

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

19 MAY 2014

PRESENT: Councillor Robinson (in the Chair for Minutes 7 to 17); Councillors Cooke, Deacon, Mrs Grady, Hinchcliffe, Mrs Moorhouse (in the Chair for Minutes 1 to 6) and Peat.

Also in attendance: Mr K. Walker (Barnard Castle Business Guild); one member of the press.

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

NOTE – In the absence of a Chair or Vice-Chair at this point of the meeting, the Clerk called for the Committee to nominate a temporary chair. Councillor Mrs Moorhouse was nominated and seconded to temporarily chair the meeting until the item that officially appointed a Vice-Chair for the municipal year 2014/15.

1. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES: None.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014/15

Councillor Mrs Moorhouse was proposed and seconded. There were no other nominations.

Resolved – That Councillor Mrs Moorhouse be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the Municipal Year 2014/15.

3. 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.

4. DATES AND TIMES OF PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Submitted - A schedule of the dates and times of Committee meetings during the Municipal Year 2014/15, as determined at Council Minute 107(3(e))/Mar/14.

Resolved – That the information be received.

5. PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – 10 FEBRUARY 2014 – MINUTES

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

6. SPECIAL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – 24 FEBRUARY 2014 – MINUTES

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

7. 2014 SPRING/SUMMER EVENTS TASK & FINISH GROUP MEETING – 21 MARCH 2014 – NOTES

Resolved – That the Notes be received.

8. 2014 SPRING/SUMMER EVENTS TASK & FINISH GROUP MEETING – 16 APRIL 2014 – NOTES

Resolved – That the Notes be received.

9. SPECIAL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – 23 APRIL 2014 – MINUTES

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

10. 2014 AUTUMN/WINTER EVENTS TASK & FINISH GROUP MEETING – 2 MAY 2014 – NOTES Resolved – That the Notes be received.

11. 2014 SPRING/SUMMER EVENTS TASK & FINISH GROUP MEETING – 15 MAY 2014 – NOTES Resolved – That the Notes be received.

12. 2014 AUTUMN/WINTER EVENTS TASK & FINISH GROUP MEETING – 15 MAY 2014 – NOTES Resolved – That the Notes be received.

13. CO-OPTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

In accordance with the Partnership Committee's Terms of Reference, consideration was given to the co-option of two non-voting member(s) of the community onto the Partnership Committee. Members were reminded as to who the 2013/14 co-optees were.

Reference was made to the fact that Mr K Walker, the recently elected Chairman for the Barnard Castle Business Guild was present at the meeting and had expressed an interest in being the Guild's co-opted member on this Committee.

Resolved – (a) That Mr K Walker of the Barnard Castle Business Guild be accepted as a co-optee on the Partnership Committee.

(b) That The Bowes Museum be invited to become a co-optee on the Partnership Committee.

14. COMMUNITY EVENTS

i) Mayoral Event

It was confirmed that the Mayor's Charity fundraising event, took place on 9 May 2014 that had been well attended and included a number of local Mayors. It was anticipated that there would be a healthy surplus that would be donated to the outgoing Mayor's nominated charity, Teesdale YMCA. A formal cheque presentation would be arranged at a date convenient to Teesdale YMCA.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

ii) 2014 Summer Events

It was confirmed that, in respect of the programme of events, the arrangements were in hand and progressing well and that publicity would commence shortly.

However, in respect of the 'Get Outdoors' Day, it was reported that the Heart of Teesdale Landscape Partnership had asked if the date could be changed from 16 August to 30 August and that the venue be the Demesnes due to the greater availability of other partner organisations for that day and the site being more appropriate. The Task and Finish Group had agreed that this change was acceptable and considered inviting another organisation, such as the Barnard Castle Business Guild, to organise an alternative event for 16 August.

Resolved – (a) That the 'Get Outdoors' Day be changed to Saturday 30 August 2014.

(b) That another organisation be invited to organise an alternative event for 16 August.

iii) 2014 Autumn/Winter Events

Further to the Committee's decision to form a task and finish group to formulate a detailed scope for the 2014 Autumn/Winter events, taking into account the previously agreed budget, it was confirmed that the Group had subsequently met on two occasions and,

taking into account the previous decision to keep the customary Christmas Tree Lights Switch-on event as a 'stand-alone' event scheduled for 5 December 2014, the group considered that there should be a firework display again and that it should be the finale to a 'Victorian' themed day of entertainment on Scar Top, including craft activities, entertainers and carol singing, etc. and be scheduled for 6 December 2014.

It was noted that Dickens in Teesdale had an amount collected at the 2013 Christmas events which, as had been previously reported, was being held to support the 2014 event. As the T&F group considered that the budget allocated to Christmas was, in itself, sufficient, it was suggested that the DiT money may be received into the Christmas event budget and an equivalent amount may then be 'vired' into the Summer Events budget to support those events, should additional funds be required, subject to a review of the expenditure incurred for Summer events. It was noted that this 'virement' was within the overall Community Events budget and was within the committee's discretion.

Resolved – (a) That the proposed 'Victorian' themed 2014 Christmas Event be approved.
(b) That the Task and Finish Group and the Clerk be authorised to finalise the event details.

iv) Mayoral Christmas Card Competition

Following the decision of the Committee to establish local interest in holding a competition for school pupils to design a mayoral Christmas card for 2014 (52(4)/Feb/14), it was confirmed that three schools had positively responded to take part. Further details for the competition would be forwarded to the schools to enable the competition to take place prior to the Autumn term.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

v) Remembrance Sunday

It was reported that there was no current update in respect of the 2014 Remembrance Sunday event.

15. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING DISPLAY 2014/15

It was confirmed that the Christmas lighting display for 2014/15 would consist of the standard display to comply with the agreed budgetary allocation, albeit that the Christmas tree lights be constantly lit from 24 to 26 December.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

St Mary's Church

It was reported that, pursuant to the decision to make investigations to provide an illuminated scene at St Mary's Church (Committee Minute 54(b)/Feb/14 refers), the Church had confirmed that it would prefer the area to be decorated with a traditional Christmas tree as a pit and electricity point were installed during the recent improvements to that area. With this in mind, the Church had asked whether the Committee would consider purchasing lights for a 4-metre tree and to include the dressing of the tree within the town's overall Christmas lighting display installation/dismantling service. Details of suitable lighting options and costs were outlined.

Resolved – That the Christmas Lighting Support Fund be used to purchase sufficient 'white' LED string lighting to dress a 4 metre Christmas tree to be installed at St Mary's Church and that the dressing of the tree be included within the town's overall Christmas lighting display installation/dismantling service.

16. POPPY APPEAL

It was reported that there was no update to report in respect of the Poppy Appeal.

17. VEG OUT IN BARNEY

Submitted – A progress report in respect of the 'Veg Out in Barney' project, as the project was now one year old.

Resolved – That the information be noted.