**Minutes**

**First Light Festival Advisory Group Meeting**

**19 October 2018**

1. Apologies

Present: Alice Taylor, Tara, Clare Matterson, Genevieve Christie, David Carlin, Aly Tipping (minutes), Emma Butler-Smith, Phil Aves,

1. Introductions

Each person introduced themselves:

GC – Director of FlipSide and First Light

CM – Chair of FlipSide and Director of First Light. Science/arts interface and public engagement background. Director of Engagement at Natural History

AT: Lowestoft Town Council

Tara: Lowestoft Town Council

DC: Science Director at Cefas

EB-S: Director of Marina Theatre

1. Steering Group framework and remit

Mission statement for FLF CIC was circulated and GC explained it.

CIC as the body, steering group, 3 directors: GC, CM, WH, key delivery partners: HemDes and FlipSide. Any assets that come into the company will stay in Lowestoft. If anything happened Access CT has been nominated as the charity which would receive the assets.

Purpose of steering group, outlined: Your views, input, questions, challenges, knowledge that will be invaluable to us. A few more organisations may join the group, possibly another charity and an education setting.

AT – perhaps an industry representative i.e. windfarm. Currently there’s not an obvious connection. Lowestoft Vision, Scottish Power, charitable arm all mentioned.

EB-S – There are already arts orgs in the town which haven’t been able to get funding/investment from the business community. Concerned about F/L getting this money at the expense of other local organisations.

CM – More about getting them involved in F/Ls community activity rather than in the context of fundraising.

GC: Do we all agree that we should approach the college and Access Community Trust?

CAS – GC has spoken to CEO there.

AT: Have we thought about churches? Either for the steering group or man-power.

GC – Probably for man-power, we don’t want the steering group to be unwieldy

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AT: What about the Rotarians?

GC: Watch this space.

DC: Has recently joined the board at East Coast College.

GC Updated that we’ve been approached by NUA to be involved.

1. Election of Chair

GC proposed David Carlin, AT seconded. Agreed.

1. Draft Programme

GC explained the site plan. No longer planning structure on the bowling green, however there’ll still be activity in the gardens.

Food concessions – targeting local producers, a fish theme plus a Sunday morning fish market. GC contacting June Mummery, it would be a lovely link with CEFAS. AT – we need to make sure the local fisherman have every opportunity to refuse.

DC confirmed that it’s highly likely Kensington Road will still be closed in June 2019.

AT – 3 smokehouses who aren’t linked to the fish markets.

Event on 7th November, 5pm -6.30pm at Victoria Hotel for small businesses to be involved in. It’s part of the East Suffolk Business Festival.

PA - Can’t set up until after 10am on the front on Saturday morning because of park run. Suffolk Day on 21st June and also Sports of the Beach. From Claremont Pier, reached as far Jubilee Parade in 2018

Festival de-rig will be the Tuesday/Wednesday of the following week ie. 25th/26th June.

Excavation into the beach in order to weight the structure

Eventguard are the security team

GC updated on the security plan for the sea. And advised that we will have Event Control.

Likely that Kensington Gardens will be an exit only route for flow. Taken advice from the appropriate bodies and this is what they have advised

Children wrist band for safety.

Update on movement of people and wayfinding, using flags and lighting. Also considering disabled access onto the beach.

PA – will you hire the matting or buy it.

GC- Currently a hire in

PA- It’s currently on the coastal community team plans. **Action – joined up conversation. – could the hire money go towards buying? PA to take back to two committees.**

AT – Gave update on background why it’s not been bought, Kirkley People’s Forum keen to buy.

CM – is there a no plastics policy? Particularly around the single use plastics.

GC – we’re investigating also talking to Norse about recycling, don’t want to alienate local traders re plastics – just need to be mindful.

PA – will there be sale of alcohol?

GC – yes and want to showcase the local providers.

**Action – share event management plan with the steering group.**

Questions around the noise report, which we will share in the event management

Comments around the programme linked to noise and how we manage the 24hrs. Consideration given to stage to aid sound. No loud music after 11pm.

We will be leafleting everyone in the area, 2 public consultation meetings, separately contacting beach hut owners.

Questions around parking and buses. Lift share, Park and Walk

CM – HemDes festivals what were their numbers in the early years?

PA – concerned about alcohol, dark and sea. Need a lot of security to manage this.

GC – explained about the events in the Aquarium. And also reassured about conversations with the Lifeguard. Within our delineated area we will have disclaimer onsite and on website and literature not to get in the sea.

Campfire, Pakefield Man and camping on the beach explained. Feel of the festival is that the programming is geared to families, it’s not a rock festival or a music festival.

AT – It should be Pakefield Woman – history explained

The programming will address the heritage of the place. Each zone explained.

Thoughts/suggestions around where the Pakefield Woman could go.

Other programme elements discussed, Rosemary Lee and front of the Cefas building – graffiti. Projections onto the beach. Boating lake and model boating lake.

St Mary’s will be festival production base.

Working with music hub and a variety of their groups will be performing.

Group A will be closing the festival. They would like to bring Ipswich and Lowestoft groups together for this.

GC gave a full overview of the programme: Opening parade, Talvin Singh, First Light Ensemble with Lowestoft musicians including Diana Moore. Clio Gould, former leader of the RPO, Fontanas possibly, Gilles Peterson at 9.30pm.

Dawn celebration on the main stage involving Talvin Singh and Poppy Ackroyd, during the day a scratch choir, burn the woman and have a feast. College making rolls, bread baked in beach oven. GC talking Men’s Shed about building a table for the feast.

PA – Can you use the Royal Green as a carpark? Need to speak to WDC – shouldn’t charge us.

Music hub – instrument zoo in children’s zone.

CM – Piano on the prom

Lyra and Dash stargazing and sea gazing.

DC - Night fisherman - any connection – think about for future years?

1. Date of next meeting

Doodle poll for a date in the diary – Friday’s are good. DC offered Cefas. 2pm, no later.

1. AOB

EB-S: Water fountains?

PA - Essex and Suffolk have water bowsers.

CM – no plastic straws

EB-S: Any update on the linked event in the Marina?

PA: Pearls from the Grit at The Seagull?

EB-S: Can we make sure that the program has elements that which will feature Lowestoft.

PA – The status of the Summer festival is for 2019 is currently unsure, the licensing of the Royal Green is a block to running the festival.

GC – could some of the elements from Summer Festival come to F/L. Might be able to have Lowestoft’s Got Talent on the Sunday afternoon and the Sand Castle competition. **Action: GC and PA to have a conversation.**