

DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL

DORCHESTER JOINT HERITAGE COMMITTEE HELD VIA THE ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING PLATFORM

26 MAY 2020

At a virtual Meeting of the Dorchester Joint Heritage Committee held on 26 May 2020:

PRESENT:

Dorchester Town Council	Councillors:	S. Biles F. Hogwood G. Jones (Chairman) F. Kent-Ledger R. Major
	Officers:	S. Newman T. Hedger
Dorset Council	Councillors:	R. Biggs A. Canning L. Fry S. Jones
Ancient & Honourable Guild of Town Criers Blue Badge Tourist Guides Dorchester Association National Trust (for Max Gate and Hardy's Cottage)		A. Chisholm T. Loasby M. Rice M. Stephen

32. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D. Taylor (Dorset Council), A. King (Shire Hall Museum), L. Gardner (The Keep Military Museum) and M. Woodgate (Dorset Chamber for Business).

33. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 April 2020, a copy of which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed.

34. **DECLARATIONS OF PRE-DETERMINATION**

There were no declarations of pre-determination.

35. **PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

RESOLVED

That in view of the fact that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the following matters the public and press representatives be excluded from this meeting during their discussion.

36. **APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANTS**

(i) References – Members noted the satisfactory references that had been received which had previously been circulated to the Committee.

(ii) Presentation – The Committee welcomed Sarah Douglas and Bernard Lane from Red Kite Environment who gave a presentation to Members regarding their proposal and the methodology to be used to undertake the work to both review the heritage tourism offer and suggest opportunities for improving the contribution of heritage assets to the overall visitor experience through a Heritage Tourism Audit.

Red Kite Environment responded to Members detailed questions about themselves and the work to be undertaken.

During the discussion the following matters were highlighted:-

- That the 'Final Audit' mentioned in the presentation should read 'Draft Final Audit'.
- There were some excellent resources already available regarding the town such as the seven community play books, the Lets Explore Dorchester publication etc.
- The amount of accommodation available for visitors.
- The need to link the Red Kite Environment work to the overall emerging Heritage Tourism Strategy.
- The need to identify what Heritage means to the whole community – make it fun, possible competition.
- Key milestones for the work required.
- The need to think outside of the town boundary.
- With the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic the benefits of an 'open air' heritage plan.

The Committee thanked the Red Kite Environment representatives who then left the meeting.

(iii) Appointment – Having heard the presentation and questioned / tested Red Kite Environment it was

RESOLVED

That Red Kite Environment be appointed to undertake the Heritage Tourism Audit in accordance with the quotation submitted.

Chairman.....