

Minutes of a Meeting of Tetbury Rail Lands Regeneration Trust held on Thursday 15 January 2015

Registered Charity No1092160 Registered Company No 4102029

Patron: His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales

Date: Thursday 15 January 2015

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Tetbury Town Council Offices



1. Attendance

Present: Will Cook, Sue Stoner, Caroline Morgan, John Andrews, Carolyn Witcher, Jan Vriend, David Walker, Barrie Doyle, Mary Doyle, Brecon Quaddy, Stephen Hirst

Apologies: No apologies

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2014

It was proposed by John Andrews, seconded by Barrie Doyle that these be approved subject to 4 small changes. Agreed by all present. There were no matters arising.

3. Joint working with Town Council

- a. **Planning application** – Will reported the Civic Society had filed an objection to the latest application and urged members, if they had not already done so, to respond in support of the application.
- b. **Project Group** – the latest meeting had been very fruitful. Chris Haines had advised on the 'Design and Build' scheme but, without money up front, the Trust was unable to utilise the process. The Group had decided to employ another architect, revisiting the list of original applicants plus one other, Verity and Beverley, in order to take the development forward. **The Town Clerk would be contacting potential candidates to present their ideas for taking drawings to completion stage.**

The Town Council had agreed to bring forward the cutting of two smaller doors into the large sliding doors to mitigate heating problems in the short term. **Barrie was to obtain estimates for the work.** Will reported the posts on the cattle ramp were to be cut the following day. The working group could then proceed with further work on brickwork and railings.

- c. **The Town Council Leisure Strategy** was now complete and waiting to be signed by the Mayor. **Stephen would then send it to Gloucestershire Environment Trust and liaise with them over further queries.**
- d. **Visits** – Those able were to visit the Corinium Museum the following day to view the retractable seating system and discuss other issues around booking and charging with the Museum's Development Officer.
Sue offered to investigate the possibility of a trip to the Round House Arts Centre in Camden, London, to view construction and promotion and possibly an overnight stay for those in the group keen to attend.

4. Funding and business planning

- a. **Treasurer's report** – Caroline reported £24,421 in the bank, down slightly due to payments on sculptors and publicity. Recent events, the dinner at Cafe 53, the Carol service, December Car Boot Sale and New Year Walk had netted £750, £285, £157.94 and £12 respectively. Some £170 was still owed on the carpet and **Will offered to research the cost of a PA system for outdoor events.**
- b. **Current Funding Bids** – Barrie reported the Funding Group had met last Tuesday. Adding up promises, the group had obtained c£500,000, some £89,000 of the final

total. The GET application for £120,000 was still awaiting the submission of the Town Council Leisure Strategy. Due to the delay in this decision, other funders i.e. Somerfield Trust were having to be reassured that the work would be completed by agreed deadlines. Cotswolds AONB Conservation Board was being asked to vary its terms around alternative access issues. **Sue was to check the state of play with the CDC Community Fund.**

In addition, Barrie had applied for £4000 to the Jack Lane Trust, due to meet in February, and two other larger sources, as yet unchecked. **Brecon was still exploring the Heritage Lottery Fund for other leads. He also offered to look into 'cloud funding', a potential source using modern media.** David Roberts' bid to Dyson had resulted in no money but a free vacuum cleaner!

- c. **Joint business plan** – Stephen reported that TTC was to put forward a skeleton business plan for approval by the Dolphins Hall and Rail Lands Boards. Contrary to GET suggestion, a separate booking system for the two facilities was now being considered.
- d. **Private sponsorship** - Work on the Fashion Calendar was progressing with Karen having had an initial meeting with John Peacock, the photographer, whose standard of work was inspiring. Sue and Jessica had explored the idea with local shops and received some encouraging support. Members thought an aerial shot of the former station yard in operation could complement the publication.

5. Rail Trackbed

Since the New Year walk, Mike Tucker had chained up gates and got rid of styles. In the meantime, the application to the County Council for a bridleway was progressing with over 20 submissions sent to the hearing planned for February. Whatever the committee decides, the landowner has to respond but even 'fast tracked', a final decision could take 3 years! County Councillor Tony Hicks is optimistic that a Footpath along the railway track could be approved.

A useful ally has been found in Giles Preston who sits on the Green Spaces Committee of the Neighbourhood Planning Group. He is in favour of the Footpath concept and doing his best to promote the idea. Further help has been offered by a Geoff Trubot of Whorwell Farm who has offered not only to extend the footpath from Preston Park to the railway track but also to clean leaves on the Feoffees' part of the track.

For further track bed developments, see the attached report by Mike Halpin.

6. Events

- a. Will reported on the Christmas Dinner at Cafe 53 which was not only great fun but raised a generous £750 for the appeal. The Carol Service had been very well attended and this year included a contribution from the Vicar. The New Year walk had proved to be a great success with a friendly crowd all wanting more!
- b. Plans for 2015 –
 - i. **Feb 14 – 22** – Exhibition and sale of Nicola Clark's early pictures, kicked off with a preview on Saturday 14 to include wine, nibbles and music. 25% of proceeds to Goods Shed
 - ii. **March 6** – Wine Tasting in Market House 'Call my Bluff' approach 7.30pm, Tickets £19
 - iii. **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
 - iv. **April 24, 25** – Folk Festival. Ceilidh on Friday evening (£9 ticket), performances all day Saturday
 - v. **June** – Dog Show and Strawberry tea – **Sue to contact Chris Stevens for confirmation of date**
 - vi. **July 11** – Malmesbury Singers Concert on 'Travel' in Goods Shed
 - vii. **August** – Arts in the Park – **Sue to call meeting of those interested (David, Barrie, Brecon, Anne Cox)**

- viii. **September** – Heritage Weekend – Explore potential of ‘railway journey’ theme
- ix. **Sept/Oct** - Classical Piano Concert – dependent upon Jan
- x. **October** – Sculpture Exhibition – participants will want longer this time to justify effort of set up

Group to compile rolling calendar of other local events so as to take advantage of themes/stands/publicity

7. 11 Club

John outlined his ideas for setting up a ‘100 Club’, an effective means of income generation and of fostering a sense of ownership in the community. He proposed a £5 membership fee, giving half the money away in prizes with one big prize per quarter. The launch would be via gazebo stationed by the Market House in the Spring. This raised the issue of reaching out and widening awareness of the project amongst the community. A leaflet drop inviting people to get involved, describing the project and listing events could prove effective. **Brecon offered to make a start by creating a database of all those who had submitted offers of help /emails so far.** (A not inconsiderable task!)

8. Date of next meeting - Thursday 19 February 2015 at 7.30pm in the Town Council Offices.