

Alnwick Town Team Partner Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of Alnwick Town Team held at 5pm on **Tuesday October 25th 2016** at Alnwick Garden.

Present: Cllr. Alan Symmonds (Chairman), Bill Batey (BB), Mark Brassell (MB). David Taylor (DT), Cllr Gordon Castle (GC), Elizabeth Jones (EJ), Kathleen Bradford (KB),

1. Apologies for absence:

David Lovie (DL), Dave Campbell (DC), Tim Kirton (TK), Philip Angier (PA), Carlo Biagioni (CB).

2. Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday September 20th 2016

The minutes were approved as a true record.

3. Matters arising

BB advised that the Neighbourhood Plan referendum was likely to be mid to late January 2017.

4. Halloween Festival and Torchlight Procession

MB outlined plans for the Torchlight event which is on Sunday 18th December starting at 5pm. Event Plan and notification has been completed with assistance from TK. Marketing is taking place locally and up to 2500 people are anticipated. The parade will be led by motor bikes and include 'Spark' and will go from the Alnwick Garden, through the Tower, down Bondgate Within, along Fenkle Street and down Market Street to the Market Place. Town Council approached for stage hire, road closures applied for, street licence applied for to support local charities, good PA system being sourced. Traders encouraged to open longer.

The Halloween Dark Garden event starts 25th October and will be running for 7 nights.

5. Updates:

(a) County Council – from Dave Campbell (NCC)

DC gave apologies for meeting

(b) Town Council

Lectern Maps – BB outlined that designs were being finalised for the new maps and they will include the quarters branding. The Town Council officers are still currently investigating a suitable location for the fourth plinth.

CCTV – BB reported that new camera locations were being finalised and a specification being prepared for tender. Eleven locations had been identified and it is hoped that Arriva will fund the Bus Station location. Discussions suggest that fixed cameras might be better than pan, tilt and zoom cameras. The new system will include coverage of the Greenwell Road car parks and more coverage on Fenkle Street. EJ highlighted the poor lighting at the bus station and the bench design which she felt 'encouraged' antisocial behaviour – individual seat spaces might be better.

Bus Shelters - The Town Council are looking at the designs and costing for new shelters in three locations – South Road, Wagonway Road (outside Barter Books) and Willowburn Avenue (outside old entrance to

Arcinova). This follows survey work into school routes and activity at bus stops as well as feedback from bus operatives.

c) Chamber of Trade

DT advised that work was progressing on Small Business Saturday which was on Saturday 3rd December, leaflets and banners were being prepared. He also enquired about progress with the Northumberland Hall banners – BB advised can application was ready to be made. He also highlighted the Willowburn Trading Estate de-allocation proposal and the need for some plans to emerge for the old Corn Exchange, given that Weatherspoons had withdrawn.

d) Local Living

No update as PA away.

6. Any other business

GC advised the meeting that the Christmas Lights switch on was on 18th November at 7pm in the Market Place. DT felt the tree decorations were poor and could be improved, GC felt that local school children enjoyed making and adding the decorations.

BB said he had been notified that the 'Big Sing' event may take place again this year, it was questioned as to if this could be linked to the Lantern Parade on the 18th Dec. BB to check

EJ asked for any views on the 2017 planting/colour theme for Alnwick in Bloom – suggestions to her please.

7. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting of the Town Team will be held at **Alnwick Garden at 5pm on November 29th 2016.**

The meeting formally ended at 18.10 hrs.