

Wimborne History Festival Town Forum

Tuesday 19th November June 2019, Wimborne Minster Town Hall



Present: WHF Board Members TC; AW; (WHF); Rachel Limb (White Sheep); Janet Seal (Historian & Author); Lisa Perry (Layard Theatre); Paul Gunovsky (WMFF); Sarah Evans (EDHT); Colin Philimore; Trevor Prince (Wimborne Camera Club); Cllr Shane Bartlett (Dorset Council, Wimborne Minster Town Council); Sarah Redmond Fareham (Walford Mill Education Trust); Tony Horitz (State of Play Arts); Tina Eicke (Waitrose); Brian Harries (WMFF); Andrew Curry (on behalf of Emily's Fudge Kitchen); Tammy Sleet, Simon Brown (Wimborne BID); John Allen (Walford Mill); Tom Scrace (Photographer)

Apologies: Karen St Clair (Wimborne Cemeteries); Chris Brown (Town Crier); Rob Butler (Historical Promotions and Events Ltd); James Webb (PHM & WHF); Sarah Wise (WWOW)

Items	Action
<p>TC informed the meeting that the Heritage Fund Lottery application had been submitted – the request being for 75% of the £95,000 necessary to put on a full festival and educational programme of events and projects.</p> <p>An activity plan was distributed and walked the group the plans – emphasising that the items in yellow were dependent on raising the funds from the HLF bid.</p> <p>TC emphasised that the ethos of the Wimborne History Festival was focused on education and inspiring a love of the heritage and history of the town.</p> <p>Tony Horitz took the floor and outlined what State of Play hoped to do with schools and the “Workhouse” story through a schools drama and film project.</p> <p>TC explained about a writing competition based on “Behind the Workhouse” door which will be sponsored by Janet Seal; Blandford Costume museum have offered to be involved in some of the educational activities and to be present on the weekend - but couldn't bring examples to the event; artists Daryl Wakelam and Deborah Clark and Walford Mill Makers would be offering school and community craft workshops with a palaeontology theme, Georgian Architecture theme and Georgian society themes to allow children to be creative.</p> <p>Historical Tailor Zack Pinsent has been provisionally booked to be part of the festival (and his Facebook and Instagram show 538,000 followers); that Ian Willis would be donating free talks, The Priest's House Museum will also be donating a free training session. Shire Hall Historic Courthouse & Museum have also volunteered their help and will be involved in a re-enactment of a trial of a local Highwayman (subject to successful funding outcome).</p> <p>She further stated that it was proposed that the festival would open for those with social skills conditions (and appropriate others) at 9am as a trial to see if it would be useful; that negotiations with the Farmer's Market were progressing</p>	

(RL confirmed) and that Workhouse permanent interpretation boards as a legacy of the event were planned (funding permitted).

Wimborne Model Town will be looking into having steam related activities for young people to explore.

Walford Mill Crafts will be hosting a range of activities including Wimborne Militia.

A draft programme will soon be available for which there will be advertising space available.

She proposed that a management Committee that meets monthly be set up (evening meetings).

Questions

Lisa Perry asked whether the festival had a #

The Festival does have Facebook and Twitter accounts (@wimbornehistory) but as yet not an Instagram account.

Tony Horitz suggested that Trade stands be linked in with the PHM.

Portsmouth Historic dockyard has been contacted to either be present or deliver a talk – waiting to hear if that is possible.

Simon (BID) suggested that negotiations with commercial businesses be conducted at an early stage and that central venues (such as the Cornmarket and Allendale Centre) be used. Brian volunteered to help with this.

Tina suggested that shop staff be encouraged to dress up and that this would be made easier if templates for clothes could be provided (Wimborne BID have subsequently pledged funding to purchase aprons and other simple costume items to distribute to shops wishing to dress up on the weekend).

Tony suggested that the “Georgian Giant Heads” could promenade.

Shane suggested the Devon and Dorset regiment at the Keep should be contacted.

Colin thanked TC and offered his congratulations on putting together such an interesting bid.

Date of next meeting will be circulated in the New Year after we know the outcome of the Lottery application.