

**Minutes of the Warkworth Show Committee (Executive) Meeting  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020 Held on Zoom at 7:30pm**

**Present:** Ann Burke (chairman), Sally Black, James Cox, Catherine Dowlen, Brennig Davis, Graeme Popay

**Apologies from:** Margaret Douglas

1. **Minutes** of the meeting from 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020 were accepted as a true record.  
**Matters arising** – To explore the possibility of a Children’s champion  
To discuss the future of the format and venue of the Show
2. Ann expressed her thanks for the opportunity to take on the role of Chairman, we are custodians of an important local heritage which we will strive to pass on and take the Warkworth Show forward. Ann added that she first entered the Show in 1955 as a Warkworth resident.
3. **Co-option of Executive Committee Members**
  - Graeme Popay to focus on entertainment
  - Rachel Parks as Entries Secretary
  - Carole and Ian Moyes to run the Warkworth Show Website
  - As discussed at the last meeting we would like to co-opt a Young Person’s Champion to the Committee. Nominations for this member can be put forward at the next meeting in January 2021

**The Show Committee 2020/2021**

President - John Park

Chairman - Ann Burke

Honorary Treasurer - Margaret Douglas

Honorary Secretary – Catherine Dowlen

Horticultural Committee Chairman – Dr James Cox

Industrial Committee Chairman – Sally Black

Events Committee Chairman – Brennig Davis

Co-opted Members

Entertainment – Graeme Popay

Entries Secretary - Rachel Parks

Web Masters – Carole and Ian Moyes

Children’s Champion – to be appointed

**4. 150<sup>th</sup> Warkworth Show 21<sup>st</sup> August 2021**

The possible format of the Show will obviously depend on Covid-19 restrictions next August and the ability to plan ahead. Brennig D said that we needed to look at the possible format on a sliding scale from an entirely Virtual Show as we held this year, to the full open air traditional show. It was felt that we may hold a show that is somewhere between the two ends of the scale but will not know the format until much nearer the time.

However, certain factors need to be looked into in the next few weeks.

- To consult with English Heritage to see if they have drawn up a plan about whether or not the castle will be available for hire in August 2021. Will updated regulations regarding the number of people allowed into an event and extra health and safety measures be acceptable?
- At what date would we need to book the castle and marquees? Sally B said that usually half of the castle payment is made in May. Would Covid

cancellation be included in the insurance policy or not? It was noted that many insurance policies are excluding Covid which would obviously present a financial risk which may be deemed unacceptable.

- We would need a full risk assessment to be completed at least six weeks before the Show, before the application to the police/ambulance service is put in. However, there is the possibility that significant changes may need to be made regarding safety late in the day.
- Who would the show be open to? If social distancing restrictions are still in place, do we only open it to local residents, rather than holiday visitors? It may need to be by pre booked ticket only in order to control the number of visitors. However, it was noted that 'locals' should include residents living in Amble and the surrounding villages, as some people felt that they had not been able to enter the 20120 Virtual Show as they lived outside the Warkworth Parish.
- More volunteers may be needed to control the distanced flow of visitors, but many of our regular helpers may come into the 'vulnerable' category of people who need to isolate.

**Task – Brennig D to liaise with English Heritage**

- **Other venues for holding the Show**
- The possibility of holding the Show in the school grounds was raised by the Chair of Governors and the Head Teacher. Initial thoughts are that it would be feasible to erect a marquee on the playing fields, the school toilets and hall could be used for the event. A benefit of this site is that it would encourage school children and their families (many who live in Amble) to become more involved in the Show.

**Task - Ann B and Sally B to investigate the possibility of using the school.**

- To use the two village halls and possibly the pubs and hotels, thus involving the whole village in the event. However, feedback so far has suggested that most villagers would prefer a tented show.
- Some feel that the 150<sup>th</sup> Show in 2021 should be a traditional show held in the Castle grounds.

It was felt that a decision could not be made at this stage, but the following factors need to be considered:

- Hiring and erecting the marquee does involve high costs, but it creates a good atmosphere. Social distancing and a staggered one-way system to walk around the exhibits would be fairly easy to organise and manage. The marquee could be split into two separate tents to reduce the number of visitors in each area.
- The use of pubs and hotels may be more difficult to implement social distancing.
- Car parking will need to be investigated for venues at the different sites.

**5. Gardeners' Question Time and Craft Presentations**

Although it may not be possible to hold this event in the URC Hall, it might lend itself to a Zoom presentation. We could have speakers to talk about different

gardening subjects. It might also be possible for residents to show their plants and ask the experts questions.

**Task – James Cox will discuss the feasibility of holding Gardeners’ Question Time on Zoom with the Horticultural Committee.**

- Graeme P also suggested that we could hold craft and cookery demonstrations on Zoom.

**Task - The Industrial Committee will consider craft or cookery demonstrations.**

#### **6. Any Other Business**

- Brenning D will not be available for Show Day 2021 due to a prior commitment, so a nominated event organiser will need to be appointed from the Events Committee who is present on Show Day and can make any necessary decisions.
  - Many residents are eager to help with the Show, either on Show Day or being tasked to do a particular job, but they do not all wish to be on a committee. The Show could not run without these willing helpers!
  - Ann Burke suggested that the title of The Executive Committee should be changed to The Show Committee. This would need to be agreed at the next AGM.
  - Committee Meeting minutes will be put on the Parish Noticeboards and the Warkworth Show website in future.
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- **Date of next Committee Meeting Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7:30pm**