

BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL
Community Development Committee
Thursday 15 June 2023

Decision Report 1

Recommendation

Members to consider, following a request from a member of the public, the need to have a single event to celebrate St George's Day, which falls on Tuesday 23 April 2024, and if so, to consider the options provided within the report.

Ward

Not ward specific.

Risk Management

To ensure that events are organised considering all elements of finance, health and safety and other issues relating specifically to each event. The format of some of the events are still to be agreed or where further work may need to be carried out. There is no budget available for this potential event.

Objective

To promote the environmental, social, and economic wellbeing of the town and its community by organising a variety of events for the public to enjoy/participate within.

Report

St George's Day falls on Tuesday 23 April 2024, so an event could be proposed on a weekend either side of it. Below are the dates for our potential 2024 event dates:

- Easter – Saturday 31 March
- St Georges Day – Tuesday 23 April
- D Day Celebrations – Sunday 2 June
- Blyth Live – Saturday 15 June

Having researched St Georges day events in other areas, it is not something that is widely celebrated. Most of the activities found already in place are similar to church teas, school events and pubs and restaurants having special offers.

If we were to have something to celebrate this day, I would suggest something similar to the following to gauge the public's interest:

- **Children's Colouring in competition** – like the Jubilee last year, we could have one for St George's, 'Draw yourself as a knight' etc.
- **St George's Day Market** – Utilising the town centre (Bowes Street) to host stalls and have some live busker's music. Include local business to participate with a special offer.
- **St Georges Day Quiz** – A quiz around the town, in conjunction with the heritage this could be sponsored by a local business for a prize.
- **Re-enactment Days** – We could approach the Battery to see if they would like to consider some re-enactment, based on previous attempts to work alongside the Battery, this may not be feasible.
- **St George's Craft Day** – Support the library in hosting a craft day for children to make a dragon. Or create a dragon to take part in the Carnival.

St George's Day is at the end of the children's Easter holidays, so the activities for the children could start at the beginning of April to run throughout the holiday.

If any of these events are considered as potential event/s then cost options can be brought to the next Committee.

Julie Summers
Events Co-ordinator

6 June 2023