

Notes of the Meeting of the Town Council's Community Development Working Group held on 16 June 2009, in the Council Chamber, Cannards Grave Road, Shepton Mallet.

Present: Chairman - Councillor Jeannette Marsh(JM)

Members - Cllrs Bartlett(JB), Champion (RC), Height (BH), Inchley (CI), Lockey (CL), Lovell (ML), Marsh (TM) and Shearn (NS). Mr Michael Perry (Shepton 21).

The Chairman opened the meeting, welcoming members and newly elected member Cllr Bente Height followed by a brief on Health & Safety requirements including emergency evacuation and assembly point procedures. Mobile phones were requested to be switched off or to silent mode.

Note CD1. 09/10 Apologies for absence – Cllrs Kinison, Marvin(work) and Robinson.

Resolve; Proposed by Cllr CL, Seconded by Cllr JB that the apologies are accepted and recorded.

Note CD2. 09/10 Members Declarations of Interests

Cllr Inchley decalred a Personal and Non-Prejudicial Interest as a member of Shepton 21.

Resolve; that the above Declarations are recorded.

Note CD3. 09/10 Notes & Actions Points of the Previous Meeting

The Notes of the Community Development Working Group meeting held on the 14 April 2009 were considered for accuracy and content.

Resolve: Proposed by Cllr ML, Seconded by Cllr CL by a unanimous vote that the Notes of the Meeting of the Community Development Working Group held on the 14 April 2009 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Note CD4. 09/10 Matters Arising from the Notes / Action Points

a)	Disabled Access within the Town Centre	Cllr RC and JB reported a very positive meeting with officers at MDC which indicated that even SCC may wish to assist where possible. Unfortunately following the meeting no further reponse had been received.
Resolve;		That the matter is noted.

Note CD5. 09/10 Partnership Matters

a)	Shepton 21	Notes of the meeting held with Shepton 21 Representative on Monday 1 June 2009 were previously distributed to all Cllrs with the Agenda (attached to these notes). Mr Perry provided an update to current initiatives and projects within Shepton 21 with proposals to expand the Town Market into High Street South but this may be delayed until March / April 2010. He confirmed that the Roman Soldier Sculpture had been shelved due to funding being withdrawn by a private sector sponsor. Several other possible projects were discussed. It was agreed that Shepton 21 should be a standing item on the Community Development Working Group agendas.
Resolve;		Proposed by Cllr JM that the matter is noted and a further meeting is held with Shepton 21 with Cllrs JM, CI and NS were to attend. Later in the meeting it was proposed that the meeting should be arranged for 4pm on Monday 20 July 2009 in SMTC Offices. Both Michael Perry and Zena Pollard from Shepton 21 are to be invited to attend. Mr Michael Perry then left the meeting.

b)	Twinning Association	Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 14 April & 13 May 2009 received. Civic Reception Monday 20 July in Peter Street Rooms for 7.30pm start, still to finalise were glasses and drinks. All Cllrs were invited to the function.
Resolve;		Proposed by Cllr JM that the matter is noted and the Clerk to investigate hire of glasses and suitable drinks to purchase.
c)	SCC A303 Highway	Highways Agency service provider InterRoute provided information as to reduce full closure of the A303 from Willoughby Hedge to Mere from 14 weeks down to 5 weeks and in addition there is a need for 9 weeks of overnight traffic signals and a further 5 weeks approximately of overnight closures. The Clerk provided the latest update from a letter received dated 12 June 2009 which invited a representative of the Council to attend a consultation meeting to be held at Wincanton Racecourse on Thursday 25 June from 10am to 2pm.
Resolve;		Proposed by Cllr JM by a unanimous vote that the matter is noted and Cllr Bente Height volunteered to attend on behalf of the Council.
d)	Street Lighting Provision	Response letter received from Phillip Bennett, Assistant Highways Lighting Engineer SCC with regard to General Lighting Repairs and Douglas Drive, Shepton Mallet. The outcome was that SCC expected the Town Council to provide the capital funding for additional street light. Cllr CI considered that the requirement was now quite clear, the need had been identified and supported by the Police and the matter should be fully considered and resolved by Council.
Resolve;		Proposed by Cllr CI, Seconded by Cllr RC, by a vote of 8 For and 1 Abstention that the matter is placed on the Council agenda for the next meeting to be held on the 7 July. Prior to the meeting Cllr CI is to investigate the matter directly with the residents concerned.
e)	Shepton Mallet AFC	John Hugill raises concern as to lack of progress with MDC to securing an unconditional long term lease at The Playing Fields, West Shepton previously being supported and pushed by ex Town Cllr Matthew Ellis. The Clerk provided an update having had discussions with District Cllr Ellis, the Clerk had also sent an email to Stuart Brown of MDC enquiring an update to the matter but without response to-date.
Resolve;		Proposed by Cllr CI, Seconded by Cllr CL, by a unanimous vote that a meeting is held with Shepton Mallet AFC Management Committee in the first instance to find out the actual facts. The Clerk is to arrange a fact finding meeting with the Shepton Mallet AFC Management Committee after 4pm on a weekday to which Cllrs CI, CL and NS are to attend and Cllr Parham is also to be invited. The Clerk is also to write to MDC and enquire progress and results of their Leisure Review as it was understood that the draft findings were to be provided to the Town Council when available around January 09 and that the final Report would be published around July 2009. This was to be copied to their Portfolio Holder Cllr Ron Forrest. To date no information had been provided apart from the initial meeting held with their consultants.
f)	Policing Plan 2009-2012	Summary and Policing Pledge details received.
Resolve;		Proposed by Cllr JM that the matter is noted.
g)	CCTV	Minutes of User Group meeting held 21 May 2009 had been previously distributed to all Cllrs.

	Resolve;	Proposed by Cllr JM that the matter is noted.
h)	Parish Information Bulletin	MDC confirmed that the new format Bulletin will have one hard copy provided to each Parish Council and is readily available on their website to view or print if needed. The Clerk confirmed he would notify Cllrs by email when each issue was received as a reminder.
	Resolve;	Proposed by Cllr JM that the matter is noted.

Note CD6. 09/10 Community & Leisure Portfolio Matters – Cllr Judy Bartlett

a)	Community Grants – Current Budget £1000	<p>Shepton Mallet Bowls Club – Request for £200 towards CCTV System currently being installed.</p> <p>Mid Somerset Show – Request for sponsorship to the event.</p>
	Resolve;	<p>Proposed by Cllr RC, Seconded by Cllr JM, by a vote of 8 For and 1 Against that it is recommended to the next meeting of Council that a Community Grant of £100 is awarded to the Shepton Mallet Bowls Club.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr JB, Seconded by Cllr RC, by a vote of 8 For and 1 Against that it is recommended to the next meeting of Council that a Grant of £250 is awarded to the Mid Somerset Show as Revenue Funding and that the monies be taken from the current Community Projects budget heading. Acknowledgement of this support is requested within the Shows publications.</p>
b)	Community Grant	SM Air Training Corps request consideration of a grant to assist with a project to purchase light weight stacking tables at a cost of approximately £1000.
	Resolve;	Proposed by Cllr ML, Seconded by Cllr CL, by a unanimous vote that it is recommended to the next meeting of Council that a Community Grant of £100 is awarded to the SM Air Training Corps.
c)	CCTV Annual Funding	MDC advised as per SLA uplift by RPI of 2.798% on £6,626-62 gives a charge this year of £6,812-03. Current budget £6,900. The Clerk confirmed that an invoice had now been received.
	Resolve;	Proposed by Cllr RC, Seconded by Cllr ML, by a unanimous vote that it is recommended to the next meeting of Council that the invoice for the current year is approved and paid.
d)	Shepton Mallet Lido	<p>Avalon Leisure inform pilot to run for Adult Only Swimmers every Wednesday during June from 1100 to 1200 hrs at the Lido facility. Visitor numbers will be recorded per session and then also per day to allow comparison of session popularity.</p> <p>Avalon Leisure also provided update to bookings made during current year from, 22x SM-Swimming Club – 3x SM-Autism Group – 2x SM-Young Peoples Club and 2x Private Parties.</p>
	Resolve;	Proposed by Cllr CL by a unanimous vote that the matter is noted.
e)	Shepton Mallet In Bloom	Requests for annual grant received, with payment to be made by Council 7/7. Following discussions with Roger Eddy concern as to no confirmation as to grant for current year. Orders for baskets reduced and estimate budget indicating loss of £2,135 in current year. Roger Eddy still considers that the financial module and business plan needs urgent review. It was understood that MDC may well support by way of a £1000 grant for this current year but may state that this would not be the case in future years.

	Resolve;	Proposed by Cllr CI, Seconded by Cllr RC, by a unanimous vote that it is recommended to the next meeting of Council that the precept budget of £2,300 is approved and paid to Shepton Mallet In Bloom as Grant Support for this current year and that the Council should hold off direct involvement other than provision of future grant support but that it works with the Shepton Mallet In Bloom and other stakeholders to find a sustainable way forward. The matter is to be added to the list of matters to discuss with Shepton 21 as resolved previously at this meeting.
f)	Shepton Mallet Carnival	Shepton Mallet Carnival Limited requested formal support of the Council for endorsement for them to obtain Charity Status. Cllr ML considered that they be advised to check the requirements and possible restrictions prior to proceeding. Some discussions took place regarding the possible future restrictions not to permit floats to move from one Town to the other during hours of darkness and that meetings between the Carnivals, Highways and the Police were to take place shortly.
	Resolve;	Proposed by Cllr NS, Seconded by Cllr RC, by a unanimous vote that the Town Council write a letter to the Charity Commissioners to fully and formally support the Shepton Mallet Carnival Limited proposals to obtain Charity Status and to inform them the high regard that Shepton Mallet Carnival Limited are held in by the Town Council and indeed the whole Community.
g)	Somerset Youth Network	The Somerset Charity requested information as to possible venues to take a a project action team of 11-25 year olds to organise and run a youth art gallery, that would involve local young artists.
	Resolve;	Proposed by Cllr NS that the Project Team be informed of the contact details to the Baptist Church (Rev Graham Dart) as a possible venue for their proposed youth art gallery within the Town.
h)	Dobbies	Cllr JM informed of an open invitation to all Cllrs to a Friends and Family evening to be held this Thursday at the new store which was due to open on the following Sunday and handed out tickets to those wishing to attend.
	Resolve;	That the matter is noted.
i)	Fencing to boundary of Anglo Trading Estate	Cllr RC raised concern as to lack of progress and response from Haskins regarding this boundary work which had an area fenced off which halted landscape works to the area where overgrown laurels had been recently removed. The Clerk had sent emails and letters without response. Cllr CL informed the Mr Drew Foley of Haskins was aware of Councillors concerns and current funds were limited and that they were looking to Brothers Drinks to fund. Cllr RC considered that any further undue delay would imply that local residents would lose their support for the works.
	Resolve;	Proposed by Cllr JM that the matter is noted. The Clerk is to write a further letter to Haskins reminding them of the concerns and requesting once again a response and action plan. A copy of the letter is to be sent to Cllr Parham for info and also to support by chasing directly.
i)	Armed Forces Day	Cllr Lockey confirmed that a photocall and flying of a special flag would take place at 10.30am next Monday 22 June to which representatives from the Town Council, Mendip District Council, the Royal British Legion and others were to attend. The flag would then remain flown until Saturday 27 June 2009 and that this was a national event.
	Resolve;	Proposed by Cllr NS that the matter is noted and he would attend and represent the Town Council in the absence of the Chairman.

j)	Crematorium	Cllr CL raised concern as to the MDC decision to grant planning permission for the proposed Crematorium at Old Wells Road without any set pre-conditions. He considered the decision to be a farce.
Resolve;		That the matter is noted.

Note CD7. 09/10 Regeneration Portfolio Matters – Cllr Janet Kinison

a)	Regen' Matters	There was no update available due to the absence of Cllr Kinison. Some discussion took place for the requirement of communications between the Town Council and other various stakeholders regarding regeneration matters.
Resolve;		That the matter is noted and that the Clerk obtains MDCs current structure listing and officer's responsibilities and contact numbers for distribution to all Cllrs.

Note CD8. 09/10 Agenda for the next meeting – Tuesday 18 August 2009

The Chairman thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

Cllr J. M. Marsh
Chairman

Signature; _____
_____ / _____ / **_2009**