

**KNARESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE AREA PROJECTS SUB-COMMITTEE**

Notes of Meeting held via Zoom at 9.30am on 27TH June 2023

Present: Christine Willoughby (CW), Andrew Willoughby (AW), Cllr Andy Bell, Cllr Margy Longhurst, Cllr Helen Westmancoat, Cllr John Batt, Kathy Allday (KA), Bill Rigby (BR)

1. Items from KTC

Election of Chair John Batt was elected as Chair with a majority vote and one abstention: Christine Willoughby was elected as Vice Chair by a unanimous vote

To note Terms of Reference Noted. CW agreed to formulate based on the previous working group general terms and would update at the next meeting. It was also agreed that those on the current mailing list as members of the group would be taken off the list if they had not attended for a 6 month period

To appoint a “Note Taker” HW agreed to take notes for the meeting

AW left the meeting.

2. **Apologies** Brian Robinson, Cllr Matt Walker, Denise Booth
3. **Minutes and Matters arising** – minutes of 30 May accepted.
4. **Feedback from the meeting with Cllr Janet Deacon** - The lease is still the key to future development. CW had sent Cllr Deacon a copy of the Atkins report. A positive relationship with the new Council was emphasised. From July the Castle would be open for 5 days a week, and Cllr Deacon was keen that volunteers are included at the Castle with a potential framework being introduced. Tourism and Culture at NYC is undergoing some change at present and may be split. A streamlined application process for Events is to be introduced. Key contact is Tim Daybel at NYC. Cllr Deacon has also had sight of some of the Shared Prosperity funding applications, but not the one that includes the Castle.
5. **Devolution update** – Nothing to report.

6. **Biffa funding** – Nothing further to report at present, although the condition of the moat is not good. BR mentioned the Longlands Common AGM on 1 July when Knaresborough Forest Park would be merged with Longlands Common as they have the necessary expertise to purchase and look after the land
7. **Castle Strategy Document** – A copy of this document has also been sent to Cllr Deacon.
8. **Castle re-interpretation plans and 2030** – funding is again the key to this. A bid had been submitted to the Shared Prosperity Fund. CW had attended a seminar on reinterpretation. It is imperative that the sub-committee is ready when funding comes up so that a bid can be submitted immediately. AB and JB agreed to look into funding possibilities and produce a document, with help from KA if she has time.
9. **Phase 2 replacement interpretation boards** – Nothing further to report.
10. **Museum update** – KA reported on the HLF grant for £10k that the Association had received for community archaeology. A dig had been done locally and pleasingly some young people were involved. There is to be an archaeological festival in the October half-term. There are now 5 archaeologists on the volunteer team. A feasibility study is being done on a new location for the town museum which it is hoped will be in the Castle area. KA is optimistic about a bid to the Shared Prosperity Fund.
11. **David Rhodes information** – nothing further at present, but David continues to work in the background.
12. **Antisocial behaviour at the Castle** – there had been a couple of incidents at the Castle, both reported. HW had attended a meeting with the local Police liaison group. A new Police Liaison contact, Holly Nicholls, is looking at this town-wide now and seems to be taking a proactive approach.
13. **AOB** – AW and CW had cleaned the interpretation boards at the Castle in preparation for Janet Deacon's visit to remove the stickiness from the lime trees

Date of Next Scheduled Meeting

Zoom – 25th July 2023 9.30am

There will be no meeting in August, reconvene in September.

Helen Westmancoat 27 June 2023