

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

28 NOVEMBER 2016

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Moorhouse (in the Chair), Peat, Cooke, Hinchcliffe, Mrs Grady (from item 53.) and Rowell; Mr R. Welsby and Ms J. Whittaker (The Bowes Museum);

Also in attendance: One member of the public; one member of the press.

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

51. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillors Kinch and Sutherland.

Resolved – That the apologies be accepted.

52. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Code of Conduct (Minute 17(b)/May/16 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. None were declared at this juncture.

53. DIVERSITY IN THE DALE – PRESENTATION

Katy Taylor, Executive Director of The Witham, informed members about events and activities planned to promote 'Diversity in the Dale' in 2017. For two weeks in April, there would be a pilot interactive experience/ exhibition in The Witham. Work was underway with Traveller Liaison Group, schools, artists, traditional storytellers, musicians and local history groups. Seed funding was needed from funder such as HLF.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

54. PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – 3 OCTOBER 2016 – MINUTES

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

55. YOUTH COUNCIL – PARTICIPATION IN PARTNERSHIP MEETINGS

At its meeting on 14 November, Council resolved that a member of the Youth Council, which is an advisory committee of the town council, should take a place on the Partnership Committee, as well as on the Services Committee. The Youth Council was invited to attend this meeting as an observer and to consider a process by which it might be so represented in future. Members noted that Standing Order 4 applied and terms of reference were needed. Members considered Event Working Groups as the most appropriate mechanism to involve the Youth Council in the preparation of individual events within the town council's events programme.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

56. POPPY APPEAL

The 2015 Appeal closed on 30 September 2016. A final summary sheet had now been received from The Royal British Legion confirming that £15,059.04 was raised, just a fraction under the exceptional amount raised in 2014.

The net totals raised over last 10 years were:

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
£4,466.01	£7,750.28	£7,553.38	£6,599.25	£8,563.52
2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
£11,137.56	£10,670.10	£11,770.05	£15,273.67	£15,059.04

The 2016 Appeal launched on 29 October. All tins and supplies had now been collected in and the monies counted and banked.

Throughout the two-week collection period, a total of £11,016.21 had been raised so far. This figure included the collections from the street, Morrisons, Farmers Market Stall, House-to-House collections and the various local businesses, organisations and schools. Still to be included were monies received from church collections, wreaths, personal donations or any events organised before the closure of the appeal on 30 September 2017.

During the same two-week period last year (2015 appeal) the interim total stood at £11,303.40. Whilst this year's interim total was a little lower, there was still plenty of time before the appeal closed to catch up.

It was hoped that the 2016 Appeal would be boosted if additional collections were taken as part of the 1940s Event in summer 2017 (Item 61 (i), below).

Thank you cards detailing the individual amounts raised were in the process of being delivered and a post appeal letter from the Town Mayor would be submitted to the press to thank the public and all those involved.

Both Morrisons and Barclays Bank continued to play a huge role in the local appeal along with individual volunteers, for which we were grateful. A thank you was also extended to the Farmers Market who allowed us to have a stall free of charge (manned by Cllr Mrs Moorhouse and Ian Moorhouse) and from which the street total was boosted considerably.

Thanks were given to Kelly Blissett, Tom Deacon & Bella, John Gatenby, Jane Hackworth-Young, Sam Henderson, Peter Holmes, Cyril Humphries, Rowan Jefferies, Sue Kitching, Maxine Moore, Terry Smith, Tim Smith, Mark Wilkes, Ian Moorhouse, Cllrs Blissett (Town Mayor), Harrison (Deputy Town Mayor), Mrs Moorhouse, Peat and Yarker.

It was noted that there were fewer collection volunteers this year and it was hoped that members of the committee would spread the word to encourage people to come forward to support the appeal in 2017.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted; and
(b) That thanks be given to staff and volunteers.

57. MAYORAL EVENTS

It was reported that arrangements were made with the Rev. Canon Alec Harding for the Town Mayor and his invited guests to attend a Christingle celebration at St Mary's Parish Church on Sunday 4 December 2016 at 4pm. The service was being held in aid of the work of The Children's Society; there would be a speaker from the Children's Society and a Choir performing from Green Lane CE School. So far, acceptances had been received from ten local authorities from across the region; the Deputy Lieutenant Mrs Sareth Nainby-Luxmoore would be representing the Lord-Lieutenant. Members were invited to attend.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

58. MAYORAL CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Entries were shortlisted by the Town Mayor and four entries per age category were submitted to the Teesdale Mercury during week commencing 15 November 2016 for a public vote. The winning designs were announced in the Teesdale Mercury during week commencing 21 November. The winner for age 5-7 category was Imogen Parnaby, aged 6, and for the age 8 to 11 category, the winner was Aidan Marmont, aged 8.

The winning designs would be reproduced in-house by the office. The winners would be presented by the Town Mayor with a framed copy of their entry along with 20 cards for their personal use at the Christmas Tree Lights Switch-on event on 2 December 2016. The Mayors official cards would be sent out during early December.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

59. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY & ARMISTICE DAY

It was reported that Armistice Day (11 November) was marked by a simple ceremony preceding a two minute silence in which the Union Flag was lowered and a wreath was laid by the Town Mayor at the Galgate Greens Memorial. Three councillors and their partners attended, together with a small number of residents and the Clerk. The Union Flag flew in the Remembrance Garden until sunset on Sunday 13 November.

On Remembrance Sunday, 13 November, the weather was kind and arrangements on the day went pretty much to plan. The event was well supported by all sectors of the community with over 40 wreaths and numerous crosses laid at the cenotaph. The Freemasons Masonic Hall in Newgate opened its doors for refreshments after the event, which was gratefully received.

The Temporary Road Closure was implemented by the Police. Barnard Castle Band provided a marching band, and the parade was led by the Parade Marshal Rowan Jefferies. Parade members included cadets from Barnard Castle School's Combined Cadet force.

Nigel Farren assisted with the distribution of the Order of Service Sheets at The Bowes Museum and Ian Kirkbride, along with the Treasurer for Barnard Castle Guides, Alison Mounter, and two young Rainbows, Libby Forsyth and Ava Kesterton, jointly read the Exhortation.

During the traditional Laying of the Wreaths ceremony at the Cenotaph, 16 primary schools from across the region laid wreaths, which they had made as part of a schools WW1 project run by The Bowes Museum.

A letter would be sent to the press thanking all those organisations and individuals for the roles they played. Particular thanks were extended to Deputy Lieutenant Bernard Robinson, Rev. Canon Alec Harding and Church Wardens of St Mary's Parish Church, Rev. Darren Moore, the cadets, students and staff of Barnard Castle School, Parade Marshal Rowan Jefferies, members of Barnard Castle Band, Ian Kirkbride, representatives from the Guides and Nigel Farren.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted; and
(b) That thanks be given to all those involved.

60. 2016/17 COMMUNITY EVENTS

(i) Christmas Lights Switch-On – Friday 2 December

Plans were being finalised for the town council's annual Christmas Tree Lights switch-on event and publicity was ongoing. The event was being supported in kind or with donations/ sponsorship by Teesdale & District Lions Club; Dickens in Teesdale; William Smith; Morrisons; YMCA; Darlington Building Society; Boyes; GlaxoSmithKline; S&A Builders Merchants; and The Witham. Members were informed of the schedule of events.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted; and
(b) That all Members promote the Christmas Lights Switch-on Event on 2 December.

61. 1940s EVENT – 23 TO 25 JUNE 2017

(i) 1940s Event Task & Finish Group – 25 October– draft notes

It was reported that entertainment had been provisionally booked for the weekend as follows:

All weekend – *Colin Bourdiec* (Uke Player).

Friday 23 June – *Vintage Belles* (evening performance at TCR Hub).

Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 June – *Damaris Jean Vintage Vocalist and Taint What You Duo*.

Vintage Belles required a £50 non-refundable deposit to secure the booking, to be paid out of 2016 underspend on the 1940s event.

To facilitate a collection for the Poppy Appeal over the weekend, an application would need to be made to Durham County Council for a street collection permit for the relevant dates.

Resolved – (a) That the draft notes and information be received; and
(b) That an application be made for a street collection permit on behalf of the Poppy Appeal for the 23-25 June 2017, inclusive.

62. THE BOWES MUSEUM UPDATE

Members noted that Resources Committee, at its meeting on 31 October, resolved a one-off growth item of £2,000 to support an event with The Bowes Museum to commemorate its 125th anniversary in June 2017. This was subject to final approval of the 2017/18 budget by Council in January.

The Bowes Museum had acquired a rare and outstanding 15th century painting: 'St Luke Drawing the Virgin and Child' by Dieric Bouts the Elder.

The silver swan automaton was going on loan to the Science Museum, London, as part of its 'Robots' Exhibition from 8 February to 23 March 2017.

For the 125th anniversary, The Bowes Museum would be focussing on its collections; highlighting key objects. The summer exhibition was 'Tulipmania'. There would be another major fashion show in 2018.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

63. BUSINESS GUILD UPDATE

There was a meeting planned for 13 December.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

64. BARNARD CASTLE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS (BCCL) UPDATE

An update was submitted from Sue Smith, Secretary, BCCL as follows:

Fundraising

A Race Night at Barnard Castle Cricket Club raised £1,830.00. Collection Tins were now in twenty shops. Donations were being received for inscribed baubles to be placed beside the Memorial Tree. There would be a street collection at the Town Council Christmas Lights Switch-on event 2 December. A Curry Night was to be held in January and flower demonstration before Easter.

Galgate Greens

Starting on 21 November, the tree nearest to Baliol Street was wrapped. A second large tree had 10 big globes and 5 small globes. A third tree had 12 large stars. The Memorial Tree in the Remembrance Garden had strings of lights down to the ground. The tree nearest the Italian restaurant 'Il Palazzo' would have 10 globes same as last year.

On 25 November, an early lights switch-on event was held on Galgate Greens to give thanks to groups and organisations who had supported BCCL and to promote the Memorial Tree. The lights were switched on by Marie Yarker, Chair of the Friends of Richardson Hospital.

Icicles

Week starting 28 November, icicles would be installed on the shop fronts in Galgate from the Post Office to 149 Fish and Chips and 54 Degrees North to McGarry Solicitors.

Festoon Lights

These would be strung either side of The Bank.

As last year, BCCL would also be erecting 55 Christmas Trees on the front of properties in the town centre. The windows in the top of the Market Cross would be lit. The large Christmas Structure on top of the Market Place toilets would be installed and there would be Christmas Lights at the Co-op Garage. Battery lights would also be in smaller trees in lower Galgate.

To date, there had been positive comments and praise for the enhanced lighting displays.

Resolved – That the information and positive feedback be noted.

65. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

Starting on Sunday 27 November, Christmas Plus Ltd had started installing festive swan motifs along Newgate and icicle lights both sides of Horsemarket and Market Place. Additional icicle lights had also been installed on one side of Galgate (from MacFarlane's to McGarry Solicitors). BCCL would now be installing their icicle lights down towards The Bank (as far as and including Shirl's Shakes). The town's Christmas tree and tree outside St. Mary's Parish Church (kindly donated by Lord Barnard and Raby Estates and transported/erected by S&A) were in-situ and dressed. It was noted that in 2017 a different low loader would be needed to transport the Christmas Tree.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

66. DEMENTIA FRIENDLY TOWN

It was reported that an action planning meeting with Dementia Action Alliance on 8 December would progress the town getting Dementia Friendly Community Status.

A resolution was passed at the Council meeting on 14 November that the remaining underspend from the 2016/17 Events budget be used to fund design and printing of a bespoke easy town map for visitors to highlight the town as Dementia Friendly and Walkers are Welcome. The map itself would need to be dementia friendly. The Bowes Museum was keen to have a stock of maps for visitors.

Resolved – That the information be noted.