# Minutes of the meeting of the Tourism & Leisure Committee:

# On Wednesday 22nd November 2023 at The Ashcroft, Market Street, Whitworth

**Members present:**

Councillor David Chorlton (Chair) (DC)

Mike Royds (MR)

Glen Royds (GR)

Lindsay Fairhurst (LF)

Mark Ambrose (MA)

Marilyn Jones (MJ)

Les Hirst (LH)

Angela Wardle (AW)

Linda Parker (LP)

Steve Parker (SP)

Carol Thomson (CT)

Michelle Butterworth (MB)

Joanne Savage (JS)

John Savage (JoS)

Minutes taken by Rachel Hodson (RH)

**AGENDA:**

1. **To receive apologies.**

Aimee Walker, Anne Tattersall and Mike Burgess

1. **To receive declarations of interest.**

None.

1. **To consider the minutes from the last meeting on 12th September 2023, and to approve the minutes by the signature of the Chairman as a correct record.**

Done.

1. **To update on the Santa Express and get a list of volunteers for both evenings.**

LP said that the event was going ahead and that they would need help setting up the truck the week before. MA said he was available to help with this and MR said he could help Thursday morning. LP informed the committee of the change from Whitworth Square to The Rake and Lobden Golf Club due to safety concerns of the square. RH said that St Barts’ Church have given permission for the event to use their layby for the evening. LP has received permission from Hallfold Church to use their car park as a Santa Stop and confirmed that they don’t have an event booked in that night. The schedule has switched from Saturday to Sunday and RH checked the timings for the new section on Whitworth Rake. SP will collect the truck lights on or before Friday 8th December from The Ashcroft. LF is happy to buy the sweets needed. RH will check the street collectors license to see if 13 year olds are permitted to assist. DC collected names for those able to help on the two nights and will circulate this to the committee. The committee discussed adding in the new estate (Railway Close) and LP and SP will check the safety aspect of this. JS and JoS are happy to put up the Santa Stop signs the weekend before the event. LP asked about photos and it was agreed that the rear car will take photos and contain the safety officer. MB is happy to update social media on the night.

1. **To update on plans for the Wreath Making event.**

LF updated those present that its all organised. She is going holly cutting with LP and that all other purchases have been made. LF will contact Hallfold Church re the access. LF, MA, CT, MB, LP, RH, JS and JoS are happy to help on the day. RH will make the TLC a co-host on Facebook so they have access to circulating the event. LF will organise the mince pies and refreshments.

1. **To update on the Duck Race and get a list of volunteers for both evenings.**

DC reported that the duck selling had gone well and had sold over 250 ducks. Sheets have been left at local businesses and all the ducks have been checked. The prize money has been increased and DC has researched the possibility of getting a digger/tractor to release the ducks. Volunteers happy to help on the day are MR, GR, RH, MB, DC, JS, JoS, CT, MA and Aimee Walker. AW, CT and LP are happy to sell ducks at the Carol Service on Monday 11th December. DC will confirm that the volunteers are still happy to catch the ducks and will speak to Nick at the Waterski Centre re gate access. DC will confirm with Bubbles and Brews that they can attend. DC volunteered to put the extra banners up. The committee discussed the possibility of giving a donation from the event and it was agreed that this would be discussed at the next meeting, once members had been update on the TLCs financial position.

1. **To debrief the First Aid event and discuss hosting one in the future.**

MB reported that there had been 21 attendees and it seemed to be a big success. The first aiders suggested holding the next event on a Saturday morning and aiming it a children, or possibly during half term. MB will liaise with the first aiders for dates and report back.

1. **To update from Les and the Christmas tree project.**

LH reported that 71 trees had been ordered and the administration had been significantly improved this year. He was pleased with the communication from the tree supplier and the Gleam team and felt the partnerships were working well. LH also reported that not having the trees milled this year caused extra work for the volunteers preparing the trees and that next year this would be requested. A replacement chainsaw has been purchased for SP as his broke whilst preparing the trees. LH said that the pricing would need to be looked at for next year so that the trees aren’t sold at a loss. LH had to replace a third of the lights and the committee agreed that new lights could be purchased in the post-Christmas sales this year to save money. LH will speak to the Gleam Team to see what number of trees would be their limit for next year. SP is happy to make more brackets for next year if needed.

1. To discuss hosting an 80th Anniversary of the DD landings event.

DC stated that the event could be funded by the Town Council and to try to make it as easy to manage as possible. LP and SP suggested involving military vehicles and they will enquire regarding this. MA reported that daytime events tend to be better attended. RH reported that The Ashcroft is booked out for the weekend with the only availability being the Friday night. RH has spoken to Mick Whitby and the band are available that night. DC suggested the event being fancy dress and MA asked if a local singer could perform appropriate music from the time. MR suggested the WAMDS vocalists may be able to perform. Members discussed the lighting of a beacon and SP will contact the Lord of The Manor for permission. Members were encouraged to to email DC with any ideas for the event. LP suggested the local ukelele band and Whitworth Community Choir and LF suggested u3a.

1. To discuss the TLC and building our social media profile.

RH suggested that members could become more involved in the Facebook so that TLC events aren’t listed as TC events and members could become more involved in the sharing of events, etc. MB now has access to Canva and MR is happy to help with this also. DC will check if the TLC have an Instagram account.

1. To discuss bids to Crook Hill fund in February towards TLC events/equipment.

DC suggested that the TLC need to purchase an extra 10 barriers but considered that funding for the D Day event could be sought from Crook Hill. DC will look into costings for the event with a view to the committee putting in a request for funding in February.

1. To set a date for the next TLC meeting

Monday 15th January at 7.30pm at The Ashcroft.

There being no further business the meeting finished at 9:30pm.