

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

21 MAY 2018

PRESENT: Councillors Sutherland (in the Chair), Miss Blissett, Chatterjee, Child, Kirkbride, Peat and Mr M. Read (The Bowes Museum).

Also in attendance: One member of the press.

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

1. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs Moorhouse, Ms J. Whittaker and Mr R. Welsby (The Bowes Museum). It was reported that there was now a vacancy on Partnership Committee, following the resignation of Cllr Wilkes, which was effective immediately.

Resolved – (a) That the apologies be accepted; and
(b) That former Cllr Wilkes be thanked for all his work and support over the past year.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2018/19

Resolved – That Councillor Chatterjee be elected Vice Chair of Partnership Committee for the municipal year 2018/19.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Constitution (Members' Code of Conduct) (Minute 10/May/18 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 – 9 APRIL 2018 – MINUTES

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

5. THE BOWES MUSEUM

It was reported that *Fishdance* would take place on 28 May at the end of the Meet Parade. There would be a party on 10 June to celebrate the end of The Bowes Museum's 125th Anniversary. Entrance to the park would cost £5 but would include entry to the museum and include all activities, events and workshops. The WW1 Exhibition would open 30 October to March 2019, linking into the Remembrance event on 11 November. A trial exhibition, entitled *Still Life into Real Life*, to build on links between the museum and the town and focussing on the Wednesday Market traders was in preparation.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

6. POPPY APPEAL

There was nothing to report at this time.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

7. MAYORAL EVENTS

It was reported that The Town Mayor hosted a classic coach tour around Teesdale for civic guests on 1 May. The event was very well attended and represented by ten local authorities.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

8. CIVIC ARRANGEMENTS

Pursuant to Minute 31/July/16, regarding purchase of a bespoke outfit to underpin the appointment of Cllr Kirkbride as the Town Council's honorary Town Crier in May 2016, it was reported that an outfit could be handmade by Lesley Cutting (Castle Players) for no more than £150.

Resolved – (a) That approval be given to purchase a bespoke outfit for the Town Crier at a cost of no more than £150 out of 2018/19 community events budget; and
(b) That thanks be given to Lesley Cutting for creation of the outfit.

9. 2018/19 COMMUNITY EVENTS PROGRAMME

Following approval of the budget in January, members were reminded that the 2018/19 events budget of £7,000 had been apportioned as follows:

Event	Expenditure (£)
(i) 1940s Weekend	3,000
(ii) Remembrance Events	1,150
(iii) Christmas Event	2,500
(iv) All other Events (including Third Party Sponsorship)	350
Total	7,000

There was approximately £200 unallocated from the community events budget, after approval of funding the bespoke outfit for the Town Crier (item 8, above).

Members noted that there was an earmarked reserve for £2,000 to celebrate the 125th anniversary of The Bowes Museum, which was not spent during 2017/18 (Minute 88(c)/Nov/17 and Minute 110/Feb/18 refers). Members considered using the funds for Remembrance events, if needed.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

10. 1940S EVENT – 22 TO 24 JUNE 2018

It was reported that plans were progressing well. A project meeting was held on 30 April with English heritage and The Witham in attendance and a further meeting held on 21 May. The 1940s weekend event guides had been printed and delivered in time for the Meet weekend. The 1940s banner would be erected in the banner frame from Wed 23 May. RAF events team had confirmed the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Spitfire flypast at 12:52 on Saturday 23 June.

More tickets needed to be sold for Vintage Belles performing at TCR Hub on Friday 22 June at 7.30pm.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted; and
(b) That volunteers be requested to distribute 1940s weekend event guides and assist during the weekend.

11. REMEMBRANCE EVENTS

(i) Aviation Day – 22 June 2018

Preparations for the event were now underway. A service and wreath laying ceremony led by Rev. Canon Alec Harding and Mr T. Galley would take place on Friday 22 June commencing at 11.00am in the Garden of Remembrance, Galgate Greens. Councillors Miss Blissett, Sutherland and Peat confirmed their availability.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted; and
(b) That members confirm attendance to the office.

(ii) Armed Forces Day – 30 June 2018

Armed Forces Day was on Saturday 30 June. The town council would show its support for the Armed Forces by raising its Armed Forces Flag on Monday 25 June, to mark the start of the Armed Forces celebrations, and would fly the flag for one week on Galgate Greens.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

(iii) Fly the Red Ensign – 3 September 2018

There was nothing to report.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

(iv) Remembrance Sunday & 'Battle's Over: A Nation's Tribute' – 11 November 2018

Pursuant to Minute 61 (ii)(c)/Feb/18 and Minute 71 (ii)(c)/Apr/18, a project meeting was held on 25 April involving representatives of the town council, St. Mary's Parish Church, Friends of the Bowes Museum, The Bowes Museum First World War Centenary Project, Barnard Castle School, English Heritage and Masonic Hall. The meeting walked through the likely shape of the day, noting the fixed elements and considering those other activities which might fall within the schedule. A potential poppy wave (yarn bombing) was planned, living history vignettes (short monologues involving Castle Players, based on the diaries of local people who lived through WW1) and choir performances at Scar Top, focussing on WW1 songs, between 6pm and 7pm. The next project meeting was on 31 May.

The potential of purchasing a Royal British Legion 'Silent Soldier' was discussed. These stood at five feet and were silhouette black-cut 'dibond', which were tough, weatherproof and free standing but could be mounted. The cost of a Silent Soldier was £150, with current stocks only available for the next few days. A possible location was in Amen Corner by the Parish Church. The 'Silent Soldier' could be used annually during Poppy Appeal fortnight.

Members discussed yarn bombing throughout the town focussing on symbols of hope, peace and future (such as doves, rainbows, bells, bunting, flags etc.). A trail and competition for children was also proposed.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted;
(b) That a 'Silent Soldier' be purchased from the existing Poppy Appeal stock for a donation of £150 out of Remembrance events budget; and
(c) That Cllr Sutherland circulates a draft proposal for 'Battle's Over' by mid-June.

12. ENGLISH HERITAGE COMMUNITY ORCHARD

Pursuant to Pursuant to Minute 55/Feb/18, English Heritage had confirmed that a planning application was to be submitted following a pre-application response from Historic England. Concurrently, the tender process was to be initiated for demolition and clearance of the existing sensory garden and laying of new paths and landscape infrastructure. Public information displays on the garden reinterpretation and design would be prepared for the 1940s weekend, when entry to the Castle would be free of charge.

As part of the garden redevelopment, the four existing sculptures in the sensory garden (arrow slits; crenellations; honeycomb; tree trunks) were surplus to requirements. Members discussed how they might be utilised in and around the town. One possible location was to site the sculptures in The Bowes Museum park, so they could be preserved for prosperity.

Resolved – That Matthew Read explores the potential for The Bowes Museum relocating the four sculptures surplus to English Heritage requirements.

13. ROTARY RECYCLING INITIATIVE

The Rotary Club had mooted promoting recycling in the town via the installation of a drinking water fountain to enable the public to refill water bottles. Linking to Market Place Public Toilets (if water was potable) plus provision for dogs was a possible option. There was already a 'refill app' to advertise local businesses that would refill water bottles for free. It was suggested that a representative from Rotary Club could be invited to a future committee meeting to explore the idea in more detail.

Resolved – (a) That support be given to the idea of a drinking water fountain in principle; and
(b) That a representative of Rotary Club be invited to a future meeting.

14. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING 2018/19 (BARNARD CASTLE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS)

The next fundraising event was a BBQ with Puds to be held on Saturday 16 June at Oaklands on Darlington Road. Tickets were now available.

There were three new active members helping to maintain the momentum. It was still hoped that a projector could be purchased, subject to funding.

Resolved – That the information be noted.