

# Notes of the Meeting of the Town Council's Community Development Working Group held on 18 August 2009, in the Committee Room, Cannards Grave Road, Shepton Mallet.

---

**Present:** Chairman - Councillor Neil Shearn(NS)

Members - Cllrs Bartlett(JB), Lockey (CL), Lovell (ML), Marsh T(TM), Marvin (DM) and K. Taylor (KT). Zena Pollard, Michael Perry and Adrienne Ruiz(Shepton 21). Claire Sully(Digital Arts Festival).

The Chairman opened the meeting, welcoming members, invited guests and provided 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 CD8. 09/10 Apologies for absence** – Cllrs Champion, Inchley and Marsh J(all family).

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

---

**Note CD9. 09/10 Members Declarations of Interests** – None declared.

---

**Note CD10. 09/10 Notes & Actions Points of the Previous Meeting**

The Notes of the Community Development Working Group Meeting held on the 16 June 2009 were considered for accuracy and content.

**Resolve:** Proposed by Cllr JB, Seconded by Cllr ML by a unanimous vote that the Notes of the Meeting of the Community Development Working Group held on the 16 June 2009 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

---

**Note CD11. 09/10 Matters Arising from the Notes / Action Points**

<b>a)</b>	<b>Anglo Estate Boundary with Commercial Road</b>	Members enquired if there had been any response from Drew Foley(Haskins) or if Cllr Parham had been able to chase matters up. The Clerk informed that no response had been received following his letter of the 18 June 2009.
	<b>Resolve;</b>	Proposed by Cllr JB by a unanimous vote that the Clerk chase the matter and to obtain a response from Drew Foley of Haskins, Cllr Parham and if needed Somerset County Council.

---

**Note CD12. 09/10 Partnership Matters**

<b>a)</b>	<b>SHOP</b>	Adrienne Ruiz a volunteer to Shepton 21 provided a 15 minute presentation to their shop (Shepton Mallet Older People) proposals which looked to provide a forum in the Academy building on Saturday 19 September from 2pm to 5pm to establish the current perception of the Town in the eyes of its older people (over 50 years) and to investigate what they would wish to see in the future. Shepton 21 requested support of the Town Council to identify possible partners, to assist with communications with residents and obtaining feedback, and to identify funding both from the Town Council and other sources. At this stage they sought the support and partnership of the Town Council (report attached to these Notes).
	<b>Resolve;</b>	Proposed by Cllr DM by a unanimous vote that Shepton 21 are invited to provide a detailed presentation and proposals to the next meeting of the Council on Tuesday 1 September 2009.

<b>b)</b>	<b>Digital Arts Festival</b>	Claire Sully provided a 30 minute presentation to the proposed Shepton Mallet Digital Arts Festival programmed for the 26 October to the 31 October 2009. This included an Introduction, an overview of the Arts Festival, a summary of the key aims and objectives, a festival programme along with projected budgets and contact details. They were seeking the support of the Town Council to the project and possible partnership funding as they currently needed to raise a further £10,000 (report attached to these Notes).
<b>Resolve;</b>		Proposed by Cllr TM, Seconded by Cllr JB by a unanimous vote that it is recommended to Council at the next meeting on 1 September 2009 that the Shepton Mallet Digital Arts Festival should be fully supported where possible. The Chairman thanked Claire Sulley for a very interesting and enthusiastic presentation. Claire Sulley and representatives from Shepton 21 then left the meeting.
<b>c)</b>	<b>Shepton Mallet Youth Football Club</b>	An update was received from John Hugill confirming that the extended lease had now been completed with MDC and their funding bid to Football Stadia had been approved with a 50% grant which awarded them £31,125 subject to conditions that the Club had to raise the other 50% (£31,125), the work had to start within 6 months and had to complete within 12 months failing this they would loose the grant funding. The Football Club confirmed that they were confident that they could raise £20,000 over the next 3 months but requested possible financial support from the Town Council to assist the shortfall of some £11,000.
<b>Resolve;</b>		Proposed by Cllr CL, Seconded by Cllr TM, by a unanimous vote that recommendations are put to the next meeting of the Town Council on Tuesday 1 September that the project to improve the Towns Football Club facilities should be fully supported where possible.
<b>d)</b>	<b>Twinning Association</b>	Minutes of Meeting held Tuesday 30 June 2009 received. Cllr ML confirmed that the latest Twinning visit had been a success and partners Misburg had enjoyed the Civic Reception put on by the Town Council.
<b>Resolve;</b>		Proposed by Cllr CL, Seconded by Cllr JB, by a unanimous vote that the matter is noted.

**Note CD13. 09/10 Community & Leisure Portfolio Matters – Cllr Judy Bartlett**

<b>a)</b>	<b>Town Centre Signage</b>	7 July 2009 Council resolved the matter to this Working Group. The Clerk provided update with the finger signs in the Town Centre and that MDC was to proceed and place a new finger sign showing the Library to the existing post at the top of Town and that they may well renew the complete post and signs to the one in the Town Centre due to it poor overall condition. The Clerk had undertaken a meeting with Ros Wilkins of MDC to possible Information Boards (you are here type) which would provide mapping and images of specific points within the Town Centre. It was considered that these could be placed subject to agreement with two on the Tesco site and one in both Commercial Road and Great Ostry car parks. They would be mounted within a metal frame and on two posts with ornate caps painted in black and gold tops. A sample sign and used at Glastonbury was shown to members. The Clerk had consulted planning officers and opinion was that no planning permission was required. It was estimated that a budget of £5,000 would provide the 4 special boards and post/frames and installation. Ros Wilkins had indicated in principle that MDC would possibly fund 50% of the costs if the Town Council funded the remaining 50% and also undertook the procurement and manage the installation.
-----------	----------------------------	---

	<b>Resolve;</b>	Proposed by Cllr JB, Seconded by Cllr CL, by a unanimous vote that it is recommended to the next meeting of Council on Tuesday 1 September that the proposals should be fully supported by the Town Council and should proceed subject to partnership funding of 50% from MDC.
<b>b)</b>	<b>MDC Car Parking Charges</b>	Undated letter with proposed scale of charges received for consultation prior to any recommendations being put to their Cabinet. (Extract of Strategy and proposed Charges attached).
	<b>Resolve;</b>	Proposed by Cllr CL, Seconded by Cllr JB, by a unanimous vote that the Town Council inform MDC of the following response to their proposals; 1 – Strongly object to the proposed increase in charges. 2 – Totally object to proposed removal of free 1 hour limited parking spaces in Great Ostry and Regal Road due to the very fragile vitality of the Town Centre at this time. 3 – That the Town Council object to MDC allowing their staff and Capita staff to have free parking permits, using up the majority of parking spaces in Commercial Road car park when businesses and workers in the Town had to pay to park their vehicles.
<b>c)</b>	<b>Play Area Barrington Place</b>	Halcrow Group (Landscape Architects) inform commissioned by MDC to design and manage implementation of replacement play area within current budget of £40k. First stage is consultation and looking to schedule construction in early 2010.
	<b>Resolve;</b>	Proposed by Cllr JB, Seconded by Cllr CL, by a unanimous vote that the matter is noted.
<b>d)</b>	<b>Mendip CAB</b>	Invitation to attend their AGM to be held in Wells Town Hall on Monday 24 August 2009 at 6.30pm. Also received their Annual Report and Accounts for 2008/09.
	<b>Resolve;</b>	Proposed by Cllr JB that the matter is noted.
<b>e)</b>	<b>Footpath Cannards Grave Road</b>	SCC apologise for lack of progress with their proposed adoption of this path. Request information as to ownership, if final section of path is still surfaced with gravel, are we aware of any drainage issues and if the Town Council still provide support maintenance. Clerk considers this may be path in the ownership of MR Vagg and MDC also under the Town Councils existing maintenance schedule as SMTC 1 with 3 cuts per annum. The Clerk and TM provided supporting and historical information to previous undertakings.
	<b>Resolve;</b>	Proposed by Cllr TM, Seconded by Cllr CL, by a unanimous vote that Somerset County Council is informed that the Town Council support their proposals to proceed to adopt this footpath subject to consultation and support by Shelia Petherbridge (Rights of Way Officer at MDC). Failing this support the matter is to receive further consideration by the Working Group.
<b>f)</b>	<b>Somerset Playing Fields Association</b>	Annual Report and Accounts for 2008/9 received with Summer 2009 newsletter. Invitation to their AGM to be held on 24 September 2009 commencing at 7.30pm at Woolavington Village Hall.
	<b>Resolve;</b>	Proposed by Cllr JB that the matter is noted.

**Note CD14. 09/10 Regeneration Portfolio Matters – Cllr Chris Inchley**

<b>a)</b>	<b>Shepton 21</b>	Next meeting with Shepton 21 postponed until Monday 28 September 2009 at 4pm in the TC Office.
<b>Resolve;</b>		Proposed by Cllr NS that the matter is noted.
<b>b)</b>	<b>Town Centre Plans</b>	The Clerk provide an update following a confidential meeting held with Mr Kevin Newton on Monday 10 August 2009 which Cllr JM and CI had both attended. Mr Newton promised that he would keep the Town Council informed as matters progressed.
<b>Resolve;</b>		Proposed by Cllr NS that the matter is noted.

---

**Note CD15. 09/10 Agenda for the next meeting – Tuesday 20 October 2009** – No matters other than resolved previously in the meeting were raised.

---

The Chairman thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.40pm.

**Cllr J. M. Marsh**

**Chairman**

**Signature;** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_2009