



## Note of Meeting of Strathbungo Society: Tuesday 16 July 2019

### 1. Introduction and Apologies

Present: Jane Carolan, Imelda Devlin, Paola Rezzilli, Nick Kempe, Steve Good, Heather Alexander,

Apologies: Kevin Kane, Fiona Mackinnon, Andrew Downie

### 2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the pre-BITBL meeting on 11 June 2019 were not discussed and still need to be approved.

**FM: add to agenda for next meeting (see "Next Meeting" below)**

### 3. Bungo in the Back Lanes review

#### General feedback

The event was busy, although not as busy as last year? As usual, Lanes 2 & 3 were the busiest. Lane 4 improved over last year but Lane 1 was quiet. This may have been due to the omission of the Jazz Garden from the map (see below on Stalls) and one "helpful" stall holder in the cross-lane telling people there was nothing much in the lane!

The music got rave reviews from attendees, with some dancing in evidence! There were some comments from attendees that there were not enough food stalls. Some previous food stalls were not present this year e.g. Fire Dogs (forgot about it), Curry in a Cup (plans to be back next year), Wood-fired Pizza (didn't reply to invitation). The feeling was, though, that we should not try to micro-manage the mix of stalls.

There was discussion about whether we should move the date of the event to avoid clashing with other local events, however the overall feeling was that

- the variety of events helps to keep our numbers manageable
- people tend to go to more than one event

and that we should remain with our preferred date.

Set-up and stewarding ended up being well supported this year, with new volunteers.

#### Tombola & bottle stall

The tombola raised nearly £700, and the two stalls together raised £1000. In the end, there was lots of help for the tombola on the day, but the preparation work is very time-consuming and more help would be needed with that in future, especially labelling items.

There was some discussion about amalgamating the two stalls but that depends on whether Teresa Mooney was willing to run the separate bottle stall. If so, then they can remain separate. If a new venue or organiser is needed, that would be a good time to consider merging the stalls.

## Newsletter

The next newsletter should acknowledge the businesses that donated to the event (ID has the list for the tombola).

**JS: include item in newsletter about BITBL, thanking business donors (preferably with a photo of the tombola)**

## Finance

We were awarded double what we asked for!

For the future, should we be exempting charities from the 10% donation? At least one charity insisted on paying, saying it was in recognition of all the work put in by the Society. To be discussed at a later date.

## Bars, licensing & music

Licensing was tortuous for the Society bars, both due to the Council and the unpreparedness of one of the bars (Stag & Thistle). The Bungo was better organised but, by the day before the event, neither license was in place. Without the heroic work of NK to make it happen, we might have had no bars! However, they were in place in time, did good trade and have duly paid the agreed amounts. The two other bars (Glad Café and McMillans) have still to pay their 10% of takings.

**YF: ask McMillans for payment**

**NK/SR: ask Glad Café for payment**

The Society bar in Lane 3 did ask if more space could be made available. The bar and music currently uses the garden and parking at 8-10 Marywood Square. The only expansion possible is to 6 Marywood square, who would need to be approached for permission for next year.

One bar noted that it was a “slow start” but this may be because they are new to the event – it did not seem different to previous years. There was also a request to extend the hours, but this was felt to be too much of a burden for the volunteers who support the event. Despite these comments, both bars want to tender again next year.

Other comments:

- perhaps only put the second bar (lane 2) out to tender next year?
- review what’s needed for licensing, including what’s needed in the “bar plan”

The Licensing enforcement officer turned up to inspect the bars. McMillans had spilled out of their garden, but this was apparently not a concern for the officer. In conversation, he suggested to HA that the entire area be licensed as that might be easier. In discussion, the points made were:

- the fact that the officer was okay with McMillans does not mean that we (the Society) are happy with people wandering around the lanes with alcohol in their hands
- licensing the whole area would exacerbate that issue and policing the boundary would be difficult
- the event is a family-friendly event and it needs to stay that way
- we might need to consider monitoring the bars ourselves (particularly the non-Society bars) and asking people to remain in the licensed areas

The music at the Society bars went down well and seems to have reflected the belief of Southside Sessions (organiser of sound system, music and DJs on our behalf) that paying the performers would improve the quality of the acts.

## Stalls

Due to lack of time, this report was not given at the meeting but is included here.

New spaces were offered for use in Lanes 2, 3 and 4 (most in Lane 3), thanks to Lane 4 letters and to Facebook requests.

There were 22 requests for stalls. Of these, 9 withdrew (some having been allocated places). 13 new stalls were placed, although 1 did not turn up on the day.

It was not initially clear who was looking after obtaining spaces for bars and Society stalls (turned out to be the Stalls organiser!), nor who was allocating space in the Community Zone (some spaces were allocated with informing the Stalls organiser...). However it all worked out on the day.

One long-standing stall (Jazz Garden) was not included on the map, because there was no way of contacting them to confirm if they were planning to host it this year (no address, no email address). This year, all stalls were visited on the day to request contact email addresses for next year.

**HA: update Stallholder spreadsheet in preparation for 2020**

**HA: check with Govanhill Baths about attendance at their venue**

Organisation (and the Event book)

In discussion, it was felt that we needed to identify explicitly organisers of:

- Bars
- Stalls
- Music
- Tables/chair
- Stewards

and to include a note of their responsibilities in the Event book.

**HA: create draft BITBL Event book for 2020, to include:**

- reminder about bar expansion request (6 Marywood)
- suggested dates for bar tendering process (including when brief to be agreed, how many bars etc)
- add organiser roles & responsibilities
- schedule appointment of organisers
- schedule a review of charging i.e. should charities be exempted

The role of events

There was some feeling that the events have taken precedence over considerations for the area and have perhaps become rather all-consuming.

Other actions

**PR: try to source free or discounted gazebos for next year and/or grants for equipment**

**AD: supply dimensions needed for new gazebos**

**JC: email thanks to Stephen Lamb re tea garden**

4. AOB

Susies

Agreed that we would present framed certificate of thanks and flowers on Sat 20<sup>th</sup> July (later confirmed as 1pm, meeting at Moray Place just before that).

There was also discussion about how the Society could be better “connected” locally so that businesses approach us when issues like rates or rents come up (e.g. we may have been able to talk to Network Rail about Susies). No conclusions were reached.

**PR: ask Niall to create certificate and organise frame**

**HA: buy flowers**

Community grants

NK mentioned an opportunity to bid for community grants – could we take it up? There are also grants available from the Co-op. But we have no “shovel-ready” projects in mind – something to discuss at a future meeting. Examples suggested were greening the back lanes or undertaking a parking pilot, although it has to be remembered that the back lanes are private land and the Council’s interest is likely to be for public spaces.

It may be astute to register interest with grant-makers even if we are not applying?

**PR: will talk again to Sustrans about the mural idea**

5. Next meeting

The next committee meeting will be 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019. The AGM will be in October.