

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL  
PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

**18 MAY 2015**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Robinson (in the Chair); Councillors Deacon, Cooke, Peat, Hinchcliffe, Mrs Grady and Mrs Moorhouse (until Item 5.)

**Also in attendance:** Ms J. Cole (Arts Management) (until Item 7); Mr M. Hanby (Business Guild); one member of the press; two members of the public.

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

Mr Michael Hanby was formally welcomed to the meeting, as the new representative of the Business Guild.

**3. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Mr R. Welsby and Ms J. Whitaker (The Bowes Museum).

**Resolved** – That the apologies be accepted.

**4. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015/16**

Councillor Deacon was proposed and seconded.

**Resolved** – That Councillor Deacon be appointed Vice Chair of this Committee for the Municipal Year 2015/16.

**5. 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.

**6. BISHOP AUCKLAND ELEVEN ARCHES PROJECT**

Jill Cole from Arts Management presented about the Eleven Arches Project in Bishop Auckland, anticipated from June 2016, which would mirror the Puy Du Fou historical park in France. The project was currently at the planning application stage to develop the former golf course, with the viaduct as backdrop; determination date was 2 June. If approved, the first part of the project is to create spectacular theatrical night shows, which would involve 600 people from the local area re-telling the history of County Durham (including Barnard Castle). It was reported that there was an open day on 6 June. The project was seeking letters of support from local communities and was likely to impact on the town from an economic, tourism and employment perspective.

**Resolved** – That it be delegated to the Clerk to send a letter of support on behalf of the Town Council to the South West Durham planning team.

**7. PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – 13 APRIL 2015 – MINUTES**

Councillor Robinson queried the decision to purchase an events mat out of the Events 2014/15 underspend (Minute 69(iv)/Apr/15 refers). The Clerk reported that this underspend had been moved to general reserves and that as the cost was below £500, the Clerk had acted under delegated authority pursuant to a previous Council resolution (Minute 115 (2)(b)/Dec/12 refers). There was a need for anti-slip matting, highlighted by a Health & Safety risk assessment and incident on Remembrance Sunday.

**Resolved** – That the minutes be accepted as a correct record.

## **8. SPECIAL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – 11 MAY 2015 – MINUTES**

**Resolved** – That the minutes be accepted as a correct record.

### **9. POPPY APPEAL**

#### **a. VE celebration 8 May 2015**

It was reported that two residents of the town, Iris Hillery and Allan Jones, had organised a commemorative event on 8 May 2015 to mark the 70th Anniversary of Victory in Europe. During the day an exhibition took place at St Mary's Parish Hall. A concert was put on in the evening by Barnard Castle Band and the evening culminated with Durham County Council's Chairman Cllr John Robinson lighting a beacon outside St Mary's Church. The event was very well supported and a magnificent total of £1,350 was raised and donated to the local Poppy Appeal.

**Resolved** – That the information be noted and that thanks be given to Iris Hillery and Allan Jones for organising the events.

## **10. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS WORKING GROUP**

Pursuant to Minute 60(b)/Mar/15, it was reported that the first meeting of the Christmas Lights Working Group was scheduled to be held on Thursday 28 May. Shelagh Stewart from Staindrop Christmas Lights Committee had confirmed attendance to explain how the lights work in Staindrop.

Committee members noted that it was resolved at Special Partnership (Minute 60(d)/Mar/15 refers) that Partnership Committee could consider any proposal within the current budget, to give funding to a voluntary/community group to organise Christmas lights (with the town council retaining assets) should such a proposal be forthcoming.

It was reported that a proposal had been received from Teesdale Conservation Volunteers (North East Stage) to take on Christmas Lighting as a project. The proposal was to:

- Liaise with shops and building owners to secure anchor points and power points.
- Supply all cabling and RCDs (safety devices).
- Provide a combination of LED string lights crossing the full street; uniformed lighting of all shop Christmas trees; uplighting of trees on Galgate; fitting of string lighting to key trees on Scar Top.

It was noted that the proposal would be discussed at the working group before being reported to next Committee meeting as a recommendation.

**Resolved** – That the information be noted.

## **11. EVENTS 2015 TASK & FINISH GROUP NOTES AND UPDATE**

#### **a. Events T&F Group – 23 April – draft notes**

It was noted that a grant of £250 had been offered by Heart of Teesdale to the town council to promote a summer picnic on its Brass Band Day on 1 August.

Pursuant to Minute 68/Apr/15, Durham County Council and Visit County Durham had now confirmed that Streets Of... would go ahead on 31 August. Following negotiation with Durham County Council, the Town Council had allocated £3,000 to this event.

To support the Bowes Museum Yves Saint Laurent exhibition 11 July to 25 October, the Town Council had contributed £1,976 to produce 20,000 generic leaflets to signpost visitors to the town, after viewing YSL exhibition. The draft text was circulated. There was much debate and discussion. It was noted that Partnership Committee would not overrule resolutions of Events Task & Finish Group unless a resolution was proposed, seconded and moved.

Pursuant to Annual Council Meeting (Minute 21 (2)(a)/May/15 refers), it was resolved that £200 be allocated from the Events budget for floral plants to create a 'Mondrian Dress' in the town's gateway bed.

**Resolved** – That the draft notes and information be noted.

## **12. COMMUNITY EVENTS**

### **a. Mayoral Event 24 April 2015**

It was reported that the Mayor's Charity fundraising event, 'Luther's Doofer', took place at Glaxo Sports and Social Club on Friday 24 April 2015. The event was well attended and included several Mayors and consorts.

Costs were kept to a minimum thanks to the generosity of Rupert of 'Little Alaska', Lizzie of 'Read Sanity', 'Kerosene' and 'PuceWallpaper', who provided the music line up for the evening; Mr Ian Kirkbride who acted as a fantastic MC & DJ; Cameron Sharp who acted as formal photographer and the waitresses from The Hub all who provided their time and services free of charge.

Rachel Tweddle the Centre Manager for The Hub and her team provided a splendid Moroccan supper. The raffle and tombola were very well supported. There were a generous number of donations made by Councillors, local businesses and anonymous donors.

After costs, the evening raised £782.08. It was confirmed that this amount would be donated to the outgoing Mayor's nominated charity, Teesdale Community Resources (The Hub). A formal cheque presentation (including any other monies raised during Cllr Blissett's term of office) would be arranged in due course.

**Resolved** – That the information be noted and that thanks be extended to all those who supported the event.

### **b. Events Equipment**

It was reported that twelve Kilner clip-top 1 litre bottles had been purchased at a cost of £42.95. These were used for drinking water on tables at the Mayoral Event and were available to be used at any community event or mayoral function.

**Recommendation** – That the information be noted.

## **13. ROAD CLOSURE MANAGEMENT TRAINING**

Pursuant to Minute 52(3)/Feb/14, Minute 47/Dec/14 and Minute 56/Feb/15, further correspondence and advice had been received from Durham County Council (DCC) Safety Advisory Group. It was confirmed that it is the responsibility of DCC Highways to

issue a notice to close the road and only the police could prosecute if the order was breached. Basic road closure training (to put out cones and signs) equivalent to NVQ level II, was sufficient satisfy DCC SAG to close a road, with minimal traffic movements, such as Scar Top. Members debated the practical use of the training, which could save costs at some events.

**Recommendation** – (a) That the information be noted and;  
(b) That it be delegated to the Clerk to seek further information about appropriate training.