

Bridgnorth Art Trail Working Group Meeting, Monday 25 July 2022



1. Present: Cllr Julia Buckley, Cllr Alexa Buffey, Cllr Nicky Cooper, Emma Spenser, Emma Hopkins, Robert Davies, Brian Jones, Kathy O'Connor,

Apologies: John Hart, Cliff & Cath Bassett

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting / Matters Arising

The task of re-printing the trail maps is now a top priority. Only 30 approx left at the library, plus another 30 from AB. JB/NC to request quote.

Lots more of the tourist leaflet available. ES/EH had successfully delivered tourist leaflets at the Craven Arms leaflet swap event to Oswestry, Leominster, Hereford.

3. Preparations for Summer 2022

Cleaning: JB has asked CB to contact the statue adopters to clean the plinths. JB to ask Litter pickers to help with cleaning and/or painting.

Promotion: Not much promotion as light touch approach. JH felt the video making for music event was too much trouble for smaller scale event. ES suggested that we ask LB to video the Ukulele band when they perform at the library on 27th Aug for Music & Arts Festival anyway – could then promote the trail in time for the Bank Holiday weekend.

4. Trail Maps

Agreed to reprint 5,000 for final print run. JB/NC to seek quote from Bridgnorth Print – budget up to £500. Minor amendments to change date to 2023 and remind people it is the final year. Group chose to change the circle colour to purple to tie in with the Queen's jubilee SVR train.

4. End of trail: Removal by end of October 2023

a) Following the decision of the last meeting that the group wish to retain 3 statues, next question is how to seek permission. It was agreed that JB would contact the sponsors of the 3 statues identified (Castle Grounds, Quayside and Hazledine's Foundry) and ask them to confirm in writing their support to BTC.

JB then to prepare a proposal for BTC – circulate to the group for comments first – then formal proposal to Council to seek permission to:

Retain 3 statues in memory of the trail (1 in high town, 1 in low town and 1 over the river) with a revised plaque. A revised legal agreement between BTC and the sponsor to hand over

liability and responsibility for repair, maintenance and final removal when it falls into disrepair.

b)Contractors to remove statues: RD had started to contact local firms for the BTC/private sites. JB had requested the SC accredited list for Bridgnorth area for SC sites. There is a budget allocation of up to £7,500 for removal of 5 SC statues and up to 8 BTC depending on whether permission agreed to retain some.

JB was approaching SVR and BRFC to be responsible for own removal as they own their sites.

c)Finally, all agreed to organise a commemoration / celebration at the end of the Art Trail in summer 2023 before closure. It was agreed to organise a celebration event in Early August 2023 and invite – all artists, sponsors, organisers and committee members to walk the trail one last time and finish at the library (free of charge) for a celebration event.

Could also invite journalists / take photos for publicity of event – to draw crowds for final month of trail before removal in Autumn 2023.

KO'C to help design invitation to the event.

☺☺ Agreement to be flexible on date of removal (anytime between September – December 2023) to drive down cost for contractor. Looking for “part sponsorship” arrangement to manage costs, given rises in construction costs.

AOB

JB to circulate link to library consultation

Library very busy with summer reading challenge and other events – lots of interest in the trail

Date of next meeting: Monday 26 September at 6.30pm in the library side room