

Notes from the RGM Operating Company Board Meeting

19th November 2016

My special thanks to Liz Went (LW) for helping me compose this report for taking minutes as I had to attend another event that day.

Report on the charity and site by the Chief Officer

Stella Morris (SM) (the current CEO) had warned the Board a while back that running the site for 2017 will bring challenges. New systems will be required, marketing and websites need to be developed and they need to organise new events.

Stakeholder consultation will still go ahead but SM has had to bring in external skills to help as her time is so short.

One of the most critical things is more volunteers, LW and SM are tied into running the site so another staff is required to free up current staff to go forwards.

Members of the Board commented that it is not understood or acknowledged that it is an incredibly complex site to run, leaving only pockets of time for other issues.

SM reported that Autumn visitor numbers had been good and Guy Fawkes weekend excellent. The Chairman said it was a good result and would like to congratulate the team of staff and volunteers. SM warned that state schools have dropped off from bookings for the education programme and she will be concentrating on marketing the programme.

SM had received advice from the National Portrait Gallery regarding setting up a retail offer.

They are under budget on PR and Marketing due to SM gaining pro bono assistance and negotiated advertising rates.

SM reported meetings with stakeholders including White Water Centre and Tourism Group etc.; as well as meetings informing volunteers the current situation. The chairman commented that he believes that the group meetings are a very good method of communication and it is bringing all together as a team.

SM advised that there have been break-ins recently and evidence of this seen around L149. She also confirmed that there are now measures in place for dealing with intruders such as reporting, repairing fences, anti-climb paint, cameras etc. and these have brought incidents down. There is also a consideration of getting additional two sensor lights.

A report commissioned from Atkins by the Environment Agency had included a map regarding asbestos and SM has been asking Atkins for copies ahead of the published report.

End of report- Cllr Helen Kane