

Charitable Funds Committee - Turton Tower

Wednesday 6th September 2023

6pm - 7pm at Turton Tower

No	ITEM	Action
	<p>Attendees: Cllr Damian Talbot (Chair), Cllr Jean Rigby, Cllr David Smith, Cllr Anthony Shaw</p> <p>Officers: Claire Ramwell, Rebecca Johnson & John Brunt (FoTT)</p>	
<p>1.</p>	<p>Welcome and Apologies - Matthew Jackson</p> <p>DT welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>Introductions were made for JB (Chairman FoTT)</p>	<p>DT</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>Minutes of the last meeting 07-06-23 and Matters Arising</p> <p>JR moved them as a correct record.</p> <p>RJ reported that there was no further progress re the replacement window. RJ to follow up with Andrew Barrow (Growth Department).</p> <p>DT asked that future agendas have an item on for questions / comments from FoTT / Public (CR to action).</p>	<p>DT</p> <p>RJ</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>JR signed a Declaration of Interest re item 5 on the agenda.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Turton Tower Service Report</p> <p>RJ talked through the Officer report highlighting key points:</p> <p>970 visitors through the house which is an increase on previous year.</p> <p>4 weddings have taken place with a further 6 booked in.</p> <p>Schools have continued to book visits at TT. Strong partnership with Turton & Edgworth Primary regarding local football history.</p> <p>A variety of events have taken place including The Tied Knot and meet the Victorian Volunteer, numbers are strong – 65. Jane, a volunteer is stepping up re the coordination of house volunteers.</p> <p>Football Years - the ACE funding bid wasn't successful this time but ACE have asked for it to be resubmitted. Currently for bids <£30k its only 27% success rate.</p>	

	<p>The Bothy is looking really good with the kitchen garden.</p> <p>DT commented that the number of volunteers across TT is fantastic.</p> <p>JR asked regarding the Chained library collection from St Anne’s Church. RJ responded that Cheetham’s Library, Manchester will only accept it as it was given to them. This is currently not the case.</p> <p>DS asked about filming at TT and whether any money is received? RJ confirmed that TT does receive funding for it, usually on a day rate. RJ also informed the committee that TT is on the lists of several film location organisations.</p> <p>DT asked about the prices of weddings at TT and for them to be reviewed. RJ informed the committee that due to licencing requirements it’s only the smaller rooms available for weddings and therefore the prices are proportionate and reviewed at the start of each year.</p> <p>DT asked how many visitors are expected by the end of the season. RJ informed the committee it was expected to be c 6,000 total visitors. A full service report will be presented after the end of the year.</p>	
5.	<p>Gatehouse Lodge</p> <p>The sale of the Lodge is progressing.</p> <p>The purchase of the small plot of land from NTPC is also progressing with completion planned to be concurrent with the sale of the Lodge itself.</p> <p>DT explained that the Council, as sole Trustee and NTPC had previously agreed to the sale/purchase of the small plot of land.</p> <p>DT asked about timescale for submitting an HLF bid for the stables. RJ reported that this will be progressed in 2023/24.</p>	
6.	<p>Finance Update</p> <p>CR explained that the responsibility of the charitable funds committee was for TT as an asset and does not extend to the delivery of services run from the tower.</p> <p>DT asked if the committee could have sight of the revenue budget in order to ensure the sustainability of TT. It was agreed to bring a budget summary to future meetings.</p> <p>There is currently £72,156 in the Charitable Funds Account.</p> <p>JB asked where the value of TT sits, as this will be required for the charity commission’s annual return. CR will work with finance to ensure the annual returns are completed and submitted.</p>	<p>CR/RJ</p> <p>CR</p>
7.	<p>Car Parking</p> <p>RJ explained that in consultation with the local PCSO the previous nuisance and anti-social behaviour seems to have reduced.</p>	

	<p>Parking services are going to put signage up in the TT car park confirming that parking is limited to 3 hours.</p> <p>A discussion was had regarding the introduction of parking charges and the best approach to take. Concern was raised regarding the practicalities of introducing and enforcing it. Two local examples were given of Townley Park, Burnley where there are charges and Smithills Hall, Bolton where there are no parking charges.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>JB provided a brief overview of FoTT and the recent changes in committee members.</p> <p>JB updated on the funds held by FoTT with income received from memberships, bequests and events etc. FoTT have contributed funds to Turton Tower for a variety of things including carpets, ipads for self guided tours and also contribution to projects such as the window replacement.</p> <p>JB is interested in what the plans are for the Stables and how FoTT can support going forward.</p> <p>Also keen to use FoTT to raise awareness primarily through events such as Mad Hatters Tea Party, Halloween walk to the Tower etc.</p> <p>FoTT want to increase their members (and therefore funding to support the Tower). They have a new membership secretary and are developing a clearer strategy, raising awareness and the benefits of being involved in FoTT – it is more than just supporting something local.</p> <p>DT suggested to provide examples of what FoTT could get involved in.</p> <p>DS suggested using The Shuttle to get information about TT and FoTT into every house in the borough. RJ to follow up.</p> <p>John announced the FoTT AGM would be held on Tuesday 28th November, 6pm @ Barlow Institute.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>RJ</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Next Meeting Dates</p> <p>Wednesday 6th December '23 at 6pm - Darwen Town Hall</p> <p>Wednesday 6th March '24 at 6pm - Turton Tower</p>	<p>DT</p>