

Minutes of the meeting of the Tourism & Leisure Committee:

On Wednesday 18th September 2024 at The Ashcroft, Market Street, Whitworth

Members present:

Councillor Mike Royds, Chair (MR)

Councillor Louise Burton (LB)

Mark Ambrose (MA)

Michelle Butterworth (MB)

Gareth Connolly (GC)

Clint Davies (CD)

Les Hirst (LH)

Marilyn Jones (MJ)

Stefan Kowal (SK)

Linda Parker (LP)

Chris Rothwell (CR)

Glen Royds (GR)

Carol Thomson (CT)

Angela Wardle (AW)

Aimee Walker (ALW)

Minutes taken by Rachel Hodson (RH)

AGENDA:

1. To receive apologies.

Apologies were received from Anne Tattersall, Cllr David Chorlton (DC) and Jemma Harden (JH).

2. To receive declarations of interest.

None.

3. To consider the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on Wednesday 6th August 2024, and to approve the minutes by the signature of the Chairman as a correct record.

Done.

4. To debrief on the Rushcart.

CD thought that the road closure went well, and MR stated that the road closure firm spoke to the TLC beforehand and communicated well. MR thought that there was a good number of volunteers on the day, so both the set up and clean up afterwards went well. MA reported that Az Kabile had fed back that they felt that the parade went a bit fast but other than that everyone enjoyed it and it had been described as a "safe, friendly event". MR reported that a new first aid company had stepped in at the last minute, and that they had worked well and communicated well with the TLC.

5. To discuss plans for the Duck Race.

MB asked when the duck sheets are usually given out to businesses, ALW suggested doing this now, LP will liaise with MB to organise this. Suggestions were made of Healey Dell Tea Rooms, The Circle, Bacup Cricket Club and the Rose and Bowl being asked to take a sponsorship form as well as previously supplied businesses. ALW thought that last year it took a long time for the ducks to be emptied out of the bags and asked if there could be a new way of doing this. Tarpaulin was suggested, possibly set up the day before. MR asked about the volunteers who catch the ducks, ALW suggested it was the same people every year. MR stated that the pub crawl wasn't very successful last year and maybe rethink day/times. It was arranged to do this on Friday 29th November at 5pm. Volunteers so far for this are CT, MB and MR. Online sales were discussed. It was agreed that 500 ducks (minimum) would be left for sale on the day and the online sales would be stopped on Sunday 29th December. AW suggested updating the website after stopping the online sales to say that duck sponsorship will be available on the day. RH will liaise with MR with any day to day queries regarding this event.

6. To discuss plans for the First Aid event.

MB reported that RH is taking bookings, and MB will continue to promote this. There are currently 12 attendees booked on to the event so far.

7. To update on the Poppy Project.

MR passed on JH's apologies that she was not able to attend the meeting. DC had provided a written update that he has collected the coloured poppies from BCH and is planning on installing them on Friday 20th September. He suggested getting quotes for signs for the poppies and also a banner advertising that they are still available for sponsorship. RH asked who is paying for the signs and suggested applying to the Whitworth Community Partnership for this. RH also provided Steve Parkers (SP) measurements for the signs. RH updated members that 71 poppies had been sponsored so far, with £1,800 of income generated, the cost of powder coating the poppies was £2,500. MR will liaise with JH regarding the promotion, etc of the poppies. MB will share details regarding the poppies on the TLC's Facebook page.

8. To discuss marshals for Remembrance Sunday.

DC had provided a written update on this; he will email volunteers this week regarding marshalling and share this information with MR. Anyone able to assist with marshalling, please contact MR.

9. To update on the Christmas trees on brackets.

LH provided an update on this project. He confirmed that 9 new brackets had been ordered as well as 70 trees. He will start prepping the lights next week. He informed the committee of the projected costs involved. LP asked about a delivery date for the trees, LH will chase the supplier for a date.

10. To update on the Christmas Craft Extravaganza event.

LP updated the committee about the event and that Lindsay Fairhurst (LF) has now left the TLC. LF will guide Julia Latham on how to teach the wreaths on the day. RH updated members regarding bookings so far. RH will liaise with LP regarding updating the risk assessment for the event.

11. To update on the Santa Express.

RH informed members that she needs the proposed route for both nights in order to complete the Event Safety Form for RBC. Volunteers available to help on the Saturday night are MR, GR, MB, GC, CT, SP, LP, Mike Burgess, CD and MJ with MR being the appointed safety officer on the night. Volunteers available to help on the Sunday night are MR, GR, MB, GC, CT, SP, LP, Mike Burgess, CD and ALW with MR being the appointed safety officer on the night. CD, LP, SP and MR will meet on Tuesday 1st October at The Ashcroft at 10.30am to recce the routes. MR suggesting advertising that kids can meet Santa at The Ashcroft prior to the route commencing to allow vehicles to set off promptly. It was discussed that more sweets need to be purchased. MR will contact the Mayor of Rossendale to see if she can attend when Santa Express visits Bacup Town Centre. RH will liaise with LP regarding promotion, etc for the event. RH will apply for the street collectors' licence for the event.

12. To confirm the date of the next meeting.

The next meeting was arranged for Wednesday 20th November at 7pm.

There being no further business the meeting finished at 8.55pm.