30 August 2016

**REPORT TO NORTH LUFFENHAM PARISH COUNCIL   
BY BONFIRE NIGHT WORKING GROUP**

**BACKGROUND**

1. Following discussions at the July Parish Council Meeting concerning issues relating to insurance for the annual Bonfire Night event, the Chairman agreed to seek a definitive answer from our Insurers, Aon and to meet with the Bonfire Night Working Group to review the arrangements for the event.

2. The Working group met on 9th August and this report summarises the discussion and findings of the Working Group.

**INSURANCE**

3. The Chairman had sought clarification from the Local Councils Team at Aon Risk Solutions regarding the requirement that any fire/fireworks had to be at least 100 m from any buildings or property. On 8 Aug 16 he had received a note from Aon stating that:

“the insurers will **not** look to change these guidelines. If by any means the council have ignored the guidelines in any way or form the parish council **will not be covered**. As stated on the guidelines all Firework display/Bonfires/Beacons should be 100m away from all buildings, materials and any flammable or other dangerous materials.”

The Working Group agreed that on this basis it would not be possible to to run the event on The Oval within the limitations imposed by our current insurers.

4. The Chairman had sought quotations from 2 x alternative insurance providers. Both had indicated similar costs which were based upon attendance of up to 500 people and cover of Public Liability Cover of £5 Million. The cost of this level of cover was £575. It was agreed that further quotations should be sought and Charles agreed to seek a quote from NFU. The requirements laid down by the insurer was that the layout of the event should conform with the requirement laid down by DTI (Details at: www.dti.gov.uk/fireworks ) It was the view of the Committee that the conditions laid down by DTI and HSE could be achieved within the limitations of the space available on The Oval.

5. CONCLUSION. It was the view of the Committee that appropriate insurance should be sought from an alternative provider and that the situation should be reviewed following the 2016 event. The PC should consider making appropriate additional financial provision from Reserves to fund this additional requirement.

**REVIEW OF 2015 EVENT**

6. The Working Group reviewed the 2015 Post Event Report dated 12 Jan 16 and noted the sole recommendation made in the report that the safety zone be extended from 30m to 35m from the firework launch site to the public viewing area.

7. The Working Group reviewed the Jul 15 Bonfire Night Review report and confirmed that the recommendations made therein were still extant and appropriate. The Chairman agreed to review the Risk Assessment and publish a revised assessment by 1 Oct 16.

8. It was agreed that it would be important to try to recover the additional insurance costs through tightening the provision of bucket collectors and access.

CONCLUSION

9. It was the view of the Working Group that:

* it would not be possible to run the event on The Oval within the limitations imposed by our current insurers.
* the conditions laid down by DTI and HSE could be achieved within the limitations of the space available on The Oval.
* that alternative insurance cover could be obtained and that PC should make appropriate financial provision for this.
* that the comprehensive Jul 15 Report remained extant and appropriate.
* providing that appropriate insurance cover is obtained that the 2016 event should proceed on 5 Nov 16.

PBG CUMMINGS

Chair