

CTC 750 Working Group

Thursday 5 May 11am-12.30pm on Zoom

Attendees: Cllr David Brown, Cllr Suzy Firkin, Cllr Kay Wesley, Jenny Unsworth, Jackie MacArthur, Rachel McCarthy, Debbie Coxon

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Margaret Gartside, Cllr Suzie Akers-Smith, Cllr Rob Moreton, Jo Money

2. **Notes of the 7 April meeting:** Approved.

3. **Merchandise Update:**

Merchandise is selling well, especially tea towels and the new order of mugs. Spreadshirt online shop set up, items to be uploaded. Merch stall at 750 events plus stall at other key events to promote forthcoming 750 activities. Suggested: 12 June – F&D Festival, 23 July – Pride, 30 July – Makers Market. Benedict booked for F&D, Jenny offered to assist. Staffing to be arranged.

4. Update & issues on below CTC events:

a.) Medieval Festival in Congleton Park

Confirmed acts: Dreygo the Dragon; Knights of Nottingham, Piva (www.piva.org.uk), Time travel medicine man, Signal 1 Roadshow, Dragon Quest (cut outs ordered). In the pipeline: Blacksmith, Circus in a Box, Domesday Morris Dancers.

RMc – consult with Friends of Congleton Park for their expertise on the event layout. Currently in draft format. Invite Congleton Radio.

Beer tent - Joe Manning will run (also confirmed for Jubilee). **SF – prepare an event brief for Benedict.**

Prices for food stalls agreed: Catering £150, Retail £50, Charity £15.

Flags – JU to provide CTC with material details, for CTC to purchase. Check with RB if Streetscape can install flags on the day?

DB check with the bowling club if flags can be hung from the veranda?

RMc – check H&S with CEC – e.g., capacity, marshall's, security.

JMAC informed we're on budget and funds are ok but any extra funding will be welcome.

b.) 'Behind Closed Doors' exhibition

JU has made 30+ buildings on a 10ft x 6ft base. JMAC has contacted John Pickin to check he has capacity to help build/ design a peasants hut.

JMAC - contact Bob to confirm his expenses fee

JMac - Follow up work on school bookings.

Separate meeting with JU to discuss the civic reception and public events.

SF to contact the High Schools with option to book a session on Fri 8th. SF working with High Schools on the Podcast and Essay Competition.

c.) Ale Trail

The design will be the same as the Jazz and Blues leaflet. Charges will be £50 per half page and £100 full page. Trail to be launched end of May for the F&D Festival. Paul Boswell, Camra, SF and Marketing team working on this.

Suggestion of an Ale Trail t-shirt with participating pubs listed on the back. Sell on Spreadshirt and other channels.

d.) Beer Festival

Provisional date agreed as 29/30 October. Joe Manning on board. RMc & JM looking at the best format. Will be a ticketed event. Work with Mark Bailey new license holder at the Town Hall.

Commercial side needs researching. Neil who ran the Leisure Centre Beer festivals will be a good contact to approach. Also want to add Gin to the mix. Camra willing to help.

e.) Platinum Jubilee

Entertainment and catering stalls booked (see attached poster).

Joe Manning running a beer tent, Cocktails on the Corner provide cocktails, Stocks drinks and cakes and their ice-cream bike. Hampers available to pre-order from Mark Bailey.

Tea dance provisionally booked for 31 May in the Town Hall. For the young at heart and isolated residents in the community. Invitation list can be generated from community groups including Buddy & Befriending scheme, Snow Angels, OSM, Food Hub, Care Homes, Daycentres.

Andrew Bell - sequence dance booked. RM looking into community buses and getting the brownies on board.

This event is to be kept separate from 750 and will be reported in AOB moving forward.

f) Flags & Banners

MBW banners in place. All banners were sponsored apart from x2 provided FOC to companies providing services.

Heraldic flags – x60 in total. x30 going up w/c 9 May. Still resolving flags on listed buildings.

g) Medieval Banquet at Town Hall

Ticket enquiries coming in. SAS has spoken with Mark Bailey. Costings need to be calculated to determine the ticket price.

5. Publicity

750 leaflet printed x10k copies. 5K circulated to venues that display event leaflets across Macc, Alsager, Sandbach, Holmes Chapel, Leek, Hanley, S-O-T, N-U-L. Congleton not covered, so leaflets will have to be distributed between the team. **DC/CS to co-ordinate.**

Comms team - produce a separate flier for Medieval Day and publicity in Bear Necessities
Comms team - Look into sourcing leaflet dispensers, to support businesses displaying the 750 leaflet.

DC – update 750 web page with leaflet illustrations.

Jenny and Paul (aka Benedict) have given interviews for the Cheshire Life article 'Love Letters to Congleton.' July edition.

SF offered to get leaflets out around the Astbury Mere area (200)

6. AOB:

a.) **Priesty Path Walk** – potential conflict with the museum's walk – tickets are now on sale through the Information Centre and a small article in Bear Necessities. MG aware that staff will not be available for this walk as setting up for the Living History Behind Closed Door Event.

b) SF offered to brief Doug on his Catchpole duties at public event.

c) SF raised an item discussed previously – staging a medieval themed council meeting with members in costume. Opportunity to invite press and public. This could double up as thank you for the sponsors and helpers.

JMAC to run this past the Chief Officer.

d) JU has made x20 children's costumes for the park event. Material spare to produce another eight.

Date of next meeting- Thursday 9 June 2022, 11am.