

**Save Our Stute Open Meeting Tues 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020 7.15pm via Zoom**  
**Attendees: Samantha Townsend (Chair), Dave Reynolds, Kelly Ambrosini, Sue Clarke, Dene Clarke, John Raw, Michelle Armstrong, Anth Knight**  
**Apologies: Trevor Horner, Jane Hackworth-Young, Paul Harle, Lisa Knight, Colin White, John Rottgart, Catherine Howard**

Financial update

SC – healthy balance despite recent refunds due to cancelled events. No definitive figure (Sue unable to get to the bank lately) but not far off £4K including quite a lot of cash.

Review of minutes/ actions from last meeting

ACTION – KA to ask Hazel re the collection tub that is chained to the bar.

Trustee situation – solicitor now has copies of the death certificates of the trustees. The widow of one of them (Mrs Bulliment) has to give final permission/ hand over in respect of her late husband. New rules need writing next to include the change in trustee arrangements.

**ACTION** – DR to raise the rules job with Shaun.

Volunteer stats update (from last month) – Jan 19.5, Feb 91.5, Mar 96.5, Apr 0, May 7, June 70.5, Jul 106, Aug 105.5, Sept 13.5 (so far).

**ACTION** – DC to email regular updates to the group.

Crowdfunder

Ready to launch bar a few minor loose ends. Discussion on when do we launch/ is it an appropriate time with so much uncertainty and economic instability/ xmas looming etc. SC – suggest we delay until spring. Group decision on pencilling in Feb 2021 to look at again.

DR – regarding the ‘what do want to pay for?’ question – he has produced a detailed spec on the lighting and reaching out for quotes. Re heating – reluctant to invite closer inspection for fear of it being condemned.

JR – does it get serviced?

DR – yes but not sure by whom. Boiler isn’t very old but the environment it is in is not good – affected by poor ventilation, asbestos and a toilet leak.

DR – it has been suggested that we hire a firm to investigate how and where the electric is getting drained by using a meter on various points.

AR – we could use what we find out re the lighting as an example of what we would spend the money on rather than getting quotes on other things and having a detailed wish list.

DR – Eddisons have been in touch and are keen to get going on working off our vision to start applying for funding on our behalf.

SC – they need to be understanding of the limitations on us at the moment.

DR – suggests we look at arranging a meeting with Eddisons so that we can sell them our vision to show them the route we are on and want to pursue, rather than the more ‘corporate’ route that they are assuming.

An important asset in the heart of the New Shildon community and the preservation of an institution 180 years old started by T Hackworth.

ST – should be looking towards the next round of AAP funding and what we could apply for there. SHA could consider employing a fundraising manager or someone who could facilitate community education programmes at the Stute. It’s apparently fairly easy to obtain £500 of funding from Livin for running a small project for Livin residents.

SC – agree we need to be a bit hotter/ smarter on the smaller funding pots available to us.

ST – we need to start capturing the impact that our campaign and the Stute has had on the community. E.g. getting a testimony off someone like Tracy Chappell, new to Shildon who feels very comfortable in coming into the Stute on her own as she feels so welcomed.

## Review of past events

### Cheese night

ST – was safe, secure despite new rules newly announced that week. Possibly not enough space (to note for next time) but ST & friend had a great night & friend became member.

People keen to repeat perhaps xmas cheese night.

KA – people seem impressed with variety of events.

### Quingo

KA – slightly down in numbers but people seem to prefer to normal quiz.

### G&Tea September

Cancelled due to temp closure. Refunds processed.

### Danielle Happy Medium

MA – went really well, first night with event in hall since Feb, table service went smoothly.

### Floral workshop

MA – had to move to zoom due to temp closure. Made no money but we managed to help Kathryn fill it (11 attendees inc 2 SOS MA and DR)

The Fabs - went very well indeed. £80 profit despite taking £0 in tickets and took over £1K over the bar.

## Future events to plan for

30/10 Quingo **ACTION** – MA to set up Facebook event [DONE]

### Remembrance weekend

DR – has ordered wreaths for New Shildon cenotaph and inside at newly polished memorial (11+ hours of brasso!) – showing that ‘we’ are learning we must look after what we have before we ask for what we don’t have yet. Materials ordered to make a display of poppies to fasten on the railings.

29/11 Born Villains – committee event. Discussion on high fee £600.00 – will be unlikely to make any ticket money. Leave to committee.

05/12 Share the Darkness – to look at later but bear in mind options open to us in running the event (free like the Fabs or ticketed)

## What else can we do?

DR – educational talks. Been approached by 2 individuals who are keen to do this for free. 1 man from Hartlepool who was at the Fabs event and 1 man through Twitter.

JR – BIG could get involved in this also as they have the network opportunities. Would be keen to help facilitate.

**ACTION** – DR and JR to progress this idea.

Discussion on brewery and prices. Hazel now ordering stock bearing in mind possible further lockdowns to come.

ST – suggested if we do get closed again we should arrange a business focus meeting with the committee.

## Other meetings

### Chamber of Trade

ST – not restarting (K Mortimer has a new job)

Stute committee

KA attended – only 3 committee members attended so not much discussion apart from Born Villains and looking at getting a guest beer in.

### SHA

None since last month

### S&DR

None since last month. AGM was due but now deferred to first Thurs in Dec via zoom).

**ACTION** – DR to send SC an invite to the next meeting.

BIG

JR – was 17/10 via zoom (limited success). Spoke re next steps with the rail crossing – things moving forward. Sat 27<sup>th</sup> – a walk planned from Brusselton to Locomotion museum inc a guided covid safe tour of the museum – 15 people booked with an overspill date of 29/10. JR has contacted Joy Allen to point out that funding is desperately needed to further improve surroundings in New Shildon. BIG have been contacted by a national rail magazine re running a feature on the sleeper stones installation. That and the film made by DR for BIG and launched on 27/09 attracting lots of interest and new followers for BIG.

AOB

MA – cinema Saturdays what happened to this idea?

DR – need to create a poll to find out what people want to see. Idea is to show classic films on a Sat afternoon and perhaps serve snacks. Licence costs £75 but all other equipment is there (FOC DR & KA). Need to keep an eye on current situation with covid lockdowns/restrictions before proceeding further.

**Next meeting 11/11/2020 19:00 location TBC.**