

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

2 JULY 2018

PRESENT: Councillors Sutherland (in the Chair), Miss Blissett, Chatterjee, Child, Kirkbride (items 15-24), Mrs Moorhouse, Peat, Mr M. Read (The Bowes Museum) and Ms J Whittaker (The Bowes Museum) (items 15-24).

Also in attendance: Mr C. Dunnighan (Rotary Club), Cllr Blissett and one member of the press.

Officers: Mr King (Town Clerk).

15. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES

None.

16. 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.

17. PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – 21 MAY 2018 – MINUTES

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

18. A PARTNERSHIP APPROACH TO SUSTAINING THE ENVIRONMENT IN BARNARD CASTLE: PLASTIC REDUCTION STRATEGIES

In response to the committee's invitation (13b/May/18), Colin Dunnighan, Vice President of the Barnard Castle Rotary Club attended the meeting to discuss plastic reduction strategies as a part of a proposed partnership approach to local environmental sustainability.

Inspired by the campaigning stance adopted by the international president of the Rotary movement, he was keen to engage the town council in opportunities to promote public good through activities aimed at reduction, reuse and recycling of plastic, in particular.

He proposed six objectives to pursue:

- Increasing public awareness
- Public water refill point (longer term)
- Educational school visits (school assemblies)
- Plastic recycling bins alongside general waste bins
- Engaging pubs and restaurants to install larger cigarette bins
- A reusable water bottle scheme (longer term)

Rotary was keen to promote projects which could be supported by the town council to achieve real impact in the town at little, up-front cost. It was proposed that a 'working group' would be formed by the Rotary Club to pursue the idea and that members of the town council would sit on it. Cllrs Miss Blissett, Chatterjee, Child, Sutherland and Peat volunteered to contribute to the group.

Initial priorities for the group were identified as:

- Checking what recycling facilities were in place for plastics in County Durham and what opportunity there may be to recycle from public bins alongside kerbside recycling; and
- Checking the planning and environmental compliance requirements of a public water point.

Resolved – (a) That the town council supports the Rotary Club of Barnard Castle's plastic reduction strategy and contributes members to its working group on the subject;
(b) That appropriate administrative support be provided towards pursuing identified objectives of the strategy;
(c) That appropriate actions proposed by the group be considered by the Services Committee;
(d) That a regular update on the activities of the group be provided periodically to full Council meetings under the 'Reps on Other Bodies' standing item; and
(e) That the town council hosts an initial meeting of the group in Woodleigh, to include representation from DCC, if possible.

19. THE BOWES MUSEUM

It was reported that *Catwalking* would be the next exhibition followed by *The BFG* from 14 July, which would run throughout the summer school holiday and would include a 'cave' in the exhibition space. Progress had been made in discussions within the museum and with English Heritage about the potential relocation of the tactile sculptures from the Castle grounds, which represented an example of locally-sourced craftsmanship. There was 'cautious optimism' that a preferred solution would be identified for these.

The Kickstarter funded project to produce bowls and key rings from the felled monkey-puzzle tree from the museum grounds was close to its target. Those items inlaid with silver would be hallmarked, as the museum had been successful in registering its own hallmark with the Assay Office.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

20. POPPY APPEAL

It was reported that, as part of the 1940s weekend celebrations and pursuant to Minute 58/Feb/2018, a collection for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal took place, which raised a total of £709 for the appeal and which would be included in the appeal total for 2017/18.

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

21. MAYORAL EVENTS

There was nothing to report directly under this item. The Town Mayor referred to a proposal to be tabled under item 24(iii).

Resolved – That the information be noted.

22. 2018/19 COMMUNITY EVENTS PROGRAMME

(i) Juggling Conference

Options for the town council to support the Durham Juggling Convention, which was to take place for the third time in the town between 19 and 21 October 2018, were discussed. The options, for which indicative costs were given, covered workshop events for local people and performance opportunities to bring those attending the convention into the town centre.

Members of the committee felt that the focus should be on performance as a means of raising the profile of the event within the town and amongst local residents. It was recognised that there was unallocated funding within the 2018/19 events budget and within the appropriate earmarked reserve, subject to the requirements for additional funding for remembrance events, which had already been identified in principle (9/May/18).

Resolved – That Cllr Mrs Moorhouse liaise with Durham City Jugglers to establish proposed costs for defined performances, linked to the convention to take place on Saturday 20 October, to be considered by Full Council at its Special Meeting on 16 July 2018.

23. 1940S EVENT – 22 TO 24 JUNE 2018

It was reported that the recent 1940s weekend had received much positive feedback from residents, visitors and businesses in the town, as well as those taking part. This was the third consecutive 1940s weekend and it was growing and developing into a popular event.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted;
(b) That thanks be given to all those involved and sponsors of the event;
(c) That the 2019 1940s weekend be confirmed as 21 to 23 June 2019, to be programmed into the 2019/20 Community Events programme with budgetary allocation; and
(d) That any underspend from the 2018 1940s weekend be earmarked for spend against 2019 1940s weekend.

24. REMEMBRANCE EVENTS

(i) Aviation Day – 22 June 2018

It was reported that the 23rd Teesdale Aviation Day Service took place at 11.00 a.m. on 22 June in the Galgate Garden of Remembrance.

Thanks was extended to all those who participated with the arrangements, with particular thanks to Allan Jones and Andrew Nicholson.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted;
(b) That thanks be given to all those involved and, in particular, to Allan Jones and Andrew Nicholson; and
(c) That the date for the 2019 Teesdale Aviation Day be agreed as Friday 21 June 2019, to be programmed into the 2019/20 Events programme with budgetary allocation.

(ii) Armed Forces Day – 30 June 2018

The Armed Forces Day flag was raised at 10am on Monday 25 June in the Galgate Garden of Remembrance by the Town Mayor and remained flying for the week, including Armed Forces Day.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

(iii) Fly the Red Ensign – 3 September 2018

It anticipation of this event, noting the thanks with which the inaugural event had been received in 2017, it was proposed that invitations be extended to local civic parties, to support the event from within the Civic Fund.

Resolved – That the Fly the Red Ensign ceremony, on 3 September 2018, be designated a civic event.

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

It was reported that, pursuant to Minute 11(iv)/May/18, a ‘Silent Soldier’ had been purchased from the Royal British Legion and subsequently installed on Woodleigh in time for the 1940s weekend.

Significant progress was reported towards the poppy wave (yarn bombing) focused in and around Woodleigh. Local people and craft groups were busy knitting hundreds of poppies as a symbolic statement of remembrance.

Following the project meeting, held on 31 May, local choirs had been contacted to participate in a performance on Woodleigh Grounds and Scar Top from 6pm on 11 November, prior to the beacon lighting from the Castle at 7pm. Further work was required to provide suitable shelter and facilities for the choirs and crowd and to provide contingency against bad weather. A further meeting of the group was to be arranged.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

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

It was noted that a very successful fundraising BBQ with Puds had raised £1,200. BCCL was exploring the possibility of a joint venture with The Clique to organise a bonfire night on Saturday 3 November, to raise further funds. If that were to go ahead, BCCL requested that the town council might give administrative assistance with the SAG process.

Resolved – That the town council gives administrative assistance with the SAG process for a prospective fireworks display.