

## **Notes of the Appleby Fair Multi-Agency Strategic Co-ordinating Group held on Monday 27 February 2017**

**Attendance:** Robin Hooper, Eden District Council (Chair)  
Neil Buck, Eden District Council  
Oliver Shimell, Eden District Council  
Billy Welch, Gypsy and Traveller Representative  
Mark Pannone, Cumbria Constabulary  
Neil Graham, Cumbria Constabulary  
Rob Melloy, RSPCA  
Nick Wright, Cumbria County Council  
Kevin Crawley, Cumbria County Council  
Dan Evans, Cumbria County Council  
Elaine Lomas, Eden District Council  
Terry Bathgate, Cumbria Constabulary  
Andy Millburn, Cumbria Constabulary  
Roly Earl, Cumbria Constabulary  
Mike Clusker, Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service  
Adrian Medcalf, Highways England  
Robert Docherty, Eden District Council  
Matthew Neal, Eden District Council  
Simon Rowley, South Lakeland District Council

**Apologies:** Barry Cooper, Eden District Council  
Trevor Marsh, Environment Agency  
Bill Lloyd, Gypsy and Traveller Representative

### **1. Introductions**

It was noted that there were some new people in attendance at the meeting. There was a general introduction of those present to each other so that everyone was aware of who each other was.

### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2016 were agreed as true record.

### **3. Update on Flashing Lane**

Dan Evans reported on the site meeting which had taken place on 21 November at the flashing lane with various members of MASCG. Whilst it was continued to be believed that some improvements could be made generally to the area, the measures which had been introduced in 2016 were not considered to have achieved any satisfactory benefit such that they should be repeated in 2017. Therefore, there would be a reversion to the measures which had been put in place in 2015. It was acknowledged that the permanent measure for the area would be to tarmac or otherwise have a hard surface on the side of the road adjoining the market field thereby discouraging any tethering of horses to that particular area and keeping it clear for pedestrians only.

Billy Welch reported that he and Bill Lloyd still wished to undertake such works as could be undertaken to fill the gaps in the fence from the Jimmy Winter field on the highways side. This would be matter which they would continue to have a discussion with Jimmy Winter about.

#### **4. Alcohol Controlled Designated Order - Request for Long Marton**

It was noted that a formal request for the Alcohol Controlled Order had not yet been made. This was something that Inspector Terry Bathgate would investigate and report formally back to the District Council within the next few weeks.

It was noted that the Appleby alcohol control order would need to be renewed after the 2017 Fair. This could be as part of the wider review for the alcohol controlled designated order and could include Long Marton at the same time. In the event that a formal request does come forward to allow a comprehensive order to be put in place for the 2017 Fair, the Officers at the District Council would seek to expedite the works on that.

#### **5. Eden Parish Forum**

Elaine Lomas reported on the actions which had taken place since the last meeting of MASCG in November as follows:

##### **Alston**

Inspector Mike James, Sgt Andy Millburn and Elaine Lomas attended the Alston Moor Parish Council meeting on 9 January 2017. The focus was the use of Tyne Willows as a stopping place. The Parish Council had mixed views but in the main, concerns related to the large number of caravans and bowtops staying at Tyne Willows; their close proximity to the gym; the knock on effect this had in reduced numbers of people using the gym; the large number of horses on the playing fields, sometimes extending on to the running tracks and pitches and a few horses not being tethered when on the playing fields.

The conclusion was to leave arrangements the same as last year, but with a request that:

- the barriers are put in place both for the travel to and return from Appleby period of occupancy; these are placed outside the gym by the Parish Council to maintain space between the building and the parked vehicles
- the Police visiting daily
- the recycling bins are emptied prior to the Travellers arrival

##### **Soulby**

Elaine Lomas had spoken with the Soulby Parish Clerk who had confirmed that due to the flood prevention works that had been implemented to the east of the bridge, the area normally used by bowtops would not be available for 2017. Neither would this area be available for horse grazing as there is still drainage and reseeding work to complete.

The small area of land on the opposite side of the green, to the west of the bridge, usually earmarked for motorised vehicles to park will still be available and can accommodate a small number of caravans and bowtops. An area for horse grazing is available to the south of the beck.

A note has been put on the Appleby fair website and a revised plan and information note added under the Soulby link.

##### **Melmerby**

Following contact with the landowner, the agreement between the owner of the village green and the proposed new Melmerby Village Green Conservation Trust

has now been finalised and signed. As such, arrangements will be as the last few years, the website will be updated and toilet and water provision arranged as usual.

### **Cotemoor**

An agreement has now been reached with a new contractor to provide the water bowsers at Cotemoor.

### **Long Marton**

The Parish Council is intending to carry out some further sections of ditch of bunding along Powis Lane which will further reduce available parking along this road for motorised vehicles, although there will still be some availability. Further information may be available after the next Parish Council meeting on 1 March 2017.

The landowner of Butchers Pasture, the large field along Powis Lane where two groups, totalling 25 camped prior to the 2016 Fair, has confirmed that this field will not be opened this year.

### **Website Update**

Information on the restrictions in place at popular encampment locations in Eden has been updated on the Travel to the Fair pages and the provision of facilities arranged. See <http://www.applebyfair.org/travellers/stopping-places>

With the exception of reduced space at Soulby and along Powis Lane at Long Marton, availability is very similar to last year.

It was noted that Kevin Crawley and Elaine Lomas would have a discussion about the proposals which Powis Lane residents/Parish Council had in relation to the ditch and bunding to see what, if any, implications there would be to highway network in that location.

## **6. Licensing**

Oliver Shimell reported on various issues connected with the licensing and in particular, that all licensees would be requested to confirm compliance with the codes of conduct which were in place for the operating of public houses during the period of the Fair. It was also noted that funding would be available to support security at the licensed premises. In relation to the Kings Arms at Kirkby Stephen, there was an option for someone to manage the premises as it was presently closed during the Fair period under a temporary events license. Members of MASCG were invited to confirm their support for such a temporary events licence which members of MASCG duly did. It was hoped that garden facility where horses were able to be tethered would also be available as it had worked well over the last couple of years. The alternative of having horses in the street was something to be discouraged.

Oliver Shimell reported that the door supervisor numbers should be the same as previous years, but he would confirm at the next MASCG meeting.

In relation to the extensions of the sales and drinking area footprint outside the Crown & Cushion and the Hare & Hounds, this needed to be confirmed with the licensees which Oliver Shimell would arrange and report back to the next meeting. In relation to the extension requiring a Town & Police Clauses Act road closure, Neil Buck would pick this up and ensure that it was in place. This would also be confirmed at the next meeting.

Prior to the next meeting, Oliver Shimell and the Police would check which pubs were to be open for the duration of the Fair so that this could be formally confirmed and in the event of any pubs closing, consideration could then be given at the March meeting about what actions needed to be undertaken in relation to that. It was agreed that Oliver Shimell would therefore report back to the next meeting on these various issues.

## **7. Communication Issues**

Neil Graham reported that this was the first Appleby Fair that he would be involved with as the Communication Officer on behalf of the Police. In light of Barry Cooper being absent from the meeting, it was not possible to have a formal update on communication issues. However, MASCG confirmed its continued wish to ensure that in relation to communications the message should be going out that people coming to the Fair should not arrive too early.

## **8. Highways Issues**

Dan Evans reported on the review which had been undertaken by the Highways Authority over the restrictions which had applied in previous years in Appleby. That work had been undertaken with the Police. This was done with the intention of seeking to provide easier access to certain facilities and routes for people in the locality. Assessment of risks had been carried out in the effect of what those risks might be and contingency plans were in place if things were not working which could then be introduced on a daily basis as necessary. The traffic arrangements outside the Royal Oak would be as previous.

## **9. South Lakeland Working Group**

Simon Rowley confirmed again that there would only be one meeting to consider issues connected with the Fair which would be taking place in March with the local community. The temporary sites as previous years would be open which would include Scroggs Bank.

## **10. Chief Executive Briefings**

It was noted that the Chief Executives of Cumbria County Council and South Lakeland District Council would be briefed by the Police in relation to such orders as may be necessary to be introduced during the period of the Fair or indeed, in advance for the Fair. Superintendent Mark Pannone would arrange for this to be done.

## **11. Use of Drones**

Terry Bathgate reported that consideration was being given to the use of drones should the need arise in accordance with the strategy and the strategic objectives for the Fair. The various RIPA and surveillance requirements needed to be complied with if that were the case. Billy Welch confirmed that he supported the use of drones being used in order to secure public safety and other issues as required. He believed that the Gypsy and Traveller community would be very supportive of this too. It was confirmed that drones would only be used in exceptional cases and it would need to fit certain criteria.

## **12. CCTV Coverage**

Roly Earl confirmed that further re-deployable cameras would be put in place at various locations around the outskirts of Appleby including areas around the Rising Sun and other sites around the flashing lane and Salt Tip corner. The purposes of these was to review the activities in the area. As it was possible that action may be

taken for failing to comply with road traffic issues, then notices would need to be inserted in various locations. The Police would arrange for this to be done. Billy Welch confirmed that he was very supportive of this particular initiative. Mark Pannone confirmed that he would be following national approved practice in relation to the implementation of it.

**13. Custody Provision**

It was noted that in the event of any custody provision being required for people attending the Fair, this would be operated from other Police stations outside of Appleby and would include those at Carlisle, Kendal, Barrow and Workington. It was noted this would be the first time that custody provision would not be available in Appleby.

**14. Communication Signals within Appleby**

It was noted that boosted communication signals would be available at Appleby Police Station which was welcomed by all present.

**15. Public Meeting Dates**

This matter would be discussed at the next meeting in March.

**16. A563 Bus Service**

Roly Earl confirmed that A563 bus service had now ceased. A bus service was available one day a week which was on a day different from the Fair itself. The college service Appleby to Kendal operated by Robinsons was scheduled to run during the Fair. Dan Evans and Roly Earl would discuss with the colleges and others about that in order that arrangements could be put in place should the need arise.

**17. Visits to Schools**

It was noted that Andy Millburn would arrange to visit Kirkby Stephen and Appleby Grammar Schools prior to the Fair and have discussions with the Head Teachers about any issues which they could foresee which could lead to arrangements being put in place in advance in order to be able to deal with them.

**18. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 27 March 2017 at 2.00pm.

**19. Elaine Lomas**

MASCG unanimously wished to record their thanks and appreciation to Elaine Lomas for the many years of service that she had given to the Fair and also the support she had given to colleagues across the various agencies during this period. In particular, thanks and appreciation were recorded from Billy Welch on behalf of the Gypsy and Traveller community for the work that she had undertaken.

The meeting ended at 2.55pm.