

## **Notes of the Appleby Fair Multi-Agency Strategic Co-ordinating Group held on Monday 25 October 2021**

**Attendance:** Les Clark, Eden District Council (Chair)  
Louise Biggs, Eden District Council  
Councillor Karen Greenwood, Eden District Council  
Councillor Phil Dew, Cumbria County Council  
Emma Brass, Eden District Council  
Karen Lowthrop, Appleby Town Council  
Laura McClellan, Cumbria County Highways  
Richard Batham, Highways England  
Kellie Bradburn-Sims, Cumbria County Council  
Neil Buck, Eden District Council  
Robert Docherty, Eden District Council  
Rob Lewis, Cumbria County Council Highways  
Amanda McKirdy, Cumbria Constabulary  
Neil Graham, Cumbria Constabulary  
Charlotte Lory, Cumbria Constabulary  
Rob Melloy, RSPCA  
Dan McAulay, Eden District Council  
John Banks, Cumbria County Council Highways

**Apologies:** Matt Kennerley, Cumbria Constabulary  
Nick Wright, Cumbria County Council  
Sue Warner, South Lakeland District Council  
Councillor Suzie Pye, South Lakeland District Council  
Nick Griggs, North West Ambulance Service  
Steve Wilde, Eden District Council  
Damian Lavictoire, Cumbria Constabulary  
John Everingham, Eden District Council  
Stephen Vickers, Cumbria Constabulary

### **1. Minutes**

#### **a) MASCG Meeting held on 27 September 2021**

These were agreed as a true record.

#### **b) Special Meeting held on 7 October 2021**

These were agreed as a true record.

### **2. Feedback from Events Management Sub-Group**

A sub-group had been set up to looking into alternative arrangements for managing the Fair. KL gave an update from the meeting. The question had been posed to Appleby Town Council as to whether they would take control/ownership of Fair Hill. This was something that they would not be doing. It was suggested that a document was put together setting out past attempts to manage/ticket the Fair and reasons why it can't happen etc. KL/AC were in the process of drawing up a timeframe and would copy to MASCG when done.

EB said that a review of the planning/licensing arrangements would need to be done and needed to ascertain a basic starting point as to the outcome ie organised/ticketed event. A meeting would be arranged to include planning colleagues to look at the planning/licensing issues. It was noted most of the sites were operating well under current capacity.

PD said there was a general feeling that the Fair had got too big and would be good to restrict numbers who came if possible by adjusting the licences. EB said that the licensing/planning for Horse Fair was not dealt with any differently to other non-related Fair sites – legislation was applied the same for all.

PD agreed with the points raised and said that everything needed to be brought into one place for proper consideration and would await the report back from the sub-group.

### **3. Communications and Engagement**

Eden would be leading comms for the 2022 Fair with NG as support.

### **4. Evaluation Report**

Some figures were will outstanding for the report. LB would send a reminder to the relevant agencies.

PD said it was important to have true costs of the Fair included in the report. The action points made by Appleby residents need picking up on various issues so that they are aware they are being listened to.

### **5. Temporary Stopping Places**

At the last meeting it was noted that Scroggs Bank would not be available for the 2022 Fair along with issues at Cotemoor/Powis Lane. A discussion also took place around finding safe places for Gypsy/Travellers to camp during Phase 1.

LC/EB/Police would meet to discuss issues around Powis Lane which was used last minute this year. A position statement was needed on the places mentioned and the potential impact on jubilee celebrations and MASCG's commitment to engage with the communities. EB/AMK would be contacting landowners and Parish Councils about the 2022 Fair.

The issue of early arrivals was difficult to balance. PD said it would be good to have places to use if necessary and would be timely to have a look at this information.

### **6. Operational Working Group Update**

#### **a) Highways – Proposed Change to TRO**

LMC said a minor change to the Traffic Regulation Order had been identified to manage traffic on Garbridge Lane. The plan was to remove the one way system on Roman Road and introduce it to Garbridge Lane instead. Consultation on the TRO would start in the next couple of weeks. KG asked if it would be possible to see an early version of the TRO in advance of publication to identify any possible issues.

#### **b) Parish Engagement**

Nothing to report.

#### **c) Licensing**

AMK said that Pub Watch meetings with licensees will take place in the New Year.

#### **d) South Lakeland**

Nothing to report.

**7. Any Other Business**

**a) Near Fatal Drowning**

RM raised the issue of the horse/rider that got into difficulties on the Saturday of the Fair and nearly drowned. MASCG had looked into the issues of legal liability a few years ago. A legal opinion on this would be sought. PD felt that the moral duty of care and restricting access to the river needed looking at.

KG said that the life belts on the riverside were put there by Appleby Town Council and as far as she was aware, there was no other duty on the Town Council or anyone else to put life savers next to the river. The Glaister case of 2008 was an important judgement when Appleby Town Council were sued after someone was kicked by a horse - this was overturned by a Judge in the High Court who found the Council not liable.

**8. Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 22 November 2021 at 2.00pm