

Filby Bells Restoration Project  
Wednesday November 15<sup>th</sup> 2023 10:30am  
Trinity Barn, Thrigby Road, Filby

1. Present Nick Dawes (ND) Judy Farrimond(JF) Martin Farrimond (MF) Judith Richardson (JR) Adrian Thompson (AT). Bernard Chase (BC). Derek Nicker (DN). Barbara Gillham (BG)

Apologies Rev. Jo Wood (JW)

2) Minutes of meeting 26.6.23 These were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. There were no matters arising from these minutes as they are covered in the other aspects of the meeting.

Barbara Gillham was welcomed to the meeting – she was taking the place of Vivien Moore who was unable to attend.

3) National Lottery Heritage Fund – update/next steps

It was agreed that the result of the bid was very disappointing particularly when considering the amount of work that had gone into it and in particular the detailed work by DN, MF and BC.

From what we could tell we needed to strengthen the content around deliverability and heritage.

It was unanimously agreed that we should re apply. DN said that when the new round of applications begins in January the NLHF may give us some advice.

It was felt that we should be willing to spend some of our present funds to engage an appropriate expert to help us through the process.

Whilst Darren Barker has moved on and is no longer employed by Gt, Yarmouth Borough Council, we may be able to access him and AT has made enquiries concerning this. The diocese has its own conservation officer ( Frances Jackson) funded through Historic England and MF will make contact with her.

The committee will need to develop its work to fit in with the four investment principals in the new ‘Heritage 2033’ strategy.

- Saving Heritage
- Protecting the Environment
- Inclusion, Access and participation
- Organisational Sustainability

There were a number of ideas expressed around the group These included the potential of creating 2 books focussed on Filby – one for adults and one for children and the use of digital content that perhaps could be released at intervals. This might tap into the new village archive that is stored at the village hall. Within this idea, the focus would have to be on the bells and church tower.

It was felt that we will need to put forward the case that we have ‘Heritage at Risk’. Also, that it would possibly strengthen our application if we had a new bell ringing team for Filby who needed bells to ring. In this way we would be looking at people interacting with heritage. The comms group should meet to discuss these issues in

more detail. **DN** was asked to have an outline book proposal ready for the comms meeting. **BC** was asked to outline any plans for secular activities. He will confer with **AT** as it is regarding community events.

Risk - **AT** asked if the recent quinquennial inspection would strengthen our bid regarding possible risks if bells (and tower) left as they currently are. **BC** will email **Ruth Blackman** to make further enquiries regarding this.

We should further develop our relationship with the school. ( There is a new head teacher - **Jo Snelling** - as from December 1<sup>st</sup>). **ND** and **JR** will follow up on this in the new school term

There was also discussion around volunteer labour on the project and **DN** will also look at creating an online questionnaire.

**MF** made the point that perhaps in our earlier application we had undersold the track record in **Filby** for delivery on previous projects.

4) Finance. **BC** Said that very little had changed since the last report. And that we do not owe any money. He will be able to soon claim VAT back on money already spent.

5) Sub committees –

Events/Fundraising –

Whilst there is nothing currently planned, **TD** felt it was worth looking at planning a big event, though there would need to be some help with ideas and organisation. With this in mind it was agreed that some extra members co-opted onto the events/fundraising team from outside the committee, would be beneficial. **ND** will contact **Jo** ( School secretary) to see if she might be interested. One of the events team will also contact **Louise** ( **Filby Bridge**) to see if she might support the group. Others could also be approached as appropriate.

Comms – This group have not met since the application was submitted.

**DN** asked whether it was felt we should announce the result of our initial application to **NHLF**.

It was agreed that any statement should say that .....

‘We have been asked to further develop and re submit our application to comply with the new criteria to be released in January 2024. We believe that the new criteria will ensure a long-term sustainable heritage for the village’.

This statement may be amended as needed by **ND** and **DN** and published as felt appropriate through facebook or/and our website.

Next Meeting    Comms group – Friday January 26<sup>th</sup> 10:00am **Florence Farm**  
Full Meeting – Wednesday January 31<sup>st</sup> 2:00pm **Trinity Barn**

Summary of Actions

**MF** to make contact with diocesan conservation officer.

. **DN** to have an outline book proposal ready for the comms meeting.

**BC** to email Ruth Blackman to make further enquiries regarding this.

**BC** to outline any plans for secular activities.

**ND & JR** to make contact with the local primary school in the January term

**DN** to look consider creating an online questionnaire.

**ND & DN** to amend as needed, and **DN** to publish through facebook or/and our website, a statement regarding our progress so far with our application to NHLF

**ND** to contact Jo ( School secretary) to see if she might be interested in supporting the events team.

**Events team** to approach any appropriate person who might be willing to support the group.