

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

22 MAY 2017

PRESENT: Councillors Sutherland (in the Chair), Miss Blissett, Chatterjee, Child, Peat, and Wilkes; Ms J. Whittaker (The Bowes Museum).

Also in attendance: Councillor Blissett; one member of the press.

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

The Chairman reminded members of the Committee that, as it was within the pre-election period ('purdah'), the town council must comply with restrictions outlined in Section 2 of the Local Government Act 1986.

1. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES

Councillor Mrs Moorhouse and Mr R. Welsby.

Members were reminded that there was a vacancy on Partnership Committee, which would be filled following co-option at Council on 19 June. There was, similarly, a co-optee vacancy, due to the cessation of the Business Guild. Whilst Council acknowledged on 15 May the formation of a new Teesdale Business Guild, an official invitation for town council representation was awaited. Councillor Sutherland gave thanks to Mr M. Hanby for having represented the Business Guild on this Committee.

Resolved – That the apologies and information be noted.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2017/18

Resolved – That Councillor Wilkes be elected as Vice Chair of Partnership Committee for the municipal year 2017/18.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Constitution (Members' Code of Conduct) (Minute 12/May/17 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.

4. PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – 3 APRIL 2017 - MINUTES

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

5. POPPY APPEAL

At the end of November 2016, following the two-week collection period, it was confirmed that a total of £11,016.21 had been raised. At the time, the figure did not include any donations received from church collections, wreaths or personal donations. An interim statement received from the Legion confirmed that a net total of £13,822.78 had now been received. This figure could increase further as the Appeal did not officially close until 30 September 2017.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

6. MAYORAL EVENTS

The end of term Mayoral event due to be held on 21 April was, unfortunately, cancelled, due to insufficient number of tickets sold.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

7. 2017/18 COMMUNITY EVENTS PROGRAMME

Following approval of the budget in January, this Committee apportioned the 2017/18 Events budget of £9,000 at its meeting on 6 February as follows:

Event	Expenditure (£)
The Bowes Museum 125 th Anniversary – commences 10 June	2,000
Aviation Day – 23 June	300
1940s Event – 23 to 25 June	3,000
Remembrance Sunday – 12 November	500
Christmas Lights Switch-On – Friday 1 December	2,500
Unallocated	700
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	9,000
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Members noted that there was approximately £700 unallocated.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted; and
(b) That the £700 remaining in the 2017/18 Events budget be left unallocated at present and be used to support and promote community events in the town, based on future submissions to the Partnership Committee.

8. 1940s EVENT – 23 TO 25 JUNE 2017

There was currently £3,000 allocated to this event from the 2017/18 budget, plus an earmarked reserve of £405 which was underspent from the inaugural event in 2016.

The Clerk had delegated authority to spend the approved budget, in consultation with the 1940s Event Task & Finish Group.

Armed Forces Day was Saturday 24 June. The town council would show its support for the Armed Forces by raising its Armed Forces Flag on Monday 19 June on Galgate Greens, which marked the start of the Armed Forces celebrations.

The RAF had confirmed the timing of the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight (Spitfire Flypast), which would be at 13:45pm on Saturday 24 June, flying across the town from Sunderland.

(i) 1940s Event Task & Finish Group – 27 April – draft notes

Resolved – That the draft notes and information be received.

(ii) Membership of 1940s Event Task & Finish Group

Membership of the group needed to be reaffirmed for the 2017/18 municipal year. To date, the group comprised: Councillors Mrs Moorhouse, Blissett and new Councillor Miss Blissett; Allan Jones, Iris Hillery, Ann Barmby and Denise Charlton (community representatives/volunteers). Former Councillor Cooke was also a member of the group.

It was prudent that following this year's event, the make-up and purpose of the group was reviewed as part of the evaluation and in preparation for the 2018 1940s weekend.

Councillor Wilkes expressed an interest in joining the group.

Resolved – (a) That the information be received;

(b) That membership of the 1940s Event Task & Finish Group for the 2017/18 municipal year comprise Councillors Mrs Moorhouse, Blissett, Miss Blissett, Wilkes; Allan Jones, Iris Hillery, Ann Barmby and Denise Charlton (community representatives/ volunteers).

(c) That evaluation of the 2017 1940s weekend and review of the 1940s Task & Finish Group be scheduled at next Partnership Committee meeting on 10 July.

(iii) Aviation Day – 23 June 2017

A service and wreath laying ceremony led by Rev Canon Alec Harding and Mr T. Galley would take place on Friday 23 June commencing at 11.00 am in the Garden of Remembrance, Galgate Greens.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted; and

(b) That members confirm attendance to the office.

9. THE BOWES MUSEUM UPDATE

It was reported that The Teesdale Mercury would be publishing a supplement in commemoration of the 125th anniversary.

On 10 June there would be an all day party in and outside the museum. Visitors would be asked to sign a guest book to provide a tangible and commemorative record.

Two actors would be dressed as John and Josephine Bowes for the day. Short talks by curators about their favourite objects and tours would take place throughout the day.

A letter was circulated sent to Adrian Jenkins, Director by Helen Goodman MP requesting consideration of the idea to mark the 125th anniversary with the installation of an art feature. The Bowes Museum was currently deliberating a response.

The £2,000 allocated by the town council to support the 125th anniversary was discussed.

There had been no response from Louveciennes regarding a friendship link with the town.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted;

(b) That ideas for spend of £2,000 to support The Bowes Museum's 125th anniversary be brought to next Partnership Committee on 10 July; and

(c) That another letter be send to the Mayor of Louveciennes regarding a friendship link with the town.

10. BARNARD CASTLE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS (BCCL) UPDATE

The AGM of BCCL was held on 18 April. Roger Peat was re-elected as Chairman, Sue Smith as Treasurer, Sam and Eleanor Brown as Secretaries and Phil Crichton as Press Officer. There was £6400.00 in the bank to increase existing displays and to pay for rigging costs. Brackets were to be put on properties on The Bank in September enabling festoon lights to be strung down both sides of the road. Lights would be increased on the wrapped tree in Galgate. Some multi-coloured lights would be introduced for 20 of the 50 plus small Christmas trees.

A successful flower demonstration was held on 3rd April. A Christmas themed event was to be held at the Cricket Club in November as well as a Race Night. The next meeting of BCCL was 30 May at The Old Well. A couple more active members would be most welcome.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

11. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING 2017/18

Pursuant to Resources Committee on 24 April, it was resolved that 45 Christmas motifs which were surplus to requirements be disposed of, at scrap value, and removed from the Council's asset register and that any income received be allocated to the General Reserve. The approximate total scrappage cost was £65.00. The surplus motifs would be advertised around town and parish councils and community groups for disposal.

A meeting was held with Christmas Plus and BCCL on 19 May to discuss the operational practicalities of this year's Christmas Lighting displays.

As this was the last year of a three year contract with Christmas Plus for the town council's Christmas lighting, arrangements from 2018/19 were discussed.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted; and
(b) That a proposal from BCCL regarding operation of Christmas lighting from 2018/19 be considered at Partnership Committee on 10 July.

12. OTHER PARTNERSHIPS

Councillor Sutherland proposed that consideration be given to this Committee actively working with other organisations that were encouraging tourism and community events in the town. The new site manager at English Heritage (Barnard Castle site) would attend the next Partnership Committee on 10 July. A response was awaited from The Witham. Northern Heartlands would be interested in attending a meeting in late 2017. Raby Estates had a new Chief Executive who was interested in getting involved. Members were made aware that under Terms of Reference for Partnership Committee, recommendations could be made to Council for co-option of other members as and when required. Establishment of the new Teesdale Business Association was awaited.

Resolved – That consideration be given to close partnership working with other organisations in the town that were actively encouraging tourism and community events.