

## **DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL**

### **DORCHESTER JOINT HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

**26 JULY 2022**

At a Meeting of the Dorchester Joint Heritage Committee held on 26 July 2022:

#### **PRESENT:**

Dorchester Town Council	Councillors:	S. Biles F. Hogwood G. Jones (Chairman)
	Officers:	S. Newman M. Manley N. Hayes
Dorset Council	Councillors:	R. Biggs S. Jones
Dorchester Association		M. Rice
Thomas Hardy Society		M. Chutter
The Keep Military Museum		F. Scott
Dorset Museum		E. Selby
Dorchester Local Nature Reserve		L. Poulson

#### 1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A. Chisholm and D. Taylor (Dorchester Town Council), Councillors A. Canning, L. Fry and R. Tarr (Dorset Council), I. Gosling (Dorchester Civic Society), M. Woodgate (Dorchester Heritage Magazine), J. Wallis (Blue Badge Tourist Guides) and R. Raine (National Trust).

#### 2. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

It was proposed, seconded and

#### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor G. Jones be elected Chairman for the remainder of the 2022-23 Council Year.

The Chairman thanked the Committee and set out his vision for the work of the Committee for the coming year.

#### 3. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

It was proposed, seconded and

## **RESOLVED**

That Councillor A. Chisholm be elected Vice-Chairman for the remainder of the 2022-23 Council Year.

### **4. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2022, a copy of which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed.

It was reported that there had still been no improvement to the John White plaque. The Town Clerk reported that he would make arrangements for the work to be undertaken.

### **5. HERITAGE TOURISM STRATEGY**

#### **(a) Heritage Tourism Strategy – Progress and Presentation**

The Committee received a progress report from the Tourism Development Officer which updated it on the work undertaken against the agreed Tourism Strategy Action Plan. It was noted that:

- Strategic thinking was required on how to allocate funds.
- A birthday celebration for Thomas Hardy involved working with Visit Dorset to attract interest from other areas in Dorset.
- Henges and Hillforts was taking place.
- Dorset Museum suggested more advanced planning of future events, they were currently planning a series of Roman activities for next year.
- There was appetite for a Roman festival or May Day festival next year.

Members thanked the Tourism Development Officer for all the work being undertaken.

## **RESOLVED**

That the progress update on the Heritage Tourism Action Plan be noted.

#### **(b) Tourism Partnership**

The Committee received the notes of the meeting of the Tourism Partnership held on 12 July 2022.

## **RESOLVED**

That the notes of the well-attended meeting of the Dorchester Tourism Partnership held on 12 July 2022 be received.

### **6. HILLFORTS AND HENGES**

E. Selby gave an update on an event being held between 21 to 31 July 2022. The lectures already hosted at Dorset Museum had been very well attended and had resulted in an

increase in museum footfall. Feedback forms would be collated by M. Woodgate and reported back to Heritage Committee. Members wished to thank all of the event organisers.

**RESOLVED**

That the update be noted.

7. **MILL STREAM PATH – SECTION FROM LONDON ROAD TO MILL STREET**

M. Chutter updated the Committee on progress with the information boards; working alongside M. Woodgate and M. Gayton the boards would follow the life of the Galpin family, they would be located on the side of the building walls with a base colour of rustic brown. Draft boards will be presented at the next Committee meeting. It was noted that there were other important families in the town which should also be considered.

**RESOLVED**

That the update noted and the draft boards to be presented at the next meeting of the Committee.

8. **ROMAN MOSAIC PROJECT – THE WALKS**

Members received a progress update report from the Tourism Development Officer. An artist's brief has been drafted by Bournemouth University students who were then undertaking research and interviewing mosaic artists. They had created four blogs and eight TikToks.

The Tourism Development Officer reported that an update on the Cornhill / High West Street crossing artwork would be presented to the next meeting of the Committee.

**RESOLVED**

That the update be noted.

9. **HERITAGE OPEN DAY**

The Town Clerk reported on the proposals for this year's Heritage Open Day, running between 9 and 18 September 2022 with a theme of Amazing Innovations.

The Keep Military Museum and Shire Hall representatives expressed concern about their organisations not being included within the programming. The Chairman agreed that it was very important for the town's museums to feature prominently in the programme.

The Town Clerk reported that the application for a road closure for Sunday 18 September had been submitted to Dorset Council Highways – that date was also the date of Ironman so the road closure was not guaranteed to be received.

**RESOLVED**

That the update be noted.

10. **QUESTIONS**

No questions had been received.

11. **URGENT ITEMS**

No urgent items.

Chairman.....