

Minutes of a Meeting of Tetbury Rail Lands Regeneration Trust held on Thursday 19 February 2015

Registered Charity No1092160 Registered Company No 4102029

Patron: His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales

Date: Thursday 19 February 2015

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Tetbury Town Council Offices



1. Attendance

Present: Will Cook, Sue Stoner, Caroline Morgan, John Andrews, Carolyn Witcher, David Walker, Barrie Doyle, Mary Doyle, Brecon Quaddy, Stephen Hirst, Peter Atkinson, James Scurlock

Apologies: Jo Gale, Andrea Payne

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2015

It was proposed by Stephen Hirst, seconded by Caroline Morgan that these be approved. Agreed by all present. The Town Council Leisure Strategy referred to in paragraph 3 had been sent to Gloucestershire Environment Trust.

3. Joint working with Town Council

- a. **Project Group** – representatives of the Group had been out to visit the 3 architects invited to tender for the next stage in the design process. The Group was to meet again the following week to determine the interview process.
- b. **Seating system** - Board representatives had visited the Corinium Museum to view the retractable seating in the lecture theatre. The seating, designed and installed by Audience Systems at Westbury, had been in place for ten trouble free years. The system was comfortable, compact, clean, provided a clear view and solved problems of storage. The installation would also obviate the need for the staircase, lift, fire exit and balcony. However, it would intrude upon kitchen and toilet space and would not be suitable for casual coffee mornings and other informal groupings of chairs. (Members thought this could be solved by storing some loose tables and chairs under the stage.)
Barrie had been given an estimate of £44,000 for the installation but this would be refined dependent upon final architect drawings
- c. **Internal lay out** - Members discussed the possibility of resiting the kitchen temporarily and, once construction started, creating a designated space outside the building. A number of Members were to view various layouts before the next meeting. **Barrie to set a date.**
- d. **Work on site** – Barrie had received two quotes for cutting small doors into the main entrance, one from Tetbury Joiners, the other from Pat Hennessy. Costings were similar but the latter was prepared to work on site, deemed the more practical solution. It was proposed by John Andrews, seconded by David Walker and agreed by all that the work be offered to Pat Hennessy. Lloyd Avis had agreed to install extra power points and emergency exit lights at cost. John Cook was to conduct a Health and Safety assessment for the Folk Festival.
- e. Sue was still pursuing the possibility of a trip to the Round House Arts Centre in Camden, London, with Kate Lewis.

4. Funding and business planning

- a. **Treasurer's report** – Caroline reported £24,912 in the bank, down slightly due to payments on sculptors and publicity. Some £170 was still owed on the carpet.

- b. **Current Funding Bids** – Barrie felt the application process with the Gloucestershire Environment Trust had got ‘bogged down’. They were now demanding a cost/benefit analysis. Instead, he and John Andrews had submitted two large bids to other funders and were expecting decisions in a few weeks time. A small bid of £4000 had been made to the local **Jack Lane Trust**, results expected in two weeks.

Sue Workman, an experienced local fund raiser, had offered to help Barrie with **Lottery bids**. Mary Clark from the **David Thomas Trust** was seeking to bring her board members to see the site towards the end of March. She was confident of further awards in addition to the £10,000 already donated. Beki Aldam, a local ‘young mum’ and former English teacher had made an inspired bid to **the British Film Institute** for a full set of cinema equipment. She was awaiting results.

Sue had approached Joseph Walker at CDC to check the state of play with **the CDC Community Fund**. She had submitted a short report about progress which Joseph was to share with CDC Members at the appropriate Committee meeting. He was keen to get an extension to the deadline agreed before election purdah prevailed.

- c. **Joint business plan** – The TTC had agreed to let the Trust manage activities in the Goods Shed and was considering a number of lease options, including peppercorn rent and/or profit sharing. A member of staff from Gloucestershire Rural Community Council was to advise the Project Group in April. In the meantime **Will was to contact Julia Hasler, Company Secretary, to discuss what was allowable under the current Trust Articles**
- d. **Private sponsorship** - Work on the Fashion Calendar was progressing with Karen waiting for dates for a follow up meeting with Colin Peacock. **John Andrews offered to chase this up.**

5. Rail Track

- a. Giles Preston had met up with Mike Tucker who was adamant there would be no footpath along his part of the rail track unless he got the footpath at the side of his son’s house extinguished. Giles had also contacted HRH Estates Manager and he confirmed the Duchy would only be happy with a footpath, not a bridleway, along their part of the trackbed. The County Council seemed optimistic that this would go through but a decision would not be made before June. **Mike Halpin requested that all members of the Board should support the bridleway/cycle track option being suggested in the draft of CDC’s Planning Strategy. Mike was also going to attend the next meeting of the Cotswolds Access Forum and, through them, organise a meeting with all the landowners of the trackbed. Mike was to meet the Chair, Alison Williamson, in the next few days to explore how they could help.**

6. Events

- a. Plans for 2015 –
- **Feb 14 – 22** – Exhibition and sale of Nicola Clark’s early pictures was highly successful and her donation of 25% of the proceeds to the Goods Shed had made over £2000
 - **March 29** – Nicola Clark concert to celebrate the completion of ‘Eight Pagan Goddesses’, pictures of friends who will accompany Nicola in song. £5 ticket entry to Goods Shed. **Brecon is compiling a list of interested folk. Suggestions to him.**
 - **April 24, 25** – Folk Festival. Ceilidh on Friday evening (£12.50 ticket), performances all day Saturday. Attractions to include Johnny Copin and a second support band, circus workshops, poetry readings, ‘open mike’, Jesse Smith outside catering. Costs stand at c£900-1000. Some sponsorship would help with tight budget.
 - **June** – Dog Show and Strawberry tea – Chris Stevens happy to organise repeat event towards end of month. **Caroline to contact her for confirmation of arrangements**
 - **July 11** – Malmesbury Singers Concert on ‘Travel’ in Goods Shed

- **August** – Arts in the Park – Sue has recruited Beki to help. Their outline plan is attached.
- **September** – Heritage Weekend
- **Sept/Oct** - Classical Piano Concert – dependent upon Jan
- **October** – Sculpture Exhibition – participants will want longer this time to justify effort of set up. **Mary to advise.**

Group to compile rolling calendar of other local events so as to take advantage of themes/stands/publicity. **Volunteer needed!**

7. **Date of next meeting - Thursday 19 March 2015 at 7.30pm in the Town Council Offices. Sue to contact Julia re arrangements for AGM**