

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

22 JULY 2013

PRESENT:- Councillor Yarker (in the Chair); Councillors Cooke, Mrs Grady, Mrs Moorhouse, Peat and Robinson (Minutes 15 to 21 inclusive); Neil Stokell (Barnard Castle Business Guild).

Also in attendance:- Dr A. Barmby (Rotary Club of Barnard Castle)(Minutes 13 to 15 inclusive).

Officers:- Mr King (Town Clerk) and Mrs Plant (Assistant Clerk).

13. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Deacon and Ms Morris (The Witham).

Resolved – That Councillor Deacon and Ms Morris's apologies be accepted.

14. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Code of Conduct (Minute 72(a)/Sep/12 refers), Members were asked whether they had any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter on the agenda and, if so, to declare those interests at this point of the meeting. Members were reminded that a declaration could be given later in the meeting if a need arose during discussion. There were no declarations of interest at this juncture.

15. VEG OUT IN BARNEY

Dr Barmby, a representative from the Rotary Club of Barnard Castle, attended the meeting and provided Members with an insight to the 'Veg Out in Barney' project, including the association with the Todmorden Incredible Edible project. A question and answer session ensued.

Resolved – (a) That it be formally noted that this Committee supports the Rotary Club of Barnard Castle's 'Veg Out in Barney' project.

(b) That Dr Barmby be thanked for her attendance.

16. PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – 20 MAY 2013 – MINUTES

It was reported that, in respect of Minute 9 (Co-option of Committee Members), Ms Morris, Centre Manager for The Witham, had subsequently agreed to become a co-opted member of this Committee.

Resolved – That the Minutes be accepted as a correct record.

17. COMMUNITY EVENTS

Mini Golf Formal Opening

It was reported that the formal opening event for the new mini golf course, incorporating a civic inter-mayoral competition and the attendance of members of the British Mini Golf Association national team, had taken place on 20 July. It had been well attended and all those who had participated had thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Resolved – (a) That investigations be made into establishing local mini golf teams with a view to competing nationally within the British Mini Golf league in due course.
(b) That the information be noted.

Summer Scar Top Concerts

Submitted – Pursuant to Minute 10/May/13, a report summarising the Summer Scar Top Concerts that had been programmed by the Task and Finish Group and sought approval for the following 4-week programme of events:-

- 27 July – Buskers' Day;
- 3 August – Silver/Brass Band Concerts;
- 10 August – Mediaeval Day; and
- 17 August – Teddy Bears Picnic.

The format and detail of each event was outlined.

It was also reported that the Barnard Castle Meet had inquired as to whether the Meet's food services could be present during the Summer Scar Top Concerts. Reference was made to the bylaw, imposed by the former Teesdale District Council, prohibiting street trading on specific streets in Barnard Castle, including Scar Top/grounds of Woodleigh. It was noted that Durham County Council had confirmed that this remained the case. Discussion ensued and it was considered that the bylaw had been misinterpreted and that street trading was allowed on Scar Top/grounds of Woodleigh. However, it was agreed that the bylaw, as mandated by DCC, should be adhered to.

Resolved – (a) That the proposed Summer Scar Top Concerts be approved.
(b) That Durham County Council be requested to fully clarify the areas affected by the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 – Section 3 Prohibition of Street Trading - Barnard Castle and request that the bylaw be rescinded or lifted for specific occasions.
(c) That, **in support of the Barnard Castle Business Guild**, no food services be provided at the 2013 Summer Scar Top Concerts.

NOTE – Councillors Mrs Grady and Robinson declared a personal interest in respect of the discussion regarding the Barnard Castle Meet's request to provide food services at the Summer Scar Top Concerts and took no part in the voting thereon.

August Bank Holiday Event

It was reported that the town's participation in the agreed event (Council Minute 156/Apr/13 refers) had been confirmed with the event organisers and that the event's formal launch and associated publicity had commenced.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

Christmas Event 2013

Submitted – A report seeking to determine the scale and content of this Council's Christmas Event 2013 and outlined the details of the investigations that had been made into previously suggested ideas. It was noted that, whilst it had been agreed that a task and finish group should be formed to formulate a detailed scope for the event for approval at this meeting, due to a number of factors, this had not been possible.

Discussion ensued and Members considered that, to develop a more enhanced Christmas event, there remained a need for the task and finish group to formulate a detailed scope

of run-up events to the final standard elements of the event, i.e. the arrival of Santa and the switching-on of the tree lights, a room in the Methodist Church to be utilised as Santa's Grotto, an elves' workshop in which children can participate and the face-painters, etc.

Resolved – (a) That the membership of the Task and Finish Group be amended to consist of Councillors Cooke, Deacon, Mrs Moorhouse, Peat and co-opted member Mr N Stokell (Barnard Castle Business Guild), to formulate a detailed scope for the overall event for approval at the next meeting (21 October 2013).

(b) That the standard elements of the event, i.e. the arrival of Santa and the switching-on of the tree lights etc., be scheduled for Friday, 6 December 2013.

Remembrance Sunday

It was reported that preparations for Remembrance Sunday 2013 had commenced but that the majority of the arrangements would be finalised during September.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

18. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING DISPLAY 2013/14

The Witham

Pursuant to Christmas Festival Committee Minute 27(a)/Mar/13, it was confirmed that a meeting with a Witham Board member to discuss a potential lighting display for that building had taken place. However, it was also confirmed that the preferred option was for the building to have a static lighting scheme and that investigations were being made into such a display.

Relocation of Curtain Lights

Following Christmas Festival Committee Minute 27(b)/Mar/13, it was confirmed that investigations as to where the curtain lights that previously lit the Market Cross might be relocated were still ongoing.

Galgate Trees

It was reported that, pursuant to Christmas Festival Committee Minute 27(c)/Mar/13, Durham County Council had provided a quote of £28,500 so that some of the trees in upper Galgate could be included in the overall Christmas lighting display. The provisions of the quote were outlined.

Street Lighting Column Testing

It was reported that, in respect of the 8 columns that required testing prior to the installation of the 2013 display, Durham County Council had confirmed that the contract for a preferred street lighting column testing contractor had still not been awarded and that, to comply with DCC's test specifications, Roch NDT would be instructed directly by this Council to carry out the tests again. It was noted that DCC had not yet confirmed whether the column that failed during the 2012 testing had been repaired/replaced.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted.

(b) That the inclusion of some of the trees in upper Galgate within the overall Christmas lighting display be no longer considered.

19. POPPY APPEAL

It was reported that preparations for 2013 local poppy appeal had begun, including that the two week collection period would commence on 26 October through to 9 November

2013 with permission granted for the street collections to continue throughout the whole period. It was noted that Councillor volunteers would be sought nearer the time to assist with the distribution of poppy supplies.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

20. GRANTS TO OTHER BODIES

Submitted – In accordance with the Terms of Reference of Council and Committees 2013/14 and the Financial Donations Policy, a report summarising the financial donations situation. It was confirmed that this Council's 2013/14 budgetary allocation for financial donations was £1,500 and that, to date, there had been no donations made from this year's allocation. It was reported that the following application had been received:-

(A) Barnard Castle Scout Group – Support towards International visit to Sweden 3 to 10 August 2013. It was noted that four previous donations had been made to the organisation.

Resolved – That a donation of £250 be made to Barnard Castle Scout Group towards the funding of their international visit to Sweden 3 to 10 August 2013.

21. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL'S REVITALISING MARKETS STRATEGY

Submitted – Pursuant to Council Minute 71a/Sep/12, a report updating members of developments in respect of DCC's Revitalising Markets Strategy and the potential for the community to respond to the contracting out the provision of weekly markets in towns across County Durham, including Barnard Castle, and that informal discussions had been held with the Barnard Castle Business Guild and the Barnard Castle Farmers' Market on the potential for a joint response to any tendering exercise by DCC.

It was noted that an information day was scheduled to be held at County Hall on 31 July to allow 'prospective market operators' to find out more about opportunities to manage street markets in County Durham and that a Special Council meeting may require scheduling to prepare the submission of a prospective bid.

Resolved - That the information be noted.