

Notes of the Appleby Fair Multi-Agency Strategic Co-ordinating Group held on Monday 20 December 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
Bill Lloyd, Gypsy & Traveller Representative
Karen Lowthrop, Appleby Town Council
Emma Brass, Eden District Council
Katie Callon, Cumbria Constabulary
Damian Lavictoire, Cumbria Constabulary
Amanda McKirdy, Cumbria Constabulary
Steve Minnikin, Cumbria Constabulary
Neil Buck, Eden District Council
Rob Melloy, RSPCA
Robert Docherty, Eden District Council
Cathryn Beckett, Cumbria County Council
Dan McAulay, Eden District Council
Rob Lewis, Cumbria County Council Highways
Lee Skelton, Cumbria Constabulary
Laura McClellan, Cumbria County Council Highways
Sue Warner, South Lakeland District Council

Apologies: John Everingham, Eden District Council
Matt Kennerley, Cumbria Constabulary
Councillor Suzie Pye, South Lakeland District Council
Billy Welch, Gypsy & Traveller Representative
Kellie Bradburn-Simms, Cumbria County Council
Nick Wright, Cumbria County Council

1. Minutes of MASCG held on held on 22 November 2021

These were agreed as a true record.

2. Feedback on Planning/Licensing of Campsites

It was noted that information was awaited from archives on the historical planning permissions pre 1974. Once this had been received, it would be brought back to MASCG for discussion.

3. Evaluation Report Update

LC said he should have a draft report ready in advance of the January meeting. Some information was still outstanding and asked that it be sent to LB as soon as possible. PD said it was important to get the report correct and to take the time needed to do that.

4. Communications and Engagement

Following on from the comms in relation to the change of date for 2002, things were relatively quiet.

5. Operational Working Group Update

a) Highways

Consultation on the items added as TRO in 2019 and 2021 including the 40mph speed limit and prohibition of horses will be added to the permanent TRO. Informal consultation had been issued w/e 17 December 2021 and will go to the January Local Committee for approval to advertise.

KG asked whether local businesses had been included as part of the consultation? LM confirmed that as well as statutory consultees, local members etc, all affected properties near the restrictions were also consulted. KG was concerned that there may be objections as they affected five car parks/businesses. KG would let LM have the feedback via email and she would look into the issues raised and feedback accordingly.

LM said that the main bridge would not be closed – signs prescribe particular restrictions would be in place. This would be taken to the Highways Sub-group to look into.

b) Parish Engagement

MASCG input was needed on Powis Lane and use of fields within 3 miles of fair hill, early engagement needed with land owner. A meeting would be arranged to discuss this matter.

In relation to engagement with Parishes regarding the Jubilee, AM confirmed that engagement would be in the usual way.

PD asked about any potential date change for 2022. LC said there was no intention of changing the date – only extreme circumstances would do this, ie covid restrictions.

c) Licensing

It was noted that engagement with licensed premises would start in the New Year.

d) South Lakeland - Scroggs Bank Update

SW was struggling to find a replacement field for Scroggs Bank. EB asked approx. numbers that were likely to be displaced – it could be up to 100 vehicles. LS said that if Scroggs Bank was not available, we need to revisit some of the posted off areas.

7. Any Other Business

a) Contingencies re Appleby Fair Date

DL asked the questions that if for some reason the Jubilee did not go ahead, whether the position on the date would change. It was noted that from an operational perspective, the date would not change for 2022 regardless.

b) Correspondence to Officers

EB raised the issue that correspondence she had received had not been responded to and wondered whether a response should go from MASCG instead of individual officers. It was noted that there was no central point for correspondence, LC would take offline. PD felt that the simple answer to the request was that the information required would be covered in the evaluation report. EB would acknowledge in this respect.

c) Toilet Provision

KG raised the issue of people bringing their own porta-potty instead of using facilities provided, were emptying them onto the fields before leaving instead of disposing in a hygienic receptacle. EB said that this is mentioned in the schedule of conditions for the licensed sites to have tanks but it relied on people to empty them properly. They can also be emptied into a normal portaloo.

It was noted that it may be an education/communication issue and a discussion with the site operator may be needed so that they could arrange for dedicated and signed portaloo to resolve this issue.

d) Planning Issue

EB said that a planning application had been received for a caravan site on land next to one of the licensed sites and sat within the 1.5 mile radius. It would mean that potentially, there could be caravans on the site during the Fair period and could cause issues in the area when Gypsy/Travellers will be arriving on the first morning of the Fair. LC suggested a note on what was being asked be sent to LB for circulation to MASCG.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Monday 24 January 2022 at 2pm.