



## SKELTON TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Partnership Board held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017 in Skelton Civic Hall

**Present:** Angus McDonald (Chair), Anthony Harding (Lead Applicant), Anthony Wharton (Skelton and Gilling Estates), Peter Appleton (Methodist Church Representative), Julia Hedges (Skelton Villages Civic Pride), Darren Edmends (Place Investment Manager, (Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council) and Lawrence Kerrigan (Place Investment Officer, R&CBC)

**In Attendance:** John Haw (Project Manager)  
Rachel Grahame (Tees Archaeology) Item 4

**1. Apologies:** Jo Mead (ne Fearey) (Community Development Officer, Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council), Dr Michael Betterton (Residents Representative), Rita Lawson (Tees Valley Rural Community Council), Audrey Kirby (Church Representative), Pam Batts (Skelton Villages Civic Pride),

### **2. Minutes of the previous meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

### **3. Matters arising not covered on the Agenda**

A correction to minutes of 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017, Item 4. Progress with Mosaic Design & Production, should read '**building consent**' not advertising consent.

### **4. Action Reports**

#### **Public Realm**

#### **Contract Progress and Cost Issues**

JH reported that the final snagging was close to completion. However there were a number of additional cost issues submitted by Seymour Construction. These were being reviewed by Southern Green and Identity Consult (Cost consultants) to establish justification of the claims and a final cost is expected to be available at the next meeting.

*Remainder omitted for reasons of commercial confidentiality*

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### **Progress of the Mosaic panel Design & Production**

JH informed the Board that Helen Gaunt and Derick Mosey were holding a final workshop with Skelton Youth Group. It is now expected for the main mosaic panel to be completed and installed by the end of September 2017.

### **Planting**

The planting of the Mosaic bed will take place in early October 2017.

### **Building Design Progress and Programme**

JH reported that he had re-engaged with the owners of 72, 72a, 109, 115 and 117 and that the final design drawings are being prepared.

A meeting is planned for the Parish Vicar to meet with architects on 20.9.17 to discuss completing proposals for the Church Shop and further negotiations are continuing with the owner of 121.

JH stated that it is expected that 7 of the original 11 properties are expected to proceed in Phase 1 of the Building programme. There are 2 properties which are not expected to be included in the current Phase or Phase 2.

It was noted that the tender process is expected to commence in November 2017 with building work expected in February 2018.

## **ACTIVITY STATEMENT**

### **Activity Statement 1 - Archaeology**

A detailed report of the Earthworks survey was circulated to members by Rachel Grahame (Tees Archaeology)

She described the principal findings including the identification of buildings and the concentration of occupancy in the northern plot (closest to the castle). The work identified that occupancy of the Boroughgate site was evident from 1408 until 1539 and that there was no documented record of occupation after 1539.

It was announced that Robin Daniels will hold a workshop and host a public lecture prior to the final phase of the scheme.

It was agreed that the co-operation of the tenant farmer at Boroughgate site, Miss Bainbridge, should be recognised. It was suggested that a framed photograph of the excavations be presented to her.

### **Activity Statement 3 - Oral History**

JH reported that no further comments had been received on the draft Brief for the Oral History project which was circulated to members. The amended

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Brief has been sent to Tees Archaeology and a pre-commissioning meeting with Diane Marlborough (Teesside University) is arranged for 28.9.17 to agree methodology for the programme.

#### **Activity Statement 4 – Snapshot in Time**

The second phase of the programme will take place between 11<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017 based in the Project Office. The activity will be led by Robin Daniels (Tees Archaeology) and is expected to complete the area of the High Street and Village Green.

#### **Activity Statement 6 – Historic Sports Day**

AH reported that a final request to Skelton Sports groups was sent to seek participation in the event, resulting in only two responses to date. As agreed at the last meeting AH then described an alternative proposal for the event.

##### Revised Activity

AH reported that he had recently become aware of a group of enthusiastic volunteers who perform medieval re-enactment events. He believed that this performance could be the centre piece for an historic sports event which would be an appropriate fit for the Skelton Townscape Project, given the archaeological study of a medieval settlement at Boroughgate also taking place during 2018.

AH stated that he had met with the secretary/organiser of the **Red-Wyverns** re-enactment group and have also seen one of their presentations. The group are in considerable demand and have regular annual events which are staged throughout the country and that they would be available to come to Skelton on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2018.

The group in addition to performing staged combat in full armour with medieval weapons set up a period encampment with a small forge and a domestic kitchen. They also demonstrate archery with period equipment, all of which I believe, would complement the archaeological work expected to take place in July 2018.

##### Proposal

It is proposed that an invitation to the Red-Wyverns group be made for 4.8.18, subject to their agreement to the suitability and availability of our proposed location at the Skelton Playing field site.

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Initial discussions indicate that the likely costs incurred for the group are modest, being mainly composed of transportation costs for travel and carriage of their equipment.

The issue remains that infrastructure costs remain the most challenging element of staging any public event for the Board to consider.

**It was agreed to invite Red-Wyverns to perform on 4.8.18.**

### **Activity Statement 8 – Mosaic Trail Project**

The first phase consisting of 13 mosaic plaques are expected to be erected later in September 2017.

It was noted that Josie Bland (Skelton History Group) is working on producing a booklet of laminated copies of the mosaics with associated historical details and an interim leaflet describing the project.

It was reported that a display explaining the project will be presented in the Old Parish Church during the Heritage Open Days (8-11<sup>th</sup> September 2017)

## **5. Financial Report**

**Fund Raising** - There were no further details of fund raising.

**Financial Report No.14 to 31st August 2017** – The report was circulated. JH explained the claims and spending to date. It was noted that there was a marked increase in spending due to invoices for payments for the Public Realm contractors.

JH reported that an SVCP contribution of £2,200 has been paid and R&CBC will be claiming close to £110,000 from HLF in the next quarter.

JH reported that total volunteer contributions are now £63,000 with additional volunteer work envisaged during the 'Snapshot in Time' project.

## **6. Programme**

The updated four month Rolling Programme to December 2017 was circulated. JH reported that programme delays remained largely due to negotiations with HLF on clawback issues.

JH stated that the Public Realm project had now exceeded the contract schedule by 5 weeks in completing snagging and the installation of street furniture.

JH reported that the Oral History project is due to commence at the end of September 2017 and planting of the Mosaic wall bed is expected in early

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October 2017. He reported that he had recently written to contacts at Co-Op Head Office in Manchester regarding their potential involvement in the project.

**7. Items for Report, Endorsement or Decision**

There were no items for report.

**8. Risk Register**

There were no new issues to add.

**9. Website Update** – PA reported a steady increase in web activity mainly from UK contacts with interest from 15 other countries.

**10. Any Other Business**

None

**11. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 14.00**

Meeting closed at 15.20

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