



GUISBOROUGH RESIDENTS ASSEMBLY (GUISRA)
MINUTES 10th July 2023

Meeting Description:	Guisra Planning Meeting
Location	Guisborough Methodist Church
Date:	10-July-2023, 19:30
Attendees:	Personal Data (Apologies from 5 members)
Type:	Open to all

1. Overview of Meeting

- 1.1. The planning meeting had the following agenda:
 - Agree Project Team.
 - Ways of Working.
 - Action plan for Guisra.
 - Planning.
 - Traffic Calming – quick win
 - Arts Centre
 - Actions Items.
- 1.2. The meeting was very open with good discussion on how to progress our plans.

2. Discussion

- 2.1. People are starting to get involved with projects outside of our formal meetings, which is excellent.
 - 2.2. Michael asked if anyone would be able to commit some time to researching/leading projects and proposals as they arise.
 - Bernard Clarke will take the lead on the Arts Centre project and will arrange to meet with Michael Dakin to put together a firm plan. They will then meet with Mikki Rogers to review the plan and to consider suitable venues for what is being proposed – there is a lot of enthusiasm for this project as it will bring the local community together and provide a central point of focus for arts in Guisborough.
 - Bernard and Michael will look for other people to fulfil roles to get the Arts Centre up and running
 - All documents created will be discussed with the members of Guisra prior to putting to the whole town
 - 2.3. The vision is for the arts centre is:
 - a combined performance space
 - gallery
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- workshops
- study spaces where people can collaborate
- lessons in various art forms offered to all age groups and abilities (i.e. sculpture, collage, crafting, painting, music).
- A cafe would be a good focal point where people could meet for coffee and to discuss ideas and opportunities.
- recording studios

It is hoped the centre can be open all day every day and will include projects such as street theatre and have a space for film making and showing films to the public. This would make it a great attraction for visitors to the area and encourage, inspire and grow the arts within Guisborough itself.

During discussions around where these centres currently are (Newcastle, Durham, etc) highlighted the fact that although there is funding available for such projects, no-one within Guisborough has actually applied for it as yet.

Michael and Bernard will meet this week for further discussions and feed back to the next meeting on 24th July.

- 2.4. **Verbal report to meeting:** Les Oakley has expressed a keen interest in being more involved, as has Darren Smith who will help with the promotional material for Guisra to let more people know we exist and what we have planned.
- 2.5. Paul Harrison, although he has limited availability is very interested in traffic calming measures being introduced and suggested an initial one-way system through the town. Anyone with planning experience or who wishes to contribute to discussions or who has route proposals is welcome to attend to the next meeting on 24th July where this will be discussed in more detail.

Michael will source a large map of Guisborough for the next meeting and discussions around viable routes will take place, with suggestions of a 20mph speed limit being introduced for the whole town centre and residential areas being discussed. Any suggestions for the most effective places to place signage are welcome. Additionally we propose extra lighting be installed along the railway line and in the park/along the footpaths at Chapel Beck. The route through Chapel Beck needs significant improvement (widening of the route, obstructions clearing and the camber towards the beck itself correcting) to make it more accessible for pedestrians, cyclists and people with mobility aids.

A suggestion of placing bollards or planters at intervals along the roadside, particularly where speeding is a known issue, was made. They serve a dual purpose of making drivers more cautious along the route and also as a method of preventing people mounting the kerb to park



which blocks pedestrian access/pavements. We could also encourage the use of the by-pass with signage clearly stating that there is a 20mph speed restriction through the town.

Strategic placing of speed cameras or speed warning cameras may be needed to enforce this. The digital speed warning displays are quite effective at slowing cars down.

The issue of double parking and parking on double yellow lines on Allison Street was raised. One resident reported the issue to the police who advised them to contact the council who did nothing. It appears no-one is prepared to take responsibility for parking issues as there have been no major incidents as yet.

- 2.6. The way things are presented affects people's perception of what is planned so it's important to focus our attitude on the positive impact on safety for people who walk/cycle/use mobility scooters rather than taking a 'this will sort out those drivers' approach. We are aiming to make the town more pleasant, not more draconian.
- 2.7. Our plan is to work out a detailed proposal for both these projects and to discuss potential solutions to any problems arising before presenting it.
- 2.8. Donations (however small or large) are welcome but not a condition of joining Guisra. All donations are kept in a separate account specifically for Guisra events/meetings/projects and full disclosure of how those funds are spent is kept. Full transparency in this is essential so that residents are confident the assembly is trustworthy.

3. Action Items

- 3.1. Advertise next meeting (24-July) – Michael Dakin – by 12-July
- 3.2. Complete Meeting Minutes – Caroline – by 11-July
- 3.3. Send out Minutes – Michael Dakin - 11-July

4. Meeting Closed – 20:43

5. Next Meeting

- 5.1. 24th July 19:30 – Guisborough Methodist Church, Westgate.
- 5.2. Extend plans for Safe Roads and Guisborough Arts Centre