

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

3 JUNE 2019

PRESENT: Councillor Kirkbride (in the Chair); Councillors Miss Blissett, Chatterjee, Child, Finlay, Mrs Moorhouse and Sutherland; J Whittaker (Bowes)(until Item 8), S Avery (Witham)
Also in attendance: Cllr Mrs Thompson (from Item 6), R Tweddle (HUB) and one member of the press.
Officers: Mr King (Town Clerk) and Ms Atkinson (Services Officer).

1. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES

None.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2019/20

Nominations were sought for a Vice Chair of the committee.

Resolved – That Cllr Chatterjee be elected as Vice Chair of Partnership Committee for the municipal year 2019/20.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Code of Conduct (Minute 10/May/19 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. There were no declarations of interest at this juncture.

4. PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – 1 APRIL 2019 – MINUTES

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

5. THE BOWES MUSEUM UPDATE

An update was given to the meeting. The Lego exhibition began in May. In the first week, 3,700 visitors were recorded, 795 identifying as specifically attending for the exhibition, which featured sixteen objects themed on the museum's collection. The summer fete would take place on 9 June. It was confirmed that the grounds keeper had retired and grounds maintenance was the subject of an SLA with Durham County Council. An update on the Pittuck mural would be made to a future meeting.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

6. THE WITHAM UPDATE

An update was given to the meeting. Susan Coffey was confirmed as the new centre manager. The Board was still seeking additional trustees to strengthen its skills base. Linda Winstanley, latterly Director of the Darlington Hippodrome, would be joining the board. The autumn programme, responding to public consultation was in preparation. More volunteers were sought. Fundraising continued, including a recent charity stall on the Wednesday Market. It was acknowledged that more could be done with the visitor offer, perhaps working in partnership with MBBT and DCC and any other parties willing to assist in promoting tourism.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted; and
(b) Partnership Committee commits to working with the Witham on improving visitor information provision in Barnard Castle.

7. THE TCR HUB UPDATE

An update was given to the meeting. The Harambee Pasadia Afro Fusion Arts Festival was successful. There had been between 600-700 visitors per day. A small number of noise complaints were received. The HUB was working with DCC on future options. Preparation was in place for the 1940s Weekend. A meeting to discuss The Meet would be held on 19 June. The HUB AGM would take place at 6pm on 5 July. A 'youth shop' was planned for 19-23 August. An event aimed at careers information for Years 5-8 would take place on 28 June.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

8. MAYORAL EVENTS

On 2 April 2019, the Town Mayor hosted a charity classic coach tour around Teesdale for civic guests. 'A Fun Day in & Around Barney' was very well attended with representation from ten local authorities and raising £725.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

9. LIAISON WITH BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWN COUNCIL

Submitted: an update on the potential to create a joint approach to promoting tourism along a corridor linking Bishop Auckland and Barnard Castle via Raby Castle. Consideration was also given to how tourist information may be made more widely available, linked to the discussion under Item 6.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted; and
(b) That the Council supports working with Bishop Auckland Town Council in principle on joint ventures covering tourism.

10. 1940S EVENT – 21 TO 23 JUNE 2019

An update was given to the meeting. It was noted that the events guides would be distributed from 7 June.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

11. POPPY APPEAL

An update was given to the meeting. It was noted that poppy pins commemorating the 75th Anniversary of D-Day were available in the office. The Witham requested whether these could be made available in the VIP.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

12. REMEMBRANCE EVENTS

(i) Aviation Day – 21 June 2019

A service and wreath laying ceremony led by Rev. Canon Alec Harding and Mr T Galley was scheduled to take place on Friday 21 June 2019 commencing at 11.00 a.m. in the Garden of Remembrance, Galgate Greens.

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

(ii) Armed Forces Day – 29 June 2019

Armed Forces Day was on Saturday 29 June. The town council would show its support for the Armed Forces by raising its Armed Forces Flag on Monday 24 June on Galgate Greens, which marked the start of the Armed Forces celebrations, and flying the flag for one week.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

(iii) Fly the Red Ensign – 3 September 2019

There was nothing to report.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

(iv) Remembrance Sunday – 10 November 2018

It was reported that discussions would take place over the summer with relevant organisations in preparation for Remembrance Sunday. Armistice Day would be commemorated with an additional two minute silence on Monday 11 November.

Resolved – That the information be noted.

13. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING 2019/20 (BARNARD CASTLE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS)

Submitted: an update from the committee of BCCL requesting that the council contract directly with Christmas Plus for the erecting and dismantling of the 2019 display as part of a three-year arrangement.

Resolved – (a) That the information be noted; and
(b) That a decision to contract with Christmas Plus, from within the £6,500 agreed budget and to restructure the SLA with BCCL be referred to Council on 24 June 2019.