

COMMUNITY EXHIBITION SPACE: AVEBURY CHAPEL STATUS REPORT 20 JANUARY 2022

1. The community exhibition space will be created under licence from the National Trust. A formal request to APC to sign this licence is being made.

The essential details are:

- APC to have use of the space for three years
 - Licence to be terminable by either party with reasonable notice
 - APC to pay a peppercorn fee if demanded
 - APC to meet costs of heat and light (estimated by the National Trust to be in the region of £300/year) and cleaning
 - The National Trust to be responsible for repairs and maintenance.
2. The working title for the space is 'A Living Landscape.' So far six organisations have committed to exhibit in the chapel. The organisations are:
 - Avebury Community Orchard
 - Avebury Society
 - Campaign for the Protection of Rural England
 - Friends of the Ridgeway
 - Marlborough Farmers Space for Nature
 - Wiltshire Museum

Each has submitted responses to a questionnaire asking for an outline of their proposed exhibition.¹

3. The next step is to have a meeting with them to decide how best to fit everything together. We need in addition to agree how to ensure that there is at least one representative of an exhibitor present when the space is open to the public. We hope to have this meeting in February.
4. The following four organisations have expressed strong interest but have not yet committed:
 - Avebury and Stonehenge Archaeology Research Group
 - North West Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
 - Visit Wiltshire

¹ The questionnaire is attached as Annex 1.

- World Heritage Site Coordination Unit.
5. Two other organisations have said that they would like to display posters etc:
 - The National Trust
 - Sainsbury Institute - with a focus on stone circles constructed during Japan's Jomon era (14,000-300 BCE).
 6. The commitment and interest described here suggest that the project should continue. Also the fact that there are four organisations expressing interest will permit rotation of the exhibits (subject to exhibitors' approval). This is because there is likely to be room for only six or seven exhibitors at any one time. Hence even frequent visitors to Avebury will find something new on display. Saturday 30 April is the proposed opening date.
 7. A formal request will be made to APC to draw down £500 of the £1,000 allocated in FY2022. This should be sufficient to meet the energy and cleaning costs for the first year. Additional funds are being sought. If they are secured, we will be able to enhance the space. We may also be able to support organisations lacking their own funds for exhibitions.
 8. Once opened, the community exhibition space will evolve. New organisations will want to become exhibitors; founder exhibitors may fall away. The overall theme may change from 'A Living Landscape' to something else. But if we want to continue this project, we need now to set up the community exhibition space and its ways of working as described above.