

**To receive an updated report on the Christmas lights switch on event 2025 and consider any actions and associated expenditure.**

present -:

**Peter Ryland, Chair of Chamber of Commerce**

**Hillary Frank, Cornwall councillor, and organiser of Christmas Festival Event**

**Julia Peggs, Saltash Town Councillor**

**Apologies-;**

**John Brady, Saltash Town Councillor**

**Agenda-**

**to consider combining the Christmas light switch on, in conjunction with the Christmas Festival**

Hilary explained that she could not organise the Christmas festival event without the help of diverse events. These events are booked one year in advance. Therefore, the Christmas festival this year could not be changed, or made earlier as it had already been booked and 60% of the stalls have already been sold.

However, she would be in contact with Diverse Events to see if it was possible if the date could be changed for 2026. Most towns have their events at the same time each year and these are always booked a year in advance by diverse events, so it did not look hopeful.

It was suggested by Peter Ryland that a separate light switch on by the Town Council in a working relationship with the Chamber of Commerce to take place in the middle of November with a more organised event.

The best dressed window being judged by residents, and a competition for children identifying Christmas objects in traders' windows, therefore attracting more people into the town on an earlier date. This could also attract some street entertainment. Traders in Fore St would therefore be much more likely to stay open giving them the opportunity for extra trading. The suggested date was 14th November @ 6:00 PM to allow families to come home from work, and for children before bedtime.

A suggestion for this joint financial, and event venture between Saltash Town Council and the Chamber of Commerce would like to be considered with an amount of funding from Council and from the Chamber of Commerce .

**End of report**

**Cllr Julia Peggs**