

## **MINUTES OF THE TOURISM SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25 JANUARY 2007**

### **PRESENT**

Chair: Councillor Rogers, Councillors Baddeley and Walley, Mesdames Deane, Heathcote, Sheldon and Rushton, Messrs Baker, Cox and Outhwaite

#### **43. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None were declared.

#### **44. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, Councillor Hart, Mesdames V Brown, J Deane, Messrs Harris and Robinson.

#### **45. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 November 2006 were agreed.

#### **46. MATTERS ARISING**

Calendar – Mr Cox asked that it be Minuted that he was very impressed with the quality of the 2007 calendar.

#### **47. BIDDULPH GRANGE GARDEN**

Mr Baker reported that a full programme of events was planned for 2007. There would be a new DVD on sale from March and a Sky tv programme would be going out in April (Gardens of the National Trust). Following a meeting with Staffordshire Tourism, there would be a repetition of the same successful cross-border programme as last year. Leaflets had been printed.

In the Garden, work was being undertaken on the Great Wall of China and restoration of the piece of ground that the hospital had been sited upon. The restoration of the Geological Gallery is planned for 2009/10. The Garden is participating in Heritage Open Days, this year. This may affect the residents pass scheme as there will be access to the Garden on these days. Biddulph Literary Society is organising a talk by a renowned author of garden books.

#### **48. BIDDULPH GENELOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Chairman welcomed Elaine Heathcote and David Outhwaite to the meeting to talk about recent work of the Society. They are currently working on a history of the High Street (War Memorial to Well Street), listing the shops and services and phases of development. This will contain a history of each property from 1861 onwards. The Society had held a couple of open days where people had brought along photographs and been able to reminisce. The final chapter will be concerned with the future of the High Street and they would like some information and input. The Chair explained the current situation – that the Town Centre Area Action Plan had been approved but that no firm plans had been drawn up. Work was anticipated to be completed by 2010. The High Street research will form the basis of a future book.

#### **49. CALENDAR**

The Chair reported that sales had been extremely pleasing and that there were very few left. All of those involved were congratulated. The theme for next year's calendar will be gardens throughout the seasons and members were asked to look out for suitable photographs.

#### **50. PROJECTS**

A plea for ideas had been put out. Postcards and/or Christmas cards were suggested and it was moved to work on this idea. Councillor Walley suggested a notelet with an assortment

of scenes, which was thought to be a good idea. The Biddulph Valley Railway is a very popular subject.

It was moved to see if the District Council will produce an events leaflet again, this year. Last year's leaflet was very good and was sent to tourist information centres around the country. It was moved to ask the Ramblers about the production of a walks leaflet as this is asked for frequently.

Mr Cox noted that the community notice boards in the supermarkets are no longer there. Councillor Rogers said that he would speak to the managers about this. He and Councillor Gibson are trying to get the traders to work more closely together.

It was moved to ask the District Council if there is any funding available for the promotion of Biddulph for the 2007/8 financial year.

**51. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To be held on Thursday 8 March 2007 at 7 pm.

The meeting closed at 7.55 pm

Signed ..... Date  
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