

CTC 750 Working Group - Minutes
Thursday 2nd September 2021

Attendees: Cllr David Brown, Cllr Suzie Akers Smith, Jenny Unsworth, Jo Money, Cllr Margaret Gartside, Jess Imber, Debbie Coxon, Jackie MacArthur, Cllr Kay Wesley, Cllr Suzy Firkin, Martha Hayes

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Robert Moreton, Cllr Paul Duffy, Cllr Sally-Ann Holland, David McGifford
2. **Update on previous meeting; 20th May:** Approved £10k at Council and a further £15k for 2022.
3. **Approve minutes of the last meeting:** ACTION MH to amend total cost of grant approval.
4. **Update from last 750 Marketing Meeting (DC):** This group last met in June. It has been working on creating awareness. 750 vinyls window stickers have been added to the British Heart Foundation shop, banners have been up on the Town Centre entry boards. The domain name 'congleton750.org' has been purchased. Website holding page added to the CTC main site, The page will be added to with more information, history and details of events for 2022. The Information Staff are researching merchandise to sell in the lead up to Christmas and then to be sold throughout 2022 (t-shirts, tea towels, stationery, jigsaws, badges, finger puppets, possible calendar...) Cllr Wesley is to join this group and suggested creating a Facebook event for the year to create awareness/ excitement.
5. **Update from Jo Money re; 750 Wider Event:** Flag project for the Town Centre to have 80 hand painted flags to decorate. Different workshops to create these. Agreed a sub-group to target schools and get them engaged and involved for the year.
6. **Designate lead and budget for each CTC event;**
 - a.) Mountbatten Way Banners- JMac & KW. Have costings, just need design and then to start the planning application process. Double sided banners to decorate MBW and by the Firestation Roundabout to be sponsored by businesses.
 - b.) Ale Taster & Catchpole- SF, DB & MH. To start the year of events by appointing the Ale Taster at an Ale Festival in the Town Hall. ACTION MH- to contact local brewers to assist and to create a 2022 ale for the year. Catchpole has been appointed for Douglas Parker. SF speaking to Camra about this.
 - c.) Monthly Town Centre Activities- MH. Agreed to hold a Medieval style event in the Town Centre on the first Saturday of each month from April-October.
 - d.) Mayor Making- Linda Minshull and team as Civic Administration.
 - e.) Beating of the Boundaries- SAS, MG & Jeremy Condliffe (Chronicle). Suggested for 10th April and then to create a legacy map so people can still complete the walk after the one day event. SAS would like to see horses included with this.
 - f.) Civic Parade- Linda Minshull and team as Civic Administration.
 - g.) Platinum Jubilee- MH & JMac. Suggested for Friday 3rd June, 12-5pm, picnic in the park type of event with entertainment from the Bandstand.
 - h.) Town Hall Exhibition- JU. Schools Exhibition that could potentially be opened up for the public to view. Lots of historical sections of what times were like 750 years ago and the typical characters of this period. To include practical demonstrations also.
 - i.) Medieval Festival Event at Congleton Park- CTC Officers, JU, DB, MG, JMon. Saturday 13th August, Congleton Park and Jousts booked.

j.) Medieval Banquet at Town Hall- CTC Officers, SAS & JU. Agreed date; Friday 23rd September to tie in with the finish of the Heritage & Antiques Festival. To follow the same format as the banquet that took place as part of the 700 years of mayoralty celebrations in 2018.

7. **Agree method of working:** Have sub-group meeting, led by names highlighted above and then report back with 4/5 minute update at the next full meeting. Preferred for this to be of issues going forward rather than reporting on what has been done. All agreed.

8. **AOB:**

- ACTION JU- to create a timeline of significant events from 750 years ago to present day.
- Another potential event for a Medieval Band, could be combined with the Banquet in the Town Hall.
- Alsager Theatre interested, need more details from them of what they can do- ACTION SF & MG.
- ACTION DMcG- to speak to the Carnival group about its future
- Look into creating a charter to give the children at the history exhibition with a seal or stamp.
- ACTION MH & MW to look info Town Hall decorations with JU.

9. **Date of next meeting:** Monthly meetings on first Thursday of the month at 11am. Thursday 7th October, 11am. Bridestones Suite will be booked for this. MH to send out a re-occurring calendar event.