

Bawtry Heritage Group

Notes of meeting on Tuesday 8th April 2025

1 Present/Apologies

Present - Mick Maguire, David Kirkham, Mike White, Leslie Gilfedder, Kevin Gilfedder, Rupert Atkinson (left early), Sherelle Hawes, Paul Hawes, Peter Holland.

Georgia Snape in attendance from CDC.

Apologies – John Linsley

3 CDC consultation exercise – Georgia Snape in attendance.

CDC consulting regarding arts & culture – including heritage – in Doncaster. Definition of Doncaster includes outlying areas such as Bawtry, but CDC is particularly concerned about the city centre. Lengthy discussion about how we interpret “arts & culture”; what its profile is & what we’d like it to be. In terms of the city centre, we expressed the view that whatever its arts & culture offering, it had to become a more inviting environment to attract visits – e.g. Hallgate is now little more than nail bars, bookmakers, pubs, empty shops etc.. We acknowledged CDC did seem to be making an effort but actions speak louder than words, & some of the actions required required large sums of money which don’t appear to be available. Public transport needed improving – e.g. a senior CDC officer wasn’t aware that it takes two buses to travel between Bawtry & Tickhill. Another concern was that CDC don’t use the powers they have to protect our heritage – e.g. Harworth House. Agreed members may email Georgia with additional points – address Georgia.Snape@doncaster.gov.uk

2 Matters arising from 11th March meeting

Battle of the Idle display lecterns – text content now agreed by all parties, but images remain outstanding. Notts CC has advised Licence to install lectern on Gainsborough Rd should be issued in a couple of weeks. CDC still haven’t responded re permission to install lecterns at BCL. MM & DK to meet to progress towards sending content to manufacturer.

Request from Little Bawtry’s – JL lead; no further info at present.

Planning application – Martin Grange Farm – football training facility – disappointingly the CDC Conservation Officer hasn’t made comment. DK suggested probably academic though – there are very numerous objections that must carry great weight.

Pilgrim Fathers – LG to send contact details of St Helena churchwarden to RA.

4 Heritage Open Days Festival 2025 – 12th to 21st Sep – good that BHG was consulted. Looks like Bawtry Hall, St Nicholas church & the Phoenix will participate, but the Masonic Lodge now appears uncertain & St Helena church is subject to agreement between them & Doncaster Civic Trust.

5 BCL Heritage Centre

Ann Everard display

SH has extensively researched AE, the school, & the pupils. Lots of fascinating info, including the fact that her father was an artist & re details of the earlier iteration of the school at Ivy House (presuming Wharf St was also known then as “Shore St”) but sadly no pic of AE. No evidence of AE involvement in education or publishing after her marriage. SH will make a presentation of what she has discovered during Bawtry Festival - BCL on Tuesday 17th Jun; 10.30 am. This will be followed by the unveiling of the AE album in the Heritage Centre. SH’s work will also be on display there, plus other elements, including laminated copies of the photographs from “Flowers from Nature” obtained by RA. MM has laminator we can use. SH will also write up her reseach as a history paper.

Bawtry history timeline

Reviewed draft. General content & length of presentation OK. DK to make some revisions/additions.

6 CDC Community Investment Fund grant application

Application for £2k made; to finance another lectern. MM reminded us we ought to do a priority list for future lecterns; we have a lot to choose from.

7 Donors revisited.

MM suggested deferment until JL in attendance.

8 Hunt for Roman Bawtry – final report

Completed & on the website. This almost certainly represents the most research ever done on the Bawtry area during Roman times. What do we do with it after MM presents it during Bawtry Festival week? MM shared general conclusions & observations.

9 AOB

Website

Updated with Roman Bawtry final report & info re what we’re doing during Bawtry Festival week.

We ought to have another look at website metrics soon.

Bawtry & Austerfield WW1 dead

A former family history student of SH has done very extensive rearch into all the names listed on the War Memorial. Needs work for presentation as a paper & on the website.

10 Next meeting

Tuesday 13th May, 18.30, at the Town Hall. (Apologies from MM.)