

Thurne Village Fete 2022

Report to Parish Council

Organisation started in June 2022. Debbie Dade and I discussed the possibility of a fete. We had lost our dear friend Bill Olive last year, a stalwart of the Fete and there wasn't a lot of time. An email was sent out to meet in the pub on 20th June to make a decision. There was a good response to the email and 3 of us, William, Carol and I, actually met and the decision was made; a low profile, last minute, low cost fete to be planned in 5¹/₂ weeks. Sadly, Debbie had to drop out because of family illness shortly after this.

Publicity was the urgent task. Too late for the major Broads publications it would have to be in house work. We sent a 'save the date' flyer out to alert the village and to introduce a level of urgency and map out requests for prizes, bric a brac, stall holders and time. The road signs were updated.

Once that was underway we started the recruitment drive. Marcella and I canvassed Thurne and Jean canvassed Oby to find our stall holders. We were heartened by the response, always a smile, lots of positive answers and regret from people who were going to be away. We only received one categorical No. Sue briefed us on who and how to staff the stalls. Her advice and support were invaluable.

At the second pub meeting on 30th June (exactly one month) William, Carol and I were joined by Jean and Alan, Erny, Dave and Natalie Short and we had a team. Dave took the road signs out and William started to update the Risk Assessment

From there the fete gained its own momentum. Equipment was checked, bric-à-brac started to appear, raffle prizes were donated and the butchers were approached to provide the burgers and sausages

At this point our presence in social media was enhanced by Emma Dyble.

An update flyer was sent round to keep the fete in mind and the poster round began on barn doors, post offices, butchers, co-ops, boatyards and museums

We met again on 14th July to check publicity, stall allocation, equipment issues, health and safety, finance and on the day planning. 2 Epos machines had been acquired for contactless payment and the Wi-Fi signal checked on the field. William, who was recovering from Covid, produced a detailed plan for the Saturday set up which was invaluable.

Saturday morning set up went like clock work, there were volunteers on site to help erect the 2 marquees and lay out the stalls and car park. By midday the site was prepared and over the afternoon stall holders arrived to set up. The urn was switched on around 3:00 and the BBQ fired up

Our visitors started to arrive around 5:30 and by 6:30 we were very busy. There were glitches; one with the electricity supply from the pub and the WiFi signal wasn't always reliable. But we continued to trade while William and his team ironed the problems out.

We wound up at 8:00 and again a remarkable team of volunteers dismantled the site by 10:15.

We were informed by Erny the following week that we had made £2 259.02 after expenses deductions

This reflects the success of the fete. It was also successful as a common effort.

At the Review meeting Alan Cooke and Carol Delft expressed their gratitude on behalf of the Methodist Chapel and St. Edmunds Church for the funds we have raised. The past two years have made fund raising very difficult.

We are collating all the tasks that were undertaken into one folder which will be delivered to the Clerk for next years team to refer to.

Thanks are due to many people

- To Alan and Jean Cooke who have provided support in so many ways over the years. This year they stepped up for our last minute fete and we cannot thank them enough.
- To William whose meticulous planning is exemplary. The smooth running of the fete on the day is due to his capacity to cover most eventualities.
- To Carol who covers so many tasks, collecting and wrapping the Raffle, equipping the tea tent and then supplying strawberries and cream at the last minute! There are many other tasks that she does that you don't realise exist until you realise she has done them.
- To Erny who manages the finances in his inimitable manner. We are so grateful to him and also that he knows the rules of most of the games.
- To Sue who helped us with the stall allocation, a completely new area to me.
- To Dave and Nat who joined as and hit the ground running. They are a great addition to the team. Road signs were posted here there and everywhere
- To Marcella. We all felt Bill's absence keenly. She joined us and helped to cover the gap that he has left
- To Alison who volunteered to be our First Aider
- To Marc who supervised the increased number of cars we had this year
- To Jonathan who filled in the rabbit holes and checked the site
- To Emma Dyble who posted us on Facebook and generated some cracking Raffle Prizes
- To all the stall holders, the BBQ chefs and the Tea Tent attendants who created such a fantastic atmosphere on the playing field
- To Andrew who is always there

The Fete is a time when the village come together with a common purpose. It was great and we should do more things together

Jenny Davies 8th August 2022

Interim tasks before next March

Fete poster designed and submitted to Broadcaster Deadline November (JD)

Research and booking of music (WB)

Police booked for display (WB)