

Minutes of the meeting of the **Waterways Task and Finish Group held** remotely on **Thursday 12th November 2020**

PRESENT:

Councillors Horrill (Chair), Barwell and Jump

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. Terry Savage, Mrs. Anne Johnson, Mr. Jim Mole. Mr Chris Howarth

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms S Bacegalupo (Support Officer)

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2	APOLOGIES	M. Bailey
3	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	DH - Committee membership to the Hive and job as Co-Op pioneer for Winsford JM – Chairman of the Weaver Navigation Society and vice chairman of the Inland Waterways Association
5	ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION	<p><i>Working group skills/experience audit</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All Members gave a brief update on their background <p><i>Existing/past waterways events in Winsford</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Salt Fair ● Salt Towns' Rally ● Off Cut ● On The Fringe <p><i>Ideas/examples for new events in Winsford</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It was suggested that a consultation with residents should be carried out as soon as possible via online engagement. ● It was decided that the working group should implement a focussed project (annual event) but in context with a wider strategy also developed by the group. ● Crucially for the event to further legacy activities/facilities by their introduction at events including boat hire, use of the Marina/Marina Building, canoe/SUP boarding lessons, cycle links. This reflects the wider

		<p>strategy and ‘reason’ for the development of the annual event; to help identify Winsford as a waterside town with facilities and activities for residents to connect with at any time (not just at events)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● For a new event to be designed to benefit the Winsford cultural identity; the town’s history and heritage (especially Weaver Navigation and Salt Mining) alongside Winsford’s creative community (arts/music) ● It was thought that a new festival should not sit under the ‘Salt Fair’, a new name should be considered ● Winsford Marina to become the focal point of event activity. ● Include ‘on water’ features to the event programme e.g. boat/raft/duck racing ● To consider where people should go if the weather's bad; consider wet weather experiences as well as a dry experience. ● New date - late July or August or either side of the Middlewich Folk and Boat Festival in June ● Large Marquee on the island with a programme of events would be weatherproof ● Make Boat trips available around the flashes/river weaver to enhance the experience and connection between land and water. ● Involve immediate vicinity in the event e.g. Go Kart/Pram racing down the dual carriage way to the Marina ● Start as a single location event and develop overtime on success to potentially involve The Town Park and fringe events (like Middlewich FAB). ● Gain sponsorship from local businesses ● Partnership grant applications e.g. WTC and The Hive (charitable society) would be well received from funders.
6	ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS	None
7	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	25 th November 2020 at 6pm

Chair