



Bassetlaw Heritage Network

Minutes – 29th October 2024, BCVS 13.00PM

Attendees:

Jessica Hardwick (BCVS), Keiron Baines (BCVS), Charles Adams (BDC), Fran Walker (Gatehouse Trust), Tim Gladman (BDC), Michael Tagg (BDC), Simon Holdway (Retford Civic Society), Lucy Parkinson (BDC), Michelle Cleaver (BDC), Rob Holden (National trust), Kate Creswick (CANNS), Lynne Schuller (BDC), Susie Johns (Sherwood Forest Trust)

Apologies:

Andria Birch (BCVS), Dee Sissons (Aurora), Stephanie O’Bee (Pinnacle), Helen fox (Inspire), Julie Barlow (North-Leverton Windmill), Russel Smith (RVS), Patrick Candler (National Trust), Derek Turner (Retford Civic Society), Sam Roberts (AEM), Alfie Spencer (Pinnacle)

Summary of Actions agreed:

1. JH/KB – minutes and Schedule next meeting
2. JH to forward meeting invitation for next meeting to wider mailing list
3. JH to request update from AB on Worksop Town board and report back
4. CA to request presentation about new BDC website and benefits to heritage assets for next meeting
5. RH to send over Christmas marketing materials

Welcome and introductions

JH opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. Thanks RH for hosting. Everyone introduced themselves, their organisations and their roles.

BDC update on the Constructions Heritage Skills Programme

TG – Update on heritage skills program. We are having a break over this half – term holidays, we have 25 people and another 2 or 3 enquiries but we have reached capacity for people who we can provide transport for. We have started feedback and have the first draft of our evaluation form. We are now looking to set up a working group/board to put together a case to manage the project/funding when UKSPF ends.

MC – passed the draft of the case around they had made to see if the groups had any comments on it which was to be passed EMCCA. Asked the group for feedback/anything that had been missed.

RH – It has a powerful back cover story that stands out

TG - We have to find a way to capture interest early before people get comfortable in their tradable skills and won't want to get into heritage work.

RH – we have to pay a premium to look after heritage sites due to lack of people trained to work on them.

TG –Should the working board sit in this group or be a splinter from this group or just be supported by this group?

JH – Do you have a wish-list of people who you would like in this group?

TG – People from Construction companies, education providers, have heritage assets, local reps, reps from local combined authorities and people from this group.

SH – it would be a good idea to speak with the principle of NNC to see how it may fit in with them in order to ensure longevity of the project

TG – All current apprenticeships are on regular construction. The hope is to prove this projects success through EMCCA case studies which will help support future funding bids and hopefully qualification pathways.

SJ – Could you get an accredited body on board so they could get certificates at the end of the program. SJ also offered her experience of running alternative provisions to assist.

Action – TG to consider a meeting with the people on the wish list for a working group

Workshop Town Board update

JH – No update at the moment, the work is on hold awaiting government budget announcement.

CA – we know we need to out reach and work out what is next after UKSPF

SH – Retford town has a budget and has used it for new bins, new benches and painted areas of the town red and gold to fit the heritage of the town. What is the difference between this budget and that of Workshop town board?

TG/MC – our understanding is that Retford Town funding was available from a different window earlier on in the year but this would need clarifying

The groups ask was to get an update of what's in flight and what's happened to the budget

Action JH to get some clarity from AB on this and report back to group.

[Post meeting update – The Worksop Town Board will be meeting online for an update 20th November, as soon as further details available on next steps they will be shared via [Worksop Town Board | Bassetlaw District Council](#)]. The future of SPF will also be informed by the budget and EMCCA as it evolves. Heritage related updates will come back to this meeting and wider updates via the VCSE Voices meeting.

Feedback from Heritage Open Days 2024

JH – Multicultural event

JH – The event didn't go ahead due to tragic accident

FW – Gatehouse update

FW – This was the most successful open day we have had. We had over 100 people and they were more positive about what's going to happen in the future. Also, we discovered problems with the electrics in the gatehouse. And we have opened a new Facebook "Friends of Worksop Priory Gatehouse". We still have no volunteers. Gatehouse presentation and flyer attached to minutes for circulation.

<http://www.wpgct.org.uk/>

<http://www.wpgct.org.uk/worksop-priory-gatehouse-the-movie/>

SH - Retford Civic Society update

SH – we found it surprising how 1000's of people look at the buildings all year round and are still interested. We found it difficult to get a list of all voluntary organisations in Retford.

JH – explained about BCVS new CRM Plinth update and advised this will hopefully be a lot easier to compile in the future with the new software, meanwhile the current BCVS directory of organisations can be found here <https://www.bcv.org.uk/health-directory>

Questions raised –

RH – How do we package everything heritage that is happening in the district?

LS – Do we have a heritage trail?

All - There are numerous smaller ones but not one throughout Bassetlaw. Can we bring planning for events forward in the year (Jan) so we can create a more coordinated promotion of all events in the year.

Action – CA to get presentation about new BDC website for next meeting.

Member updates

RH – national trust updates

RH – we have had half a million visitors since 1st March and are on track to have 750,000. We have to keep an eye on the damage that will come from all the strain of the footfall of this many people. The Chapel is having another section of the roof being worked on from the 16th November. Also from the 16th November we are starting Christmas lunch and the snowman trail. The cash that gets generated will be used to deliver conservation.

JH – do you have any Marketing materials

Action RH – send over marketing materials.

MT – BDC and heritage planning updates

MT – The shop front Grant Fund had a poor take up. The main issue is owners don't want to spend money as its only 20% match funding, the owners want 90% - 100% match funding. The best success was in Tuxford. All the drop-in sessions for the fund went well apart from the last one in Worksop. The work at Eyres at the top of Worksop town has taken off. They have done the pointing, new signage and added new paint. But apart from that we need to look at the rules of applying for the funding. Also we don't know what is happening to the money left over from the fund.

93 House street scheme in Retford – Keepmoat homes bought it. And put in a plan that was not good so we gave them improvements and they have just added chimney stacks to some of the houses. The application is still live but its expected to get refused.

St Holbens Church in Retford is not far from being finished.

The former brickwork site in Gringley has plans to be a marina into the canal with a lodge site.

Grove Church Found a medieval stone in the churchyard. It has been covered in plastic to protect it and they are going to try and get it back into the church to protect it.

The owners of Regal Cinema have agreed to get new windows and doors so we should see some movement with that soon.

Bracebridge pumping station is back on the market.

AOB

JH – I will look at next meeting slot and send it around

MT – It should be held eastwards

SH – offered church hall in Retford as next venue, asked to connect with him to organize.

JH- closed meeting and thanked all for attending.

