were planning for the ‘Coronation Weekend’.
- Taking suggestions of activities and events that may be hosted/organised over the weekend.
- Emphasised that the weekend was not a ‘Town Council’ event, but rather a community led enterprise. Cllr Taylor went on to say, that although the Town Council were prepared to assist and facilitate the event, hence this meeting, it was not able or prepared to organise the event due to limited resources. Therefore, it was incumbent on those volunteers or organisations in the community, that if they wanted to hold an event, then it has be community led.

Cllr Shepherd spoke about timings and suggested that the Recreation Ground (the Rec.) be a more suitable venue for any large community event, as logistics would be much easier and no need for road closures, etc.

The discussion was then opened by Matt Sainsbury (Ilminster Cricket Club), who suggested an event similar to the successful ‘Party on the Park’. A day long event aimed at families gathering on the Rec. Some things suggested:

- A marquee to guarantee against the weather.
- A ‘cream tea’ tent or venue organised by one of the Carnival Clubs.
- Live music by local artists.
- The Cricket Club would be open (cricket matches will be taking place on the Saturday)
- Need for additional toilet facilities.

David Glossop suggested that the event would be better held on the Sunday, so as not to coincide with the actual Coronation happening on the Saturday (at the time of the meeting, the actual timings and details of the Coronation were not yet known).

Julie Fowler asked about allocated Town Council budget. Cllr Shepherd responded that he believed, but will confirm, that £5000 had been set aside.

Initial Coronation Coordination Meeting  
11<sup>th</sup> of January 2023 @ 6.30pm  
The Shrubbery Hotel, Iminster

---

Jim Sainsbury suggested flags and bunting (more durable than that previously supplied) for the town centre area only, but orders would have to happen sooner rather than later.

Adam Hilling (Oakwater Escapes), told the meeting that it was his intention to have a grand opening of his new holiday business coinciding with the Coronation weekend. His intention was to have a ceremony on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May and inviting local dignitaries, as well as organisations and members of the community. This would tie into the fact that on his property, he has an oak tree that was planted to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria. His intention was to have a 'King Charles Oak' planted at the time, on land nearby.

Brenda Lake (ILF) voiced concern about the lack of people and organisations attending the event. The Mayor responded that all organisations and an open invite to residents was given out. Unfortunately due to a change of date, the meeting was coinciding with the Iminster Chamber of Commerce meeting happening at the same time.

David Glossop suggested the possibility of arranging for a military band to be at the event, such as the Somerset Cadet Force or Yeovilton volunteer band. He offered to make enquiries, which was accepted and appreciated by the Mayor.

Cost considerations were raised, including but not exclusive to:

- Marquee & Toilet hire.
- Sound systems.

Consideration be given to:

- Music acts
- Majorettes
- A small 'Thanksgiving' during the event led by the ministry in the marquee.
- A crown making competition.
- *(a shop window dressing competition)*
- Arts Centre event (possible children's art exhibition similar to that held for the Queen's Jubilee)
- 'Open Garden' trail on Monday with 'crown stamps' to collect.
- Schools/Youth organisations pageant on the Sunday (dressing as lords and ladies, knights, royalty, etc.)
- 'Tiles of memories'

Publicity.

- A strapline for the event was suggested – "Memory Making & Community Building"
- Attendees were asked for a suitable title for the event (*note: 'The Iminster Coronation Event' above is only a suggestion and not the final title*).

Initial Coronation Coordination Meeting  
11<sup>th</sup> of January 2023 @ 6.30pm  
The Shrubby Hotel, Ilminster

---

Union Flags and bunting suggested to be restricted to the centre of town.

**Tasks:**

- Set up at committee in addition to the three Councillors who had already volunteered.
  - Joanna Stobbard (vicar), volunteered on the night.
- Look at hire costs of:
  - Marquee
  - Toilets
  - Sound System
  - Insurance

**Contact:**

- Ilminster Majorettes
- Ilminster Carnival Clubs
- Ukulele Band
- Community Choir

**Date of next meeting:**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> of February at 7pm

Venue: tbc

**Meeting notes taken by Cllr Brian Hamilton**

Initial Coronation Coordination Meeting  
11<sup>th</sup> of January 2023 @ 6.30pm  
The Shrubby Hotel, Iminster

---

**Annex A**

**The Iminster Coronation Event (ICE) celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III, weekend commencing the 5<sup>th</sup> of May 2023.**

**Diary:**

<b>Coronation Weekend 'run up'</b>		
<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Timings</b>
Flags & Buntin	Iminster Town Centre	Prior to early May Bank Holiday until conclusion of 'Coronation week'?
<i>Children's art exhibition</i>	<i>Iminster Arts Centre</i>	<i>Prior to early May Bank Holiday until conclusion of 'Coronation week'?</i>

<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of May</b>		
<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Timings</b>
Oakwater Opening	Oakwater Escapes – Sea, Iminster	
Evening Concert	Iminster Arts Centre	7pm

<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> of May (Coronation Day)</b>		
<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Timings</b>
Coronation Day		All day

<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> of May</b>		
<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Timings</b>
Iminster Coronation Event (ICE)	The Recreation Ground	From 11am til 7pm?

<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> of May (Bank Holiday)</b>		
<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Timings</b>
Open Gardens	Iminster Town	Mid-morning until mid-afternoon