

Save Our Stute

Meeting 10th March 2021 via Zoom

Attendees: David Reynolds (DR) (Chair), Kelly Ambrosini (KA), Sue Clarke (SC), Dene Clarke (DC), Samantha Townsend (ST), Susan Nixon (SN), Michelle Armstrong (MA), Lisa Knight (LK), Anthony Knight (AK), Hazel Johnson (HJ), Trevor Horner (TH)

Apologies: Colin White

Introductions

Susan Nixon was introduced to each member participating.

Review of minutes

Minutes agreed as a true record.

Financial Update

SC informed the meeting that there is currently £262.82 in the bank. Free banking is now coming to an end.

Volunteer hours

January – 24.5 hours, February 12 hours. DC asked volunteers to log hours on one day only, not over a number of days.

Committee Update

- £22,500 in the bank, which includes £4,500 members' draw.
- Roof has had a few coats of sealant, now looking to have stage repaired.
- Reopening plan required, possible date May 17th awaiting final guidance.

Website

DR planned to get the website back up and running with calendar available and possible online booking form.

Planned Events

SC suggested Quingo for first Friday opening, 21st May, G and Tea 29th May, Karaoke 29th May, also suggested a race night with no planned date.

Other bookings:

- Breakfast Club 5th November, cost £500.
- Share the Darkness, 6th December, cost £375.
- Melting Pot, awaiting date confirmation, no cost yet.
- Eric and the Vikings, 18th September, no cost yet.
- Durham Brass Band, date to be arranged.
- Murder Mystery Night, date to be arranged (£50 deposit paid).
- Stute Birthday – 27th November, possible full day, all areas. Suggestions – The Impediments, Bosco Green and The Fabs.
- Rail Heritage Exhibition – September (date TBC)

Beer Festival

Was discussed, sub-committee to be formed and business plan created. Suggested dates – March or Easter 2022.

SHA Directors Update

- SC to get details for MA re directorship.
- Vision Document has been printed and will be circulated to the Committee for feedback. These will then be made available to the wider audience. Discussion around Powerpoint for online version – SC also suggested audio version.

Discussion with External Groups

- RMT – Regional Executive donation of £500 to the Institute. Letters to be written to other branches. RMT to hold a meeting at the Stute on 28th June.
- Anthony Coulls (Locomotion) NRM Lottery bid – a letter has been sent on behalf of the Institute. DR to attend a Zoom meeting.
- Niall Hammond has prepared a shopping list – feedback to be obtained.
- Professional fundraiser preparing a report to see if she will take on the Institute as a project.
- DR had a meeting with Wendy Benson from DCC Commercial Development Team – this meeting was more productive. Heritage project, not a commercial project, but will possibly put money in if Heritage Lottery do. Also discussed development of Flag and Whistle and old Co-op sites.

Wizard and Typhoon

All in agreement with a SHA/W&T merger – W&T have £3,257.35 which is committed to projects. This money was raised from project with Greenfield School. AGM to be held to finalise arrangements.

Brusselton Incline Group Update

- Still on project opposite Masons Arms (waiting for improved weather), clearance at Brusselton but heavy undergrowth was too much for volunteers. Contractor planned for clearance at a cost of £200, keeping away from bird nesting weekend.
- DCC plan clearance from Masons Arms to Locomotion boundaries.

AOB

- MA asked about Lonely Tower Media project – DR stated they have stock footage, trying to get to the stage of interviews etc.
- MA asked about Members' Wall – this is to be an agenda item for next meeting.
- DR would like to look at SHA making another film about The Institute.

Next meeting: Wednesday 14th April @ 7.15.