**Clock Tower Reparation & Restoration Committee**

**1 October 2024**

**Council Chamber**

**6.30pm - 8.30pm**

**Minutes**

**Attendees: Cllrs. Beard, Dix, Kay, Penny & Laura-Jade Schroeder (Town Clerk)**

**Oliver Forsyth, DHVA (via ‘Zoom’)**

1. **Apologies received from Cllr Elsmore**
2. **There were no declarations of interest**
3. **There were no dispensation requests**
4. **The minutes of 15 July 2024 were proposed (PK), seconded (RD) and unanimously agreed.**

**Cllr. M Beard signed a copy of the minutes, as a true record.**

1. **To raise matters arising from the Minutes of 15 July 2024**

The Christmas Lights Committee members who enter the building must sign the asbestos register to acknowledge risk.

1. **To take comments from the Public Forum**

There were no members of the public present.

1. **To receive update from DHVA, and to make recommendations, as necessary**

Transitionary period now. We were aspirational in going to start works now. Timeline now to move. Will need to work up detailed bid. Put that into the timeline. Oliver to re-do timeline. Meet with planning officer to get consent through if we do decide to go for a peal of Bells. We need to show 10% match funding. Programme to celebrate heritage and culture – we spend on events so that is matched funding – we precept for this. Lottery will pay staff costs. We will need resource.

1. **To consider funding, and to make recommendations as necessary**

Cllr Beard has spoken to the lottery. They said they are not issuing advisors unless you submit an expression of interest, due to staff shortages. Cllr Penny will get the contact details of the person he knows.

Community engagement part of bid – community consultation from August 2022, also what activities are going to be included in the bid. Comprehensive on capital structure but not much on community, heritage and environment activities. Things we need to incorporate into bid. Don’t need detail of regen in EOI. Bells, stained glass windows, heritage tiles, 1st floor gallery? Pop-up Dean Heritage Centre relevant to Coleford? Central part of Coleford’s heritage. Civic opportunity to ring bells. Where it connects with Coleford’s history – museum – how it evolved - Octagon Church. Identify exhibition space/project space. A year long programme – Jan has x event, Feb has y event, etc.

Commission someone to recreate elements of Coleford’s history, e.g. Darkhill as a railway infrastructure. Diorama of Coleford’s industrial heritage, loop to Whitecliff, Milkwall pumping station section.

VR to bring history to life – engages youth and makes it accessible to elderly or disabled who can’t get out and walk it. VR is one of the fastest growing areas currently.

Working with War Memorials trust to reinvigorate war memorial.

RD to speak to Dan at Snakes End model railway club – run a display – recreate.

Art students to design windows – community involvement

Engage with heritage around Coleford – activities – heritage walk (developing floor tiles)

Links to nature through heritage – sustainability – walks would link it in. Incorporate beavers, pine martens, butterfly colony at Darkhill, connecting to Nagshead.

Tie in David Stuart (Historic England) to upgrade conservation area, street scene refurbishment. Fit this into scope of this project. NP will ask KK tomorrow to incorporate.

Mural to show octagonal church that was in existence.

**Meeting ended 19:32pm**