



SKELTON TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Partnership Board held on Wednesday 12th
December 2019 in Skelton Civic Hall

Present: Angus McDonald (Chair), Peter Appleton (Skelton History Group, Vice-Chair), Janice Wilson (Skelton Villages Civic Pride), Julia Hedges (Skelton Villages Civic Pride), Anthony Wharton (Skelton and Gilling Estates), Jo Mead (Community Development Officer, R&CBC), Lawrence Kerrigan (Place Investment Officer, R&CBC) and John Newman (Business Representative)

In Attendance: John Haw (Project Manager)

1. Apologies:

Gina McMahon (Methodist Church Representative), Dr Michael Betterton (Residents Representative), Rita Lawson (Tees Valley Rural Action) and Pam Batts (Skelton Villages Civic Pride & Lead Applicant).

2. Minutes of the previous meeting on 13th November 2019

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

3. Matters arising not covered on the Agenda

There were none.

4. Action Reports

Public Realm – The Hills

The Volunteer Team have lifted all but the largest plants and these are currently stored at Roger Pell's allotment. The membrane should be laid week commencing 17th December.

www.skeltontownscapeheritage.org.uk

**Funding raised by
The National Lottery**
and awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund



The “Mud Patch”

LK reported that proposals are being worked up for a TVCA bid. A survey should be carried out next week. Indications are that between 23 and 26 spaces could be accommodated. The form of drainage is also being considered.

The white roses lifted from the mosaic wall have been re-planted at the old church.

Building Façade Works Phase 1

Outstanding snagging

JH reported that snagging is largely complete. Still to be considered are the cill at 89, High Street and a possible colour mismatch at 103, High Street.

(Balance omitted on grounds of commercial confidentiality)

Building Façade Works Phase 2

Progress with Legal Agreement.

JH reported that a letter had been received from the owner of 123 High Street withdrawing from the scheme. There had been a delay in issuing the Agreement to 97, High Street whilst a valuation matter was resolved. A response was still awaited in respect of 85 and 105, High Street. Signed agreements has been returned by the owner of 107, High Street. The issue of 91 and 93, High Street had been referred to NLHF and a response was awaited.

Contract, Contractor & Programme Issues

The building contract has not yet been signed. Delays in concluding Agreements now meant that it was unlikely that a start could be achieved until February 2020.

Wharton Arms

JH reported that the tenants of 117, High Street were vacating the premises at the end of 2019 and were taking over the Wharton Arms to run as both a pub and café. The Wharton Arms was part of the Project area but had been reduced to a reserve scheme in 2016 in view of the uncertainties as to its future. JH had been approached to see if there was still scope for some assistance to be given towards external improvements. It was agreed to investigate the possibilities in the new year.

Co-op Issues

Regarding the Funeral Parlour, the need to carry out emergency roof works will delay any “decorative works”. A new strategy for the Co-op’s Funeral Service is being considered in the new year. An option might be “possible closure” (one of 250-300 being so considered).

In respect of the Food store, the Co-op national signage tender programme was likely to take some time to complete. There was likely to be a store refit “in next 3 years, turnover driven”.

Activity Statement

Activity Statement 5 - Skelton Heritage Booklet – Report on Progress

PA reported that at the last History Group meeting drafts were available for all chapters except that covering Boroughgate.

Activity Statement 8 – Mosaic trail Phase 2 - Report on Leaflet Publication

PA reported that both the A3 and A4 leaflets had now been produced and were in the process of being widely distributed. He would be conducting a talk on the trail at 103, High Street the next evening.

5. Financial Report - Financial Report No. 41 to 30th November 2019

JH circulated Financial Report No. 41 to 30.11.19. Spending had reached £860,179. RCBC has contributed £162,433 to date and was currently carrying an additional £452,941 in cash flow support to the Project. NLHF Grant received had reached £583,279, 61% of the expected total. Non-Cash contributions stood at £15,143 and volunteer time at £204,180.

JH circulated an analysis of volunteer input over the duration of the Project.

6. Programme

Programme Action Plan 39 –Monthly Rolling Programme to March 2020

JH introduced the report, once again drawing attention to the impact of delay upon the projected programme for Phase 2.

7. Items for Report, Endorsement or Decision

There were none

8. Website Update

PA reported that it had been a quiet month with all “hits” originating from within the UK.

9. Risk Register

The Risk Register had been amended to add an item reflecting the risks of challenging behaviour by tenants and owners. The withdrawal of 123, High Street had removed one potential problem within this risk category.

10. Any Other Business

1. JN commented positively on the new Christmas lights in the form of pole-to-pole garlands in the High Street. The question of use of future “motifs” was discussed with the Chair reminding members that the previous lights in this form had proved vulnerable to damage and expensive to replace.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on 15th January 2020 - 2.00 pm in the Skelton Civic Hall.

The meeting closed at 15.25.