

MEETING NOTES OF THE ARMADA 1588 HERITAGE TRAIL WORKING GROUP

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS

19TH MARCH 2025 9AM

Present:

Steph Toogood, David Baldwin, Morgan Williams, Catherine Hammond, Will Harvey (South Wight Chronicle), Abby

- 1. Apologies: Steve Cooper
- 2. Declarations of interest from the group as a whole.
- 3. The meeting started with the group thanking Abby and Will for their amazing input in this project.
- 4. Interpretation boards
 - a. Morgan is in discussion with NT re board on the Downs.
 - b. Locations for the other boards were discussed and it was agreed to visit the locations as a group to decide on the most suitable sites.
 - c. QR codes Morgan has produced QR code and we saw the link to the information.
 - d. The route maps of the trail were discussed and Morgan will discuss the finer details with Will.

5. Information Booklets

- a. The group looked at the leaflets and Abby showed the details she will change.
- b. Everyone agreed that they look fantastic.

6. Flag

- a. There is some difficulty contacting the King of Spain and the flag emblem is still on hold.
- b. The rest of the flag is designed and looks exceptionally good. Thanks to david, Will and Abby.
- c. The flag pole in the cascade was discussed. The pole is in the cascade but not erected. Morgan to investigate this.

7. Launch

- a. Steph informed us that Barry has a portable bell with 6 bells which will be amazing for the seafront.
- b. David is in discussion with Wells re: <u>Stage Maroons Wells Fireworks</u>
- c. David is still deciding how to get the explosives across the Solent.
- d. David is discussing with the Reconstruction Group about the logistics of the firing of cannons on the day and how to get to the locations.
- e. There was some concern about the number of vehicles crossing on the ferry. It was suggested that David should discuss this with them and try to reduce the numbers due to cost.
- f. The possibility of using ferry discount schemes was discussed the group will look into this.
- g. Banners for the seafront were discussed and Steph showed us the Pirate Fest one as an example of what we could design. Locations were discussed: on the railings by the beach and paddling pool, for example.
- 8. Press and Comms including recording on the day.
 - a. Will has produced an article in the April edition of the Chronicle on the front page.

- b. A single sheet insert in the Chronicle was discussed. The group would be happy to insert the inserts.
- c. Catherine still to contact schools and Sixth form re student photographers.
- 9. Education Linking with local schools
 - a. Steph is in contact with John Nicholson.
 - b. Catherine has contacted St Francis School to let them know the date and general plan for the launch day.
 - c. Catherine has had a discussion with a historian from Carisbrooke Museum and she has a good link with the Island Free School. Catherine is to liaise with her about the best way forward.
 - d. David is to send Catherine the contact details for the person to contact for booking educational visits.
- 10. The meeting had to finish before the agenda was fully discussed as members had other meetings and commitments to attend. We agreed to discuss the future legacy and the links with local businesses at the next meeting.
- 11. Date of next meeting Monday 24th March at 2pm

Items from the previous meeting and this meeting to discuss further: Esplanade events/things to do:

- Sea shanties?
- Eloise Spanish dancing?
- Art competition?
- Any age boat making competition (assuming beach becomes sandy!!)
- Mugs Steph to get a quote for
- Badges considered?
- Getting people to walk around the town as part of the event?
- Spanish food and drink e.g. Spanish beer Golden Sands and Spanish food Mill Bay is keen to make Paella
- Music a mix of contemporary music. Steph has a list of possible Sea Shanty singers. It was agreed to discuss PA system at next meeting.
- Will to ask Abbi to liaise with fashion School about costumes.
- Steph suggested an annual event for children at the Putting Green.
- Ventnor Bowling Club Maurice is talking to Cowes Plessey team about taking part in the Recalde Cup. He has since mentioned to Catherine that he is still in discussion with Cowes to coordinate with other fixtures.