



Bishop Auckland Town Team

Events Sub-Group Meeting Minutes

Thursday 8th August 2019 at 5:30pm

**The Park Head Country Hotel, New Coundon
Bishop Auckland**

In Attendance:

Clive Auld (Chairman) and

Alan Anderson, Robert Berry, Nick Brown, Lee Brownson, Nigel Bryson, Gillian Campbell, Clare Davison, Maureen Davison

Apologies:

Daniel Barnett, Claire Gibbons, Peter Heslop, Callum Howard, Hazel Kennedy, Karen Porter, Robert Proud, Liz Walton and Dave Wilson (Newgate Centre)

1. Minutes of last meeting held on 25th July 2019

Confirmed as a correct record.

2. Matters arising from previous Minutes

Alan provided an update on the financial outturn of the 1940s event, and the Committee agreed to submit a claim to Bishop Auckland Town Council for the cost.

It was confirmed that the New Car Show had been cancelled.

3. Buses Through the Ages

It was noted that this had been previously discussed, but the Town Team had been approached by about providing help to another event that was scheduled for Easter Monday – 13th April 2020. This was being organised by Graham Scarlett and involved some vintage buses doing tours in the area. Using the Market Place as a starting point, the tours would replicate routes used on the 1970s.

Given that we would be supporting the Passion Play on Good Friday and running our Easter Extravaganza on the Saturday, we could not get involved with the organisation of Graham's event. However, It was agreed that marketing assistance could be offered and if the event could be moved to Easter Saturday, it could be mentioned within the BATT Events booklet.

4. Bishop Celebrating Together

Lee confirmed that main stage had been booked at an estimated cost of £1,600. Several acts had been confirmed as entertainment for the day and the programme was almost full and he was in a position to confirm timings. It was estimated that the total costs of the acts would be around £600.00. Alan confirmed that the Red Cross had been booked for the day.

Nigel provided an update on the suggestion for a musical flash mob to open the event. Gillian agreed to ask volunteers at Bishop FM for contacts to invite musicians to join the event at 10.30am, and possibly at the end at 4pm.

Rob agreed to contact stallholders that may want to attend the event.

It was agreed that Angel Trust, police, fire services and the Purple Bus would also be invited to attend the event, and other suggestions were welcome.

An up to date list of attendees will be provided to all team members, along with details of their location, for the event.

It was noted that the event would also be co-ordinated with Bishop Auckland Town Council for other events taking place on that day. The Annual Horticultural Show would take place in McIntyre's Shop.

Bishop FM would also broadcast live from the stage at various points during the day.

5. Advent Windows

Maureen raised questions about the relevance of the Zurburans to a Christmas theme, and Nigel confirmed the overall theme was about creating an overall Nativity Scene and procession.

It was noted that additional funding applications were still being progressed, and there was a contingency plan in place to amend the plans if full funding was not available.

Rob suggested and Gillian agreed to contact Tesco about funding and financial support.

6. Finance

Alan confirmed that an application would be submitted to Bishop Auckland Town Council for the £2,000 for the 1940s event.

Nigel provided an update on the cash flow implications of the team's contribution towards maintenance of the free public Wi-Fi. It was suggested we look to make the payments over three years, rather than one payment.

Lee explained that we would need to find alternative sources of fundraising now that the New Car Show, which provided a substantial proportion of the Town Team's funding, had been cancelled. It was agreed that we would consider fundraising ideas at the next meeting.

7. Communications

There were no items discussed in detail and notice of events more generally continue to be promoted on our Facebook page.

8. Any other business

Lee informed the team about a suggested evening event for the marketplace, funded by Merry Monk. This would be along the lines of a concert with various bands and other entertainment. It was agreed that the team would welcome an event that supported the evening economy, but it was noted that we would need specialist help to organize such an event.

Nigel suggested that the 1940s event be moved to VE Day (Friday 8th – Saturday 9th May, 2020), and it was agreed that this would be investigated. Maureen suggested that the event could be supported by a street party. This was supported and we should consider how this could best be achieved.

9. Date of next meeting

5.30pm on Wednesday 21 August, 2019 at Park Head Hotel.