

Notice of meeting of

Shadow Executive

To: Councillors Merrett (Chair), Evans, Fraser, Horton, Kind, King, Looker, Potter and Simpson-Laing

Date: Tuesday, 23 May 2006

Time: 3.00 pm

Venue: The Guildhall

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point, Members are asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in the business on this agenda.

2. Minutes

(Pages 1 -
4)

To approve and sign the minutes of the Shadow Executive meeting held on 10 May 2006.

3. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered their wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda or an issue within the Shadow Executive's remit can do so. The deadline for registering is Monday 22nd May, at 10.00 am.

4. Executive Meeting on 30 May 2006 - Calling-in

To consider the items on the agenda for the Executive meeting to be held on 30 May 2006, and to take a decision on whether to call-in any of these items.

Please note that the reports relating to these items will be published on the Council's website on Friday, 19 May. The website address is **www.york.gov.uk** Copies of the Executive agenda and reports are also available for viewing at public libraries in York and can be obtained by telephoning Democracy Support Group on York (01904) 551088.

5. The GF 400 Celebrations

(Pages 5 -
20)

To consider a report back on the GF 400 celebrations that took place in York in November 2005.

6. Any Other Matters which the Chair decides are urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

Democracy Officer:

Name: Fiona Young

Contact details:

- Telephone – (01904) 551024
- E-mail – fiona.young@york.gov.uk

For more information about any of the following please contact the Democracy Officer responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports

Contact details are set out above.

-City of York Council

Minutes

MEETING	SHADOW EXECUTIVE
DATE	10 MAY 2006
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS POTTER (in the Chair), EVANS, FRASER, KING and SIMPSON-LAING
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLORS MERRETT, HORTON and LOOKER

214. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare at this point in the meeting any personal or prejudicial interests they might have in any of the business on the agenda. No interests were declared.

215. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

With regard to Executive agenda item 8 (Procurement of a Replacement Social Care IT System), it was agreed that there would be no discussion of the exempt information contained in the annex to the report and therefore no need for a resolution to exclude the press and public.

216. MINUTES

It was noted that Minutes 201 and 202 (Declarations of Interest and Public Participation) had been incorrectly recorded on the draft minutes circulated with the agenda. A revised set of draft minutes had since been circulated to Mmembers.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Shadow Executive held on 26 April 2006, as revised, be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

217. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

218. EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN

The Shadow Executive made the following comments on the Forward Plan at page 15 of the papers circulated for the Executive meeting to be held on 16 May 2006:

The Shadow Executive may require Officer attendance at the relevant Shadow Executive meeting/s in respect of the following items (current Executive dates in brackets):

- *Bus Information – Replacement Service (30/5)*
- *York Museums Trust Funding (30/5)*
- *Capital Strategy Document 2006-9 (30/5)*
- *Corporate Asset Management Plan (30/5)*
- *Police and Community Safety Reform (30/5)*

219. CORPORATE STRATEGY AND COUNCIL PLAN

The Shadow Executive considered a report which was listed as item 6 on the agenda for the Executive meeting on 16 May, at page 17. The report asked the Executive to approve the draft Corporate Strategy for 2006-2009 and described how the Strategy would link to, and re-shape, annual Council plans.

Having discussed the issues set out in the report, the following comments were agreed:

The Shadow Executive:

- *Is disappointed in this document, which doesn't address the lack of direction identified in corporate reviews and in fact reinforces the lack of direction in this administration. It is far too broad, lists things that the Council is already doing and doesn't prioritise. It lacks vision, direction and customer focus and therefore cannot be considered a corporate Strategy.*
- *Feels that Shadow Executive Members have had no input in developing the Improvement Statements and therefore would like the reference to the Shadow Executive in paragraph 5, page 17, to be deleted.*
- *Notes that most of the performance measures are either not outcomes, or not measurable, or both.*

RESOLVED: (i) That the Executive be invited to take the above comments into account when considering this item.

 (ii) That the item not be called in.

220. ftr TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS

The Shadow Executive considered a report which was listed as item 7 on the agenda for the Executive meeting on 16 May, at page 43. The report presented the findings of the consultation exercise for the introduction of Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) to prohibit parking on the ftr bus route along Challoners Road, Cornlands Road, Eason View and Tudor Road, and sought approval to implement the TROs.

Having discussed the issues set out in the report, the following comments were agreed:

The Shadow Executive questions the priority given to the TROs along this route, when the pressure seems to be at the Heslington Road end of the route, where residents still have to pay for parking even when displaced from parking on Heslington Road. There appears to be inequitable treatment of the people living along the ftr route.

- RESOLVED:
- (i) That the Executive be invited to take the above comments into account when considering this item.
 - (ii) That the item not be called in.

221. PROCUREMENT OF A REPLACEMENT SOCIAL CARE IT SYSTEM

The Shadow Executive considered a report which was listed as item 8 on the agenda for the Executive meeting on 16 May, at page 53. The report sought approval to move forward on contract negotiations with Deloitte / Corelogic for a new adult social care IT system, and to extend the current contract with Careworks to provide a full IT system for Children's Services.

Having discussed the issues set out in the report, the following comments were agreed:

The Shadow Executive:

- *Thanks Officers for their detailed report*
- *Notes the recommendations*
- *Hopes that the Executive has learnt from the problems experienced with previous implementations of IT systems.*

- RESOLVED:
- (i) That the Executive be invited to take the above comments into account when considering this item.
 - (ii) That the item not be called in.

222. URGENT BUSINESS – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chair raised the issue of the date of the next Shadow Executive meeting under urgent business, because there was no meeting scheduled in the Corporate Diary prior to the next Executive meeting on 30th May. This must be rectified as soon as possible but it was not feasible to set a date immediately, as not all Members were present. It was suggested that the matter be resolved by circulating an e-mail urgently after the current meeting.

- RESOLVED: That the Democratic Services Officer circulate an e-mail to all Members of the Shadow Executive as soon as possible, in order to find and fix a suitable date for the next meeting.

R POTTER, Chair

{The meeting started at 3:00 pm and finished at 3:15 pm}

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Shadow Executive

23 May, 2006

Report of the Assistant Director (Lifelong Learning and Culture)

THE GF400 CELEBRATIONS

Purpose of Report

1. The Shadow Executive has requested a report back on the GF400 celebrations that took place in November, 2005.

Background

2. The idea for the GF400 celebrations originated with [York@Large](#) during 2004. York@Large felt that the 400th anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot was something that should be marked in the birth place of Guy Fawkes and decided that this should be one of its headline events for 2005 within the City of Festivals initiative.
3. A steering group and a marketing group were formed by York@Large to take the preparations forward and a varied programme of events was put together linked to the Renaissance Project's public illuminations programme that was taking place. Events included:
 - ❖ St Peter's School – *The Gunpowder Plotters Ball*
 - ❖ Barley Hall – Guy Fawkes weekend
 - ❖ Barley Hall – *A Jacobean Evening*
 - ❖ City Centre – Illuminating the City: creative lighting schemes
 - ❖ Guy Fawkes trail by Yorkwalk
 - ❖ St Peter's School – *Fireworks, Principles and Practices*, an explosive public lecture
 - ❖ St Michael-le-Belfrey – Gunpowder Workshop for York's primary school children
 - ❖ *Remember, Remember . . . The Tragedy of the Gunpowder Terror*, a new play from Riding Lights Theatre
 - ❖ York Dungeon – Coming face-to-face with Guy Fawkes
 - ❖ York St John Fountains Lecture Theatre – *reflections on Guy Fawkes: religion and politics revisited* with Professor Mary Hickman
 - ❖ National Centre for Early Music – *Ye Traitors All: Music from the time of the Gunpowder Plot*.
 - ❖ St Peter's School - *The Desperate Remedy: Henry Gresham and the Gunpowder Plot*
 - ❖ St William's College - *Remember, Remember the 5th of November* – a public lecture by Professor James Sharpe,

Recommendations

11. The Shadow Executive is asked to:
 - ❖ Note the report, and
 - ❖ Offer advice on whether the city should seek to mount similar events in future which might attract large numbers of people into the city centre

Annexes:

1. Review of Events
2. Leaflet
3. Review of learning points

Contact Details

Author and Chief Officer responsible for the report:

Charlie Croft
Assistant Director (Lifelong Learning & Leisure)
Ext. 3371

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**Guy Fawkes 400
Review of events**

- 29 October St Peter's School – *The Gunpowder Plotters Ball* – commemorating the infamous deeds of one of the school's most famous Old Peterites, the school hosted a glittering event featuring live music, a Jacobean Fayre and a firework display. **862 people attended this sold out event.**
- 29/30 October Barley Hall – Guy Fawkes weekend. Tudor players Sir Robert Cecil's men brought their own their unique brand of living history to Barley Hall with their new play on the Guy Fawkes story. **1300 attendances.**
- 29 October Barley Hall – *A Jacobean Evening* – a candlelit performance of the Guy Fawkes story from Sir Robert Cecil's men plus music from the time with the minstrels from Trouvere. **45 people attended this sold out event.**
- 29 Oct/5 Nov City Centre – York Renaissance Project – Illuminating the City: creative lighting schemes throughout the city centre. **Estimated attendances were 38,000 (inc. the night of 5th November) plus at least 10,000 during the day-time on 5th November.**
- 30 October, 4/5 November Guy Fawkes trail by Yorkwalk – a guided walk exploring the (several!) birthplaces & haunts of one of York's most famous sons. Museum Garden gates. **204 attendances.**
- 31 October St Peter's School – *Fireworks, Principles and Practices*, an explosive public lecture presented by Kimbolton Fireworks' very own Godfather of Fireworks, the Rev'd Ron Lancaster. **300 attended the lecture.**
- 31 October, 2/7/9 November St Michael-le-Belfrey – Gunpowder Workshop by the pupils of St Peter's School for York's primary school children. **All were fully booked with 180 attendances. In addition over 1,000 people came to see the Parish Register with the entry of the birth of Guido Fawkes.**
- 1- 5 November *Remember, Remember . . . The Tragedy of the Gunpowder Terror* a new play from Riding Lights Theatre, at the Friargate Theatre. **Sold out for 6 performances (inc. one matinée). 546 attendances.**
- 1-6 November York Dungeon – Coming face-to-face with Guy Fawkes and hearing the story behind the treason, gunpowder and plot. This was not for the nervous. **Over 1600 attendances.**
- 3 November York St John Fountains Lecture Theatre – *reflections on Guy Fawkes: religion and politics revisited* with Professor Mary Hickman. **130 attendances.**
- 3 November National Centre for Early Music – *Ye Traitors All: Music from the time of the Gunpowder Plot*. York Early Music Band 'The York Waits' performed popular music from 1605, with narrated accounts of the life and times of the plotters

presented by broadcaster Tim Healey. **178 attendances out of 180 capacity.**

- 3 November St Peter's School - *The Desperate Remedy: Henry Gresham and the Gunpowder Plot*, an entertaining evening in the company of author Martin Stephen, whose novel is an exciting and delightful re-telling of the Gunpowder Plot. **Because of illness, Martin Stephen was unable to attend and his place was taken at short notice by Jim Sharpe (see next item). 175 attended**
- 4 November St William's College - *Remember, Remember the 5th of November* – a public lecture by Professor James Sharpe, Professor of History at York, and Professor Lisa Jardine, Queen Mary's, University of London, based around a new book by Jim Sharpe and published by Profile Books in October. **Full house – 150 attendances.**
- 4 November St Peter's School - *Gunpowder Plot Festival Concert*, performed by an orchestra and chorus of over 200. Programme included Handel's *Music for the Royal Fireworks*, *Hallelujah Chorus* and many more favourites. **400 attendances.**
- 5 November Guy Fawkes 400 – City Centre: a celebration of the 400th anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot in the home town of its most well-known conspirator. Entertainments included lighting projects and projections, a symphony with church bells, brass instruments and percussion, street entertainments and a skyline fireworks display. **Attendances were estimated at 80,000 in and around the city centre area.**
- 5 November St Michael-le-Belfrey - Yorkshire Bach Choir: *Gunpowder, Treason & Plot* music and words for 5 November 1605. **280 attendances.**
- 5/6 November English Heritage at Clifford's Tower – joining a costumed duo and witnessing the story of the 1605 traitors, including Catesby and Fawkes, in the real story of the infamous plot. **973 attendances.**

Total attendances: 126,323.

Media coverage

Kay Hyde, York Tourism Bureau, has analysed the media coverage generated for the GF400 programme. The calculation is based on estimating what the coverage would have cost as advertising space. This gives us a value of £125,000, with a reach of 5 million readers.

On top of this there was also significant, separate coverage of the Renaissance: Illuminating York programme, with the lighting of the West End of The Minster being the main feature. We do not have a value figure for this coverage. For both GF400 and Renaissance, coverage was local, regional, national and international.

The visitor and tourist legacy is likely to be high as we are only aware of one negative article outside of York – in the Yorkshire Post, although the accompanying colour photo would have had a greater, positive impact.

Economic benefits

As indicated above, the profile of York has been positively promoted widely. This should have a knock-on effect for future visitors/tourists.

The immediate economic benefit has been calculated by Economic Development as a potential spend of £2m on food, drink, evening entertainment and travel.

Credits

Thanks are due to the following who brought the programme together and made it happen.

Steering group: Jackie Pyrah (St Peter's School), Mark Brayshaw (Rocking Horse Promotions), Len Davies, Ian Tempest, Liz Topi and Peter Boardman (City of York Council for York@Large), plus assistance from Jeni Farnhill (St Michael-le-Belfrey) and Rory McCarthy (CYC).

Marketing group: Matt Beer (CYC), Hilary Layton (University of York), Jackie Pyrah (St Peter's School) and Kay Hyde (York Tourism Bureau).

Programme: all of the entertainers, artists, lecturers plus St Peter's School/Simon Marriott and Jackie Pyrah, Barley Hall/Gill Page, GF Trail leaflet and Renaissance/Rory McCarthy and the several venues, Yorkwalk's Guy Fawkes Trail/Warwick Burton, St Michael-le-Belfrey/Jeni Farnhill, Riding Lights Theatre Company/all of the company, York Dungeon/Helen Douglas, York St John/Dianne Willcocks, York Waits/Tim Bayley, National Centre for Early Music/Delma Tomlin, University of York/Hilary Layton, English Heritage-Clifford's Tower/Sue Sadler, Yorkshire Bach Choir/Peter Seymour, street entertainment/Len Davies and Kirsty Halliday (CYC), Bells, Brass and Percussion Symphony/Simon Desorgher plus the bellringers/Bell captains, conductors from the University of York Music Department, Brass Bands/Shepherd Building Group, Golden Rail and Ebor, City Screen, Viking Moat House Hotel, Water Tower/Ian McAndrew of the Helmsley Group and Kimbolton Fireworks/Darryl Fleming and Simon Page.

Event management and infrastructure support: Peter Boardman, Len Davies, Kirsty Halliday, Nicola Booth, Liz Topi, Audra Cree, Charlie Croft, Gill Cooper (all CYC), AP Security/Andrew Stevens, Events Safety Advisory Group/Dick Haswell and colleagues from the emergency services, Network Management/Ian Symonds, Kippa Matthews for the stills photography and Rose Kent and Ed Torsney (Cube Media) for the filming

. . . and, of course, our funders: Illuminate, Urban Cultural Programme and City of York Council.

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Timetable of Events

2.30pm - 6.15pm

Street entertainment throughout the city centre will be provided by national street entertainers...

Markmark - an international touring performance company and winners of the Street Entertainers of the Year... Guaranteeing a spectacle of chains, padlocks, explosions and stunts!

Gandini Jugglers - the world's leading choreographed juggling group. Illuminated Juggling Performances include glow balls, clubs, rings. After dark, the shows are like visual fireworks, sorbets of colours creating sparkling spirographic patterns in the air.

Bread & Butter Theatre Co. - Multi-talented performers with a consistently friendly approach, they'll offer variety throughout the afternoon. "A little oasis of hilarity and bright sunny lycra".

"Wrongsized" - bring their beautiful 'Luminous' stiltwalking characters who will mesmerise you with a multi-colour swirl of light, music and movement.

Urban Canvas - pavement artists with a fully interactive approach involving as many people as possible in creating large scale works of art - in Coppergate.

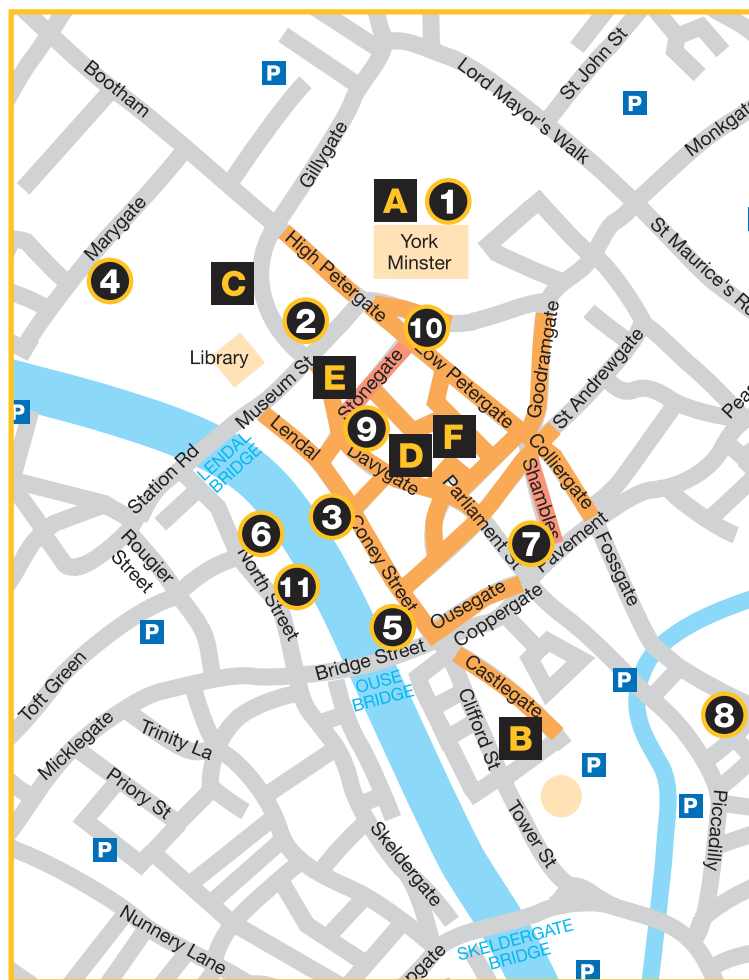
All this and plenty more national and local wandering entertainers too!...

From Dusk

Renaissance: Illuminating York From dusk York will be dramatically illuminated by the creativity of artists using the most advanced technologies in one of the most historic settings in Europe. The dazzling centrepiece will be York Minster's transformation by a temporary installation that will paint the western façade in breathtaking colours. For more info visit www.renaissanceyork.org.uk.

Permanent and temporary installations will illuminate the following sites:

- A The Heart of Yorkshire**
York Minster West Front, Patrice Warrener
- B Night Window**
St Mary's Church, Castlegate, Sian Emmison and Vicky Long
- C Weather Patterns**
York Art Gallery, 100P.Ph
- D The Square**
Davygate (next to Café Nero), KMA Creative Technology with sound artist Damian Murphy
- E You Are Here**
Blake Street (House & Son window), George Saxon and Mark Fell
- F Gateway to the Quarter**
Finkle Street (opp VJ's artbar), Bright White



5.30pm - 5.45pm

Skyline Fireworks Display visible from all around the city centre. Fireworks will be fired 300-600 feet into the air and will be visible from most points around the city and beyond (weather permitting!)

From 4.30 - 5.30

Bells, Brass & Percussion Symphony

To hear the symphony at its best, follow the enclosed map in a walk around the city. Start at any church and walk in either direction from church to church. In this way you will hear your own unique version of the symphony.

Many of the working Bell Towers of York will be played, from the mighty 32 bells of York Minster to churches with single bells. The churches taking part are:

- 1 York Minster:** Ring of fourteen Taylor Bells - Tenor 3 Tons; eleven Chiming Bells; Great Peter 10.75 Tons and six Quarter Bells
- 2 St. Wilfrid's RC, Duncombe Place:** Ring of ten Gillet and Johnstone Bells
- 3 St. Martin-le-Grand, Coney street:** Ring of eight Taylor Bells
- 4 St. Olave's, Marygate:** Ring of six cast by George Dalton of York in 1789
- 5 St. Michael's Spurriergate:** Ring of six 15th Century Bells most of which came from the Minster in 1765
- 6 All Saints, North Street:** Ring of ten Taylor Bells
- 7 All Saints, Pavement:** Three Bells
- 8 St. Denys, Walmgate:** Three Bells
- 9 St. Helen's, St. Helen's Square:** One Bell
- 10 St. Michael-le-Belfry, High Petergate:** One Bell
- 11 Viking Moat House Hotel:** Percussion played on the pontoon afloat on the river

Bells, Brass & Percussion Symphony

Composer: Llorenç Barber

Bands: will include members of Shepherd Building Group Band; Golden Rail, Ebor and others

Conductors: Students from the University of York Music department

Percussionist: Paul Burwell

Music director: Simon Desorgher

The York City Symphony of Bells and Brass was created by Spanish composer Llorenç Barber and first performed in 2000. We proudly present the symphony in a new incarnation.

The Bells and Brass ensembles of York represent the forces of order and establishment sounding across the city while the anarchy of Guy Fawkes is represented by percussion, smoke and fire on the river between Ouse and Lendal bridges. The percussion is created by Paul Burwell who was a founder member of the famous Bow Gamelan Ensemble described in the press as "a cross between a painting by Turner and Apocalypse Now".

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Guy Fawkes 400, York

29 October – 5 November 2005

29 Oct, St Peter's School

The Gunpowder Plotters Ball

sold out

29-30 Oct, 10am-4pm

Guy Fawkes Weekend at Barley Hall

29 Oct, 6.30pm, Barley Hall

A Jacobean Evening

29 Oct - 5 Nov, from dusk, York City Centre

Renaissance: Illuminating York with architectural lighting and public art projections

30 Oct, 2.15pm, Museum Gardens gates

Guy Fawkes Trail with Yorkwalk

31 Oct, 7pm, St Peter's School

Fireworks Principles and Practices with Revd Ron Lancaster, Kimbolton Fireworks

31 Oct & 2/7/9 Nov, St Michael-le-Belfrey

Guy Fawkes Workshops for York's primary schools

fully booked

1-5 Nov, 7.30pm, The Friargate Theatre

Riding Lights Theatre Company presents:

"Remember, Remember... The Tragedy of the Gunpowder Terror"

1 - 4 Nov, 10.30am - 4.30pm

and 5 - 6 Nov, 10.00am - 5.00pm, York Dungeon

Come face-to-face with Guy Fawkes and hear the story behind the treason, gunpowder and plot. Not for the nervous.

3 Nov, 6.30pm, York St John Fountains Lecture Theatre

"Reflections on Guy Fawkes: religion and politics revisited" with Professor Mary Hickman.

3 Nov, 7.30pm, National Centre for Early Music

Ye Traitors All - Music from the time of the Gunpowder Plot with the York Waits

3 Nov, 7pm, St Peter's School

"The Desperate Remedy: Henry Gresham and the Gunpowder Plot" with author Martin Stephen

4 Nov, 6pm, St William's College

"Remember, Remember the fifth of November" with Professors James Sharpe and Lisa Jardine

4 Nov, 7.30pm, Museum Gardens gates

Guy Fawkes Trail with Yorkwalk

4 Nov, 7.45pm, St Peter's School

Gunpowder Plot Festival Concert – programme includes Handel's Music for the Royal Fireworks

5 Nov, 10.30am/6pm, Museum Gardens gates

Guy Fawkes Trail with Yorkwalk

5-6 Nov, between 11am - 3.30pm, Clifford's Tower

Gunpowder, Treason & Plot – the real story of the infamous plot

5 Nov, 7.30pm, St Michael-le-Belfrey

Yorkshire Bach Choir - Gunpowder, Treason & Plot – Music & words for 5 November 1605

5 Nov, from 2.30pm, York city centre

Guy Fawkes 400 Festivities - a celebration of the 400th anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot in the home town of its most well-known conspirator. See inside for full details.

**For full details see
www.guy-fawkes.org.uk
or call 01904 621756**



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Guy Fawkes 400
Review of 5th November 2005 programme for ESAG

1. Activities of the day

Activity	Went well	Didn't go well	Learning points
Street entertainers	All happened and were well received. There were no traffic or crowd control issues. Acts which performed after the fireworks helped retain people in the city centre and lessen the people leaving at the same time.	Large crowds at Minster meant that one act had to be relocated.	Acts add to the overall feel of an event and spread the attraction around the city centre area and help crowd dispersal.
Bells, Brass and Percussion Symphony	The performance went well and was well received. The presence of the Fire Service river craft was of major benefit for the river based element. There were no traffic or crowd control issues.	Crowds didn't follow the suggested route and therefore weren't as widely spread as planned.	Pyrotechnics on the river were visible from outside the river area and some people went to the walkways believing them to be the main display.
Renaissance: Illuminating York	Incredibly popular, especially the Minster. Extensive media coverage gave York a high national profile.	Panels at the Art Gallery didn't work. Extensive media coverage attracted far higher numbers into the Minster area than planned.	Gear arrangements to the level of local, regional and national publicity planned.
Fireworks	A highly successful and safe launch.	<p>The secrecy of the site and the requirement not to suggest viewing sites meant that people did not know where best to stand.</p> <p>Despite fireworks being described as "skyline" but some people still expected to see a full display and consequently were disappointed.</p> <p>Extensive national media coverage attracted far higher numbers, especially to see the Minster than planned. In particularly crowded places, especially Duncombe Place, some people couldn't get to a place with a view of the</p>	<p>Fireworks should not in future be fired from a secret location.</p> <p>Greater clarity is needed about what people can expect to see at any event.</p> <p>A system is needed to reassess likely crowds in the light of national PR in the run up to a future event so plans can be adjusted accordingly.</p>

		<p>fireworks. Some people felt unsafe in the large crowds.</p> <p>The sheer number of people caused roads and bridges to be blocked to traffic for about 40 mins.</p>	<p>Road closures are needed at key points in the city centre if big crowds are to be handled safely.</p>
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2. Event planning

Time line	Went well	Didn't go well	Learning points
October 2004	Background work starts on what starts as a 'Festival of Light' and eventually becomes GF400. This includes consideration of firing sites.	The late start, geared to the collapse of plans for a 'tester' fireworks display on 5.11.2004, hamstrings plans to raise corporate sponsorship funding.	Start earlier on fundraising.
January 2005	Sponsorship work starts.	No funds secured, mainly because corporate funds are determined at least one year earlier.	Start earlier on fundraising.
May	Bid for £50,000 funding to the Urban Cultural Programme.	Initial bid unsuccessful, but £40,000 secured in July.	
May/June/July	Seven firework companies make site visits to discuss several options.		Better to do when level of funding known.
July	Kimbolton Fireworks selected. Firing site work has now to be geared to what is affordable – a single site rather than the triangulation planned.		
August	Discussions on firing sites lead to proposal to fire from Clifford's Tower (two options), still with the back-up of St Peter's School. After site visits on 25 th August, ESAG asked to convene to discuss our plans.		
1 st September	Steering group agrees reduced programme. Internal discussion rules out Clifford's Tower.	Much work wasted, but at least fallback has been in place since October 2004.	Get earlier clarity on what is/is not wanted.
14 th September	ESAG meeting		
15 th September onwards	Discussion starts on the issues raised by ESAG. All are resolved to the satisfaction of the event organisers following discussions/advice from consultees.	Because of various factors – the changing nature and timing of the programme, delayed risk assessments from some performers and the email discussions on some safety elements – the event manual is delayed.	The nature of an event – and its potential appeal - needs to be a significant part of the process.

1 st November	A meeting is convened by Bill Woolley in response to	With the exception of the delay to the	Event manual to be in place
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	concerns raised by the Police.	event manual and the level of stewarding at the firing site, all of the issues had been aired at, and followed up after, the ESAG meeting and, the organisers believed, resolved.	earlier. Any remaining concerns should be directed through the ESAG Chair.
3 rd November	Event Manual finalised		
5 th November	The firing site was well-managed and the firing went ahead safely and without interruption. (Additional stewards were provided, in anticipation of encroachment into the exclusion zone). Despite the massive influx of people in the city centre, there were no reported incidents requiring hospital attention. 99.9% of people behaved responsibly, even when filling the roadways at Duncombe Place, High Petergate, Museum Street and on Lendal and Ouse Bridges. Stewards at Bootham Bar and the Duncombe Place junction took safety actions to prevent conflict between vehicles and pedestrians.	Pedestrians, rather than the potential stopping drivers, blocked the highway. Because of the very high numbers, stewards were unable to manage crowd control in the Minster/Lendal bridge area effectively, although additional stewards, under the circumstances, would simply have increased the numbers. The secrecy about the firing site undoubtedly allowed the display to go ahead but increased the numbers in the city centre.	Gear arrangements to the level of local, regional and national publicity planned. Fireworks=crowds. National PR=crowds. Double the national PR=double crowd. Road closures needed to the extent of sealing off the northern end of the city centre. Firing zone to be sealed off. Or, raise enough funding to hold a staged display on the Knavesmire.