



BISHOP AUCKLAND  
TOWN TEAM

**BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWN TEAM**  
**Town Team Events Sub-Group**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 at 5:30pm**

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

**Those Present**

Clive Auld (Chairman), Alan Anderson, Rob Berry, Nick Brown, Lee Brownson, Nigel Bryson, Gillian Campbell, Clare Davison, Maureen Davison, Liz Walton. Wayne and Joanne Furnell were in attendance.

**1. Apologies**

Clare Davison, Claire Gibbons and Peter Heslop.

**2. Minutes of last meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

Confirmed as a true record.

**3. Matters arising from previous Minutes**

None that were not already covered on the agenda.

**4. Monster Saturday – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

Wayne and Joanne briefed the Sub-Group on what they were planning for Monster Saturday in Fore Bondgate. This included:

- A light projection onto the wall of what used to be Home Bargains. They were looking for access and Lee agreed to contact No 42.
- Two dance groups, Kitty Katz and Tomz – burlesque dancers – and X-treme.
- A fire juggler and circus tricks workshop.
- Students dressed up as characters to tell horror stories of notorious murderers to people in the street.
- Buskers.
- A face painter to create Halloween designs.
- Some of the traders getting dressed up in Halloween costumes and decorating their shop windows with spooky creations.
- Nigel would put a Safety Advisory Group form in to Durham County Council which included a road closure request at the junction of Finkle Street and Fore-Bondgate. This would mean the area in front of the bollard could be used as a performance area.

Lee requested that Joanne supplied information about their entertainment and he would include it into our Monster Saturday leaflet and social media. The Town Team events were confirmed and included:

- The Pumpkin parade to hold the competition for the best children's costumes.
- The Sandra Welch dancers.

- Seek to secure Flash to cover the afternoon slot between 1.00pm – 2.00pm.
- Provide materials for children to make paper pumpkin decorations.
- A tombola and jewelry sale.
- Gillian to contact the Tall Tales providers to see if they were available and Bishop Auckland College students to dress up in Halloween costume.

It was highlighted that we probably needed a singer to complete the entertainment in the Newgate Centre. Gillian requested that a stall or table be provided so that the Town Team had a workspace in the Newgate Centre. This was agreed.

Wayne and Joanne were thanked for their input to the meeting and the events they were planning. It was agreed that the Newgate Centre entertainment would run from approximately 11.00am till 2.00pm and the Fore Bondgate entertainment would run from 2.00pm till 6.00pm.

## **5. Bishop Celebrating Together - Debrief**

Overall it was agreed that the day was a success and that the weather had been kind to us! The following were the key points:

- Some stall holders did not turn up, leaving gaps in the area where the stalls were placed. We needed to use the contract to help ensure stall holders turned up and make an increased effort to get more stall holders.
- The stage company worked well, were professional and were operational in advance of our starting time. This justified the added expense in hiring this company.
- The timings of the acts worked well.
- It was a noisy start to the event but this was corrected soon after the entertainment was under way.
- The feedback from people and social media was positive.
- It was estimated that there was less people here than in 2018 and this may be because bad weather had been forecast. On the day the rain had cleared by 8.00am and stayed dry. We estimated that between 2,000 and 2,500 people came through on the day: last year the corresponding figure was 3,000.

It was suggested we have a financial breakdown for the day. The combination of cancelling the 1940s Day and losing the new car event meant that our costs had risen and expected income had dropped. Lee provided an overview of the social media relating to the event.

Nigel – as the Chair of the Town Team – congratulated the Sub-Group members for organising such a successful day. A lot of hard work goes into these events.

## **6. Any other business**

There was no other business

## **7. Date of next meeting**

- 5.30pm on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at the Park Head Hotel
- 5.30pm on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019 at the Park Head Hotel