

## **Bawtry Heritage Group**

### **Notes of meeting on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2023**

#### **1 Present/Apologies**

Present – John Linsley, Peter Holland, Mick Maguire, David Kirkham, Tony Jones

Apologies – Steve Fish

#### **2 Matters arising from 13<sup>th</sup> June meeting**

##### **4 Doncaster & District Heritage Association – Local History Fair**

MM, TJ & PH confirmed they will attend. Display – all of our history papers, buildings/sites gazetteer, website via a laptop & monitor, & books for sale – possibly including BCL books. DK to deliver USB stick containing gazetteer (for printing) & BHG collection box to PH.

##### **7 Bawtry Arts Festival – Childrens Essay Competition**

Update. Air Cadet's essay now on website News & Events & on History page. Agreed competition was very successful & we should repeat it in the future & try to exploit contacts made, especially with Mayflower School – seek to develop idea of jointly working on Key Stage 2/3 history material, which emphasises Local History. MM & TJ to pursue.

#### **3 Grant applications**

##### **3.1 Garfield Weston**

Application made for close to £3k for Town Trail waymarking project

##### **3.2 Skinners Charity Foundation**

Application made for £1k for Town Trail waymarking project

#### **4 Website**

Search Engine Optimisation – Google search for “Bawtry heritage” produces 10 pages of results, with our site first – but search for “Bawtry history” produces even more results, but they don't include our site. Keith advises largely controlled by Google itself, but should improve over time as more people visit the site. He will also try to improve performance. Detailed metrics available – agreed probably access same after 6 months.

We missed a trick not announcing website going live in Bawtry Today. MM has already submitted an article for September's edition, so we will use October edition to publicise website. In the meantime, we'll get it onto our Facebook page. Discussion re latter – we don't have relevant technical ability; ideally we need a pro-active approach.

#### **5 Bawtry wharf painting**

Agreed to get a small version framed, for display in BCL. Agreed DK may keep a print the artist presented to him as a “thankyou” for his help in creating the content.

## **6 History papers for formal approval**

### **6.1 Defining the Future of Roman Bawtry**

Approved. MM to forward slightly amended version (font etc) & introduction to DK for website.

### **6.2 Roman Bawtry – Speculation & Theories...**

Approved

### **6.3 Bawtry wharf Re-imagined**

Approved

#### **Discussion re other material for website**

- agreed a link to a 1974 video about an electric car in Bawtry to also go on
- oral history material generated 3 years ago. TJ working on it – but it will be a long job. He will retrieve original recordings from Rachael Blake.
- if possible, Emma's early videos which are on Facebook
- RAF Bawtry. JL to contact Stewart Cresswell. Might he be able to produce a "personal reminiscences" piece to complement a general history DK will produce?

## **7 Policies for approval**

### **7.1 Guided Walks Risk Assessment**

Agreed we should address maximum safe size of party. Not by citing an actual number (we don't want to turn people away, & a booking system wouldn't be feasible), but by obliging the leader to consider traffic conditions, time of day, availability of a "tail end Charlie" etc.. Also, in advertising guided walks we should advise participants to wear sturdy footwear. DK to amend & re-circulate.

### **7.2 Safeguarding Policy**

Agreed to amend by including statement to the effect that when working with another organisation BHG will enquire of the organisation what are their requirements of BHG under their safeguarding policy.

Agreed both policies should be reviewed annually.

## **8 Appointment of Safeguarding Officer**

TJ appointed, who has previous experience of the role.

## **9 South Yorkshire Heritage List**

Agreed trying to understand SYHL's reasoning for rejecting most of our submissions was unlikely to be successful; they appear inconsistent & are unco-ordinated. Even so, we will continue to make nominations. Agreed MM will nominate the shrine site, given its location is now in the public domain, Nottinghamshire Environment (?) having erected a nearby site displaying a map. We hope this will then lead to a nomination for Scheduling, with the advice & assistance of SYAS. To enhance SYAS's interest & willingness to help, agreed MM will also copy our two papers on Roman Bawtry to them.

**10 Presentations to other groups**

Prompted by a request from Misson WI. Agreed we would welcome such opportunities. MM to liaise with Misson WI.

**11 AOB**

**11.1 Children's Town Trail material**

MM to check whether BCL still has poster & trail guides. TJ has originals. Place on website?

**11.2 Window dressing**

DK has recovered material. Could re-use if opportunities found, although Roman roads poster requires amendment.

**11.3 "Horrid histories"**

Agreed there do appear to be some stories about Bawtry that could be written up & put on website. History page could be used so long as they were clearly described as "tall tales". Suggestions to JL who will co-ordinate.

**12 Next meeting**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November; 18.30; JL's house.