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

# On Tuesday 12th August 2023 at The Ashcroft, Market Street, Whitworth

**Members present:**

Councillor David Chorlton (Chair) (DC)

Lindsay Fairhurst (LF)

Mark Ambrose (MA)

Anne Tattersall (AT)

Marilyn Jones (MJ)

Les Hirst (LH)

Angela Wardle (AW)

Minutes taken by Rachel Hodson (RH)

**AGENDA:**

1. **To receive apologies.**

Jemma Harden, Aimee Walker, Mike Royds, Carol Thomson and Michelle Butterworth (MB).

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

None.

1. **To consider the minutes from the last meeting on 15th August 2023, and to approve the minutes by the signature of the Chairman as a correct record.**

Done.

1. **To update on the Santa Express.**

RH updated members regarding a meeting with Linda Parker(LP). LP is meeting with Mike Burgess to reccy the route. LF agreed to draw the route once finalised with the aim to get it into the next WVN. DC updated regarding the lights. LF mentioned “Fretwork” and DC will investigate this. MA reported that the music is now sorted. DC will help to set the lights up before the event. RH to apply for street collectors’ license. LP has said that the reindeer can go on the roof of the truck. All members agreed that we will work out helpers’ schedule at the next meeting. DC reported that if the weather is bad on the night, LP will call the event off on safety grounds.

1. **To plan a night out selling ducks (October/November) and get availability.**

LH and DC can attend the duck selling night out. AW said that she and Lee could also help. AT is happy to take duck sheets nearer the time. RH suggested confirming the time and time via the TLC Facebook group. DC suggested a provisional date of 18th November. DC is happy to lead on the Duck Race. MJ, LF and AW are happy to distribute the sheets and posters to local businesses from early October. RH will put the event on the TC Facebook page for others to share. RH will order the 4 banners. DC confirmed the duck checking night for Thursday.

1. **To update on plans for another first aid event.**

RH relayed an update from MB, that the company are happy to put on another event at a cost of £5 per First Aid booklet. Members agreed that there should be a £5 cost to book on but, on attendance, attendees would be gifted sponsorship of 5 ducks in the duck race. MJ will liaise with the Lighthouse in case any volunteers want to book on. It was agreed to promote it at the Doctors and the Library. RH will check with Aimee tomorrow regarding use of the chamber and will update MB after this. There was no preference from members for the date for this.

1. **To come up with ideas for a music event for May 2024.**

DC suggested this could be held instead of the Family Fun Day and members discussed poor attendances at this in the past. RH expressed concern regarding the costs associated with a music event including trailer rental, sound and acts and suggested the event would require sponsorship to be able to go ahead. Members will consider this as an option for discussion at the next meeting.

1. **To debrief the Rushcart and suggest changes for 2024.**

LH reported that he marshalled at Lloyd St and that it went well redirecting people. DC expressed concern that the traffic management only had one car and Chris used his van at the other end. LF asked why the TLC ran out of hi viz vests, DC reported that there were more marshals than usual at the event. MA was concerned that the traffic management company didn’t have a risk assessment with them, and DC reported that the walkie talkie he was given didn’t work. MA felt that it was a good day, if a little too hot. MA thanked the museum and reported that more youngsters have signed up to be dancers. MA asked if the TLC could contribute to the buffet for the dancers before the event. DC asked him to investigate the costs and bring it to the next meeting. AT reported that St Barts had a good day and sold out of food. They will be changing their food for next year, possibly looking at samosas, pakoras. She felt it went well having the food stalls next to each other. DC thought the TLC needs another 10 barriers and the feedback was that the stalls in the entrance didn’t do as well as the stalls in the hall. It was agreed that stalls would be sold in the hall and, once full, any further enquiries for stalls would be advised that they had to go outside or in the foyer, giving the stallholder the choice. DC suggested getting a photographer for the alcove, Howard Wilkinson has done this in the past. LF reported there were no bin bags in the hall. RH will check with Aimee regarding feedback from other markets. LF felt that the crafts did well, and she is happy to help with these again, if glitter tattoos are being sold by other stalls. MA asked for dates for next year. It was agreed that the 1st September would be the date. DC said that the Mayor was great and gave out a lot of useful information regarding the dance troupes.

1. To update on plans for wreath making.

RH reported 6 bookings so far. AW asked if it could go in the next Valley News. RH replied that the places may have sold by then but yes, the advert can go in if needed. MJ suggested giving out flyers when duck sheets are distributed – RH to print these off. RH will create the Facebook event on the Town Council event for others to share. LF asked if Sarah Rhodes is still getting pinecones and asked where the Christmas tree offcuts will be stored. MA is happy to help with the offcuts and offered to store them in his garage and bring them to the wreath making event. LF will liaise with RH regarding checking what supplies are needed for the event.

1. To update on Christmas Trees.

LH stated that he has been through the lights and that they are ready and reboxed. He said there will be a shortfall of 10 and so will purchase these. He asked if the TLC would approve the purchase of new lights in the New Year when they are discounted. He stated that the best ones are B&M 200 chaser lights with multi colours for plug in lights. For battery lights, Asda are the best. LH will liaise with RH re batteries needed. LH reported that has collated all the email addresses and has sent an email out to all on the list. So far 18 positive responses. LH informed members that he is advising people to pay by BACS. LH also reported selling 4 brackets so far and he will need the big ladder for one address. RH to amend the website stating no more brackets left. LH has also contacted the tree supplier, Steve Parker and the Gleam Team – they are all happy to go ahead as per previous year. DC will get alternative tree quotes. DC will put an update on the TLC Facebook page regarding tree emails.

1. To update the group on the progress made on the poppy project.

DC updated members that BCH will cut, manufacture and engrave all 457 poppies for free. It will cost £2,500 for the powder coating. Jemma is working on the certificates that will be signed by the Mayor of Whitworth. DC reported that in the next 2 weeks, the project will go live. AW asked how long it will take from start to finish. DC reported that it would take BCH a few days to make them. DC asked if the TLC are happy to fund 4 coloured poppies and the plaque describing the memorial. All members agreed. DC will update members with the progress.

1. To set a date for the next TLC meeting

Wednesday 22nd November at 7pm at The Ashcroft.

There being no further business the meeting finished at 8:30pm.