

Bawtry Heritage Group

Notes of meeting on Wednesday 9 March 2022

In light of the urgent discussion required following the funding decisions the previously circulated agenda was not adhered to. Abbreviations: Heritage Centre = HC; Changing Place = CP.

1. Present

Steve Fish, Tony Jones, Peter Holland, John Linsley, David Kirkham

2. Apologies

Ross Jarvie, Rachael Blake, Mick Maguire

3. Future meetings & trustees

Meeting reflected on attendance/lack of apologies. Recognised that project business would not attract members whose interest was simply Bawtry's history. In any case, it was recognized that it is trustees whom the constitution requires to make critical decisions. In that context, SF & TJ to become trustees. RJ & MM to be invited to become trustees. DK to pursue.

4. Matters arising from 9 Feb meeting

Gift Aid – remains pending.

Future thematic topics – remains pending.

Tourist info signage - Costs? Remains pending.

Website – “Piggy-back” on BTC site remains available. In longer term, SF has obtained two domain names – bawtryheritagegroup.co.uk & bawtryheritagecentre.co.uk at nominal cost. The meeting preferred the former. Need website provider – TJ to pursue.

Logo – use Mayflower School – or/and Hayfield? JH to provide contact details for Mayflower. Provide BHG logo requirements to children. SF & TJ to pursue.

Arts Festival Week – PH to make Pilgrim Fathers presentation, backed up by a booklet (for sale) he is making, commissioned by BHG – latter needs costing. TJ to provide photos for same. DK & MM to offer guided Town Trail walks – need insurance? TJ working on a Childrens Town Trail quiz/game leaflet. (DK to send copy of lectern Town Trail map.)

Market Cross bench – decent silhouette of stage coach needed. All – send to TH; JH to give contact details of fabricator.

Jubilee event – discussion whether we should aim to have a presence (stall) – to raise money/awareness. Concluded likely we would only raise a few £ - not worth it?

5. Finance report

DK to make same at next meeting.

6. Project business

FCC grant application – FCC has informed us they will not fund the CP (after meeting FCC informed JL it would be outside their criteria) but they encourage us to re-submit an application for the HC alone. FCC stressed we should show evidence of community need for such a facility – not just wish. Deadline for new application is 8 June 2022 – decision likely September.

Garfield Weston grant application – successful, but contingent upon receiving FCC grant. Offer valid for two years.

Agreed:

- Re-submit to FCC, without increasing costs beyond inflation. (HC cost c £66k plus inflation.) But – enquire whether we could include an additional sum to fund cosmetic improvement of the Gents building as it will detract from the appearance of the HC.
- Continue to try to create CP, using other funding sources but immediate priority is HC.
- Offer donors refund as CP not able to go ahead immediately. Rely on a notice in Bawtry Today for donors up to £100; individual emails to be sent to £100 plus donors. Not anticipated many will ask for refund.
- Seek advice whether/how DMBC's £5k "health & well-being" grant may be used, given "community hub" element of HC. Has to be spent by December 2022.
- In addition to that £5k, & presuming no major donors require refunding, we estimated we will have £10-£12k funds available after allowing for CTP element of new bid. Discussion how that might be used – refurbish toilets in Gents block? Improve furniture/equipment in HC? Not resolved.
- We need to identify opportunities to collect evidence of need. Neighbourhood Plan experience suggests a leaflet questionnaire distributed via Bawtry Today would not fit our time frame. Place notice in Bawtry Today inviting comments by email/letter, poll or similar on Facebook page, & various existing groups we might tap into to get feedback. Also selective canvassing - target isolated (elderly) residents who may not be familiar with email etc.

Actions:

- DK to draft notice for Bawtry Today. To replace already submitted Battle of the Idle article. Deadline for submission Friday. Also draft email to major donors.
- JL to seek outstanding 4th construction quote.
- JL to work on costs for re-submission.
- DK to draft a simple leaflet to collect opinions
- TJ to use same with audiences at Phoenix Theatre performances (starting 19 May). Ditto Film Soc showings.
- DK & JL to use same to canvass Peakes Croft residents
- TJ ditto William Bradford Court residents
- Existing groups – BTC, BRG?, BRA, Bawtry Churches, WI?, New Hall hirers? Mayflower & Hayfield schools.
- Poll or similar on Facebook page – ES?
- JL to make courtesy calls to DMBC Planning & Property Services re our position

7. Next meeting – Wednesday 6 April at 18.30; Phoenix Theatre