



# **Bassetlaw Heritage Network**

## **Wednesday 22nd November**

### **The Museum of the Horse**



#### **Minutes – 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023, Museum of the Horse**

- Attendees:** Rachel Wood, BCVS  
Annie Parry, BCVS  
Sally Mitchell, Museum of the Horse  
Julie Barlow, North Leverton Windmill Trust  
Fran Walker, Worksop Priory Gatehouse Trust  
Laura Sercombe, Bassetlaw Museum  
Georgina Lancaster, Bassetlaw SPF Heritage Funding  
Steve Williams, Oasis Centre  
Michael Tagg, Bassetlaw District Council  
Ruthie Boyes, Aurora Wellbeing & Heritage  
Jill Hodgkins, Aurora Wellbeing & Heritage  
Jane Harrison, Bassetlaw District Council  
Dian Hunt, Walks of Life Museum
- Apologies:** Stephanie Henry, BCVS Community Grants  
Marie Brown, BCVS Heritage Lead

RW opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. She also thanks SM for hosting us at the Museum of the Horse and give us a tour of the amazing museum rooms. Everyone was very impressed and amazed at what was there to see.

Everyone introduced themselves and their role.

RW gave a Bassetlaw Community Grants update on behalf of SH who sent her apologies. RW urged all attendees to consider applying, and the deadline to apply is 18<sup>th</sup> December. Projects that have

any elements of tackling social isolation, volunteering and/or community and place could be eligible for up to £15,000 in levelling up SPF funding. If anyone has any questions about the grants, they can email [communitygrants@bcvs.org.uk](mailto:communitygrants@bcvs.org.uk)

SM asked what sort of volunteers could they try and get as a result of the grants if they applied and were successful and RW said it would be up to them to advertise for the kind of volunteers they need and that we BCVS can support them with a volunteer manager account and our volunteer vacancies page.

AP also mentioned that a lot of businesses have hours that their employees are allowed to use for volunteering and it is worth approaching businesses if there is a set job to be done, such as painting or gardening, as this is the sort of thing they like to do for a day of volunteering.

DH said she had also tried to approach schools but had not had much luck with this. AP advised her to try the schemes the schools already do such as NCS and the Duke of Edinburgh when they are happening as the young people will need to do volunteering as part of these.

It was asked if organisations could submit joint bids / collaborative bids to the community grants, and RW said she would find out and let everyone know.

SW mentioned he was not successful for funding in Round 1 and RW suggested he approached SH for more feedback if he would like to know the reasons.

RW confirmed that all community grant outcomes are 100% impartial and no biased. A group of grant panel volunteers will score each application and each application is anonymised when being scored.

RW mentioned the BCVS 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration event on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December and that all BHN members were welcome to attend. She would forward the invite again in case it had not landed with some members yet.

### **Leverton Windmill Update**

JB thanks everyone who attended the Wheels at the Windmill weekend and was pleased to let everyone know that over 5,000 people attended over the weekend, raising £10,000 for the Windmill. A Lancaster Bomber did a fly past which was very popular. She is already planning 2024.

JB mentioned that they are struggling to get schools to visit the windmill, apart from the regular local schools that always visit. RW suggested they list themselves on a school trip directory site.

### **Walks of Life Museum Update**

The Walks of Life Museum would like everyone to help promote the bus networks more to help people know how to get to Tuxford. Especially whilst they are still only £2 for a single.

There is also the Notts Bus on demand which could bring up to 16 people.

LS mentioned looking at Hyundai funding, as they sometimes offer funding for transport for school trips.

DH also asked if there was a way we could all promote the heritage of Bassetlaw together, and a booklet or map was suggested, that we could all help produce to let everyone the heritage that there is in Bassetlaw to visit. The network all agreed this would be a great thing to do, and we would all explore a way of funding this – either by selling adverts in the booklet to businesses, or with a funding bid.

### **Aurora Update**

There is a Christmas event on 2 December that will have a Santa and lots of things to do, this is at the same time as the Priory Festival, so people can do both.

The Health and Heritage project has been extended, which they are very pleased about.

There is a Health and Wellbeing Conference on 14 March that we were asked to save the date for as all heritage network members are invited.

There is an oral history project coming up that they would like to get everyone involved with when it starts, and they will also be doing something next year for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the miners strikes.

### **Museum of the Horse Update**

Work will start soon to restore the ballroom to a conference room. This will be a great place to hire out for events and clubs in the area.

They may need volunteers for this so will advertise this if needed.

It will also be a great space for schools.

Museum of the Horse and Walks of Life museum are also doing a joint project for Storytelling Week in February to encourage children to write about horses and people and walks.

### **Priory Gatehouse Update**

Work starts this week on the repair work to the Gatehouse, with scaffolding going up this week.

There will be big boards on the side of the scaffolding showing what the difference the work will make.

FW thanked the university students that have been helping, as they have been a huge support.

As with everything, more funds are always needed to complete the work needed over the next 5 years.

### **Bassetlaw District Council Update (Michael Tagg)**

The North Notts Camra group has changed the way they are doing the pub of the year to include a town pub and a village pub. This is to make it fairer for the villages and to give them a chance.

There are pub guides on the Camra website that are very useful.

All pubs are on a map, which could also be part of the heritage trail/guide.

The guide could include pubs, museums, heritage sites, accommodation and camp sites, to encourage more tourism.

MT also mentioned the great news about the gatehouse, which the council have supported, and that it is fantastic news to see work starting.

Retford Railway Station have a new floor.

The tea room is not open yet in Retford but a new Café has opened at Worksop Railway station.

A survey has been completed on Gringley and Clayworth building history.

Mt was very pleased to have made a connection with a family member of Joseph Diamond, a statue in Blyth churchyard, who is going to help maintain it.

There is a consultation in place around Retford Market, all are welcome to input into this.

### **Oasis Update**

In the past Oasis have done a lot of heritage work on the history of liquorice in Worksop and are always open to any other interesting projects like this.

3,000 flower bulbs have been planted this summer and the gardens are looking lovely.

Oasis get around 20,000 people visit a year and it is a great hub for the whole community to enjoy.

There is a Christmas event coming up 14-16 December and there will lots to do for the while family, this is free and all are welcome.

They recently won a £70k bid from ITV People Project which is going towards a variety of idea including bringing back the circus tent when the weather warms up.

Oasis would like to go on tour and take crafts and other ideas on tour around other areas of Bassetlaw – all input welcome on this.

### **Bassetlaw Museum Update**

Heritage Open Day went well and plans are already starting for 2024.

Halloween half term was also very busy and well attended.

There is potentially a £1,000 grant to help support HOD, if this is repeated in 2024.

On 9<sup>th</sup> December, there is a Christmas Crank Up event, with festive tractors and on 16<sup>th</sup> December there is also a tractor rally.

On 14 December there is a winter festival of light, with lanterns.

### **SPF Heritage Grants Update – Georgina**

There is some exciting project coming up that were funded in round 1 and the next wave of grants will open early January, £500 - £5,000, for arts and heritage projects.

### **Bassetlaw District Council – Jane Harrison**

Both Retford and Worksop markets are being reviewed for improvements, hopefully there will be some great outcomes from these.

### **BCVS Volunteering Update, Annie Parry**

Annie explained how she can help everyone if they need volunteers, and the features available on our website.

She encouraged all to attend the volunteer forum, and asked if any of their venues would like to host.

She explained there is a survey on some bookmarks where young people interested in volunteering could have a chance of winning a £100 voucher.

We can also ensure that all heritage network members are included in the BCVS directory.

RW mentioned the bid writing course online via BCVS on 11<sup>th</sup> December and will send the link to all members. She also mentioned the Priory Christmas Tree Festival. RW closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending and thanks Sally for allowing us to hold it at such a fabulous menu.

RW will send a poll to vote for the next meeting date, which we expect to be in February 2024, and MT will ask his connections at Welbeck if we can host it there.