

Holmes Chapel Partnership Meeting

Held on Wednesday 27th June 2012 at 7.00 p.m.
at the Victoria Club, Holmes Chapel

Present: Jacqui Barton (JB), Glyn Chambers (GC), Jess Cragg (JC), Dorothy Davidson (DD), Stuart Gammon (SG), Les Gilbert (LG), Phil Hargreaves (PH), Heather Jones (HJ), Steve Ranger (SR), Hazel Sutcliffe (HS).

Apologies: Steve Ranger (SR).

The Chairman welcomed a new member to the team, our new Events Co-ordinator, Dorothy Davidson.

1. Previous Minutes/Matters Arising

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd May 2012 were approved.

Actions from Previous Meeting

The Planting of the tree in Macclesfield Road has been delayed as the tree that was received was sub-standard and had to be returned. This will be re-scheduled, probably for the Autumn. It was suggested that half of the money received from the William Dean Trust could be presented to Home Grown in Holmes Chapel at their October harvest event.

JC to be contacted regarding her successor (see below – AOB).

SG/SR to liaise in connection with a poster to be produced for the recruitment of a Communications Officer.

2. Correspondence

An e-mail had been received from Clare Reed of the Marie Curie Fundraising Group who are seeking new members. Clare was asking if HCP could publicise their plight. It was agreed that it would be difficult to do this for one group unless we were prepared to do it for all. SG to e-mail Clare Reed to this effect.

3. Review of Jubilee Celebrations

The Jubilee Celebrations had been a huge success in spite of the weather and DD reported that she had received many positive e-mails.

4. 2012 Events and Projects

Music Event – JC agreed to speak to bands at school to ask if they would be interested in taking part in an event to coincide with the Christmas Market.

Christmas Market – It was agreed that, if possible, this should be held on Sunday 2nd December. The Village Volunteers are due to erect the lights on the 25th November and it was hoped that the switch on could be delayed until the following week so as to coincide with the Market and to possibly contact a celebrity (John Bishop) to switch on the lights together with a child from one of the schools (a competition to be held to find a candidate).

It was agreed that CEC would need to be contacted as soon as possible in connection with the acquisition of the stalls.

Some suggested attractions were giants, fire eaters, jugglers, hand bell ringers and possibly a lantern procession to start of the event to involve the children, with lanterns being made by the children. It was agreed that the schools need to be contacted fairly soon to let them know of our intentions. A best dressed window competition could also be part of the event.

PH agreed to speak to John Berry of Rotary to see if Rotary's normal Christmas event could be combined with the Christmas Market.

There was a discussion as to what time the event could be opened with suggestions of 2.00 p.m. or 4.00p.m. (once the Co-op had closed) but it was felt important not to clash with the Church service which is due to be held the same afternoon.

DD agreed to draft a letter (which she would forward to SG) to be sent out to all businesses and organisations who may be interested asking for their ideas and whether they would like to be involved by having a stall. It was agreed that local business would be charged a lower fee for the stalls than outside businesses. The letter to local businesses would contain a tear off slip to be returned to DD in order that we can ascertain the level of interest. A meeting of interested parties could then take place to progress things further.

It was noted that Events Safety Advisory Group were to be present at the next LAP meeting – GC will speak to them at the meeting (11th July) and follow his discussions up with a letter to them.

HS agreed to speak to Stephen Docker regarding the use of his car park for the erection of stalls.

The PC will be formally approached to ask if they would be prepared to help with any funding. It was also agreed that larger businesses in the area, i.e. Fads, Barclays at Radbroke Hall, Sanofi Aventis, Masseys etc could be approached to ask if they would be prepared to sponsor the event.

A programme of events for the whole of December to be produced and possibly inserted in one of the local magazines.

Actions: JC to speak to the bands at school
 DD to draft letter
 GC to contact Events Safety Advisory Group
 HS to contact Stephen Docker

Approach - Co-op re stalls in car park
 Scout Hut
 St. Lukes Church Hall
 Brereton Hand Bell Ringers
 PC re funding

JC would speak to her Gran regarding power/lighting for the stalls; licence for music and insurance and would ask other members of the brass ensemble if they would be interested in taking part

GC to find out about rides and ice rink and to e-mail CEC regarding the stalls

5. Project Updates

Cycling Village – The current project is to produce a map of the area around Holmes Chapel with suggested circular bike rides avoiding the busy main roads and accessed from Broad Lane or Hermitage Drive. The prototype was on display at the Village Fair and improvements are being made in the light of public scrutiny! We hope to have the map available to circulate as a leaflet soon.

A South East Cheshire Cycling Action group has been convened to co-ordinate efforts to promote cycling in the area which includes the Local Area Partnership towns (Holmes Chapel, Sandbach, Congleton, Alsager and Middlewich). Harry Brookes of Holmes Chapel is the Chairman. The group aims to improve conditions for cyclists both on and off the roads, raise the profile of cyclists amongst road users and encourage cycle training schemes.

The Hermitage Primary School is holding another Eco Fair on September 8th. Given the problems with parking last year a greater emphasis will be put on more eco-friendly ways of getting there – by bike for instance! The Cycling Village will be participating in the event.

HS/GC/SG had met with the PC and the Police to discuss the vandalism to the cycle shelter. The Police have done what they can but have no specific information as the CCTV can't pick up anything due to the curvature of the shelter. It has been suggested that the cycle shelter be turned round so that the CCTV can pick up more details and also to discourage the use of the shelter for a goal. It was agreed to ask the library what area their camera covers.

The public are to be encouraged to call Police if they see anything suspicious, this has been backed up by articles that have recently appeared in the local press.

It was agreed to contact the Works Department at CEC to ask if they can assist us in this respect by turning the shelter round by 90° or if this is not possible by 180°. It is proposed that once this has been carried out we can look into refurbishment by either using a softer or harder polycarbonate.

HS to attend SEC Cycling Action Group Meeting, they are aiming to form a constitution enabling them to bid for funding – all 5 partnerships are involved.

Play Area – The Play Area Funding Group headed by Karen Cragg is applying for a WREN grant. Karen has reported that they are also hoping to receive a community grant from CEC. There are 2 possibilities the first of which is up to £3,000 towards a project or £250 to be towards the cost of an event. She had asked which the Group would like her to apply for. It was agreed that the grant of £3,000 should be applied for.

Dane Meadow – GC reported that Pathways For Communities have been very supportive. A bid is to go into WREN for £75,000 by the end of this month. It is hoped that the footpaths be extended to include cycle ways and bridleways. GC offered to circulate notes from the Dane Meadow meetings in future.

PC Footpaths project – walks around HC to be discussed by GC and HJ.

Love Local Life – Nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report - There is a balance of £1250 remaining for the Dane Meadow project which was received by the William Dean Trust last September.

Action: GC/HJ to discuss walks

£500 for Home Grown and the Village Volunteers, also given by William Dean.

It is expected that admin (meetings, events etc.) will cost around £700 (similar to last year). Taking these figures away from total funds, we have £3572 uncommitted funds at present.

6. Communications

SG had circulated prior to the meeting a draft newsletter he had produced, it was agreed that SG had done an excellent job. HJ and JC are to submit photos for inclusion in the newsletter.

GC will compile an explanation of WREN.

Once completed the newsletter will be e-mailed to our current list with copies to be made available in the Library, Health Centre, U3A Community Newsdesk, Station and pubs. It was also agreed that when letters were sent to organisations regarding the Christmas Market, a newsletter can be included with it.

Action: HJ/JC to submit photographs

GC to compile an explanation of WREN

7. Funding Update

GC is to claim the £1,000 from CEC which was allocated to the partnership for the Christmas Fair.

Action: GC to claim £1,000 from CEC

8. Vision

Nothing further to report.

9. Any Other Business

LG had requested an item on this Agenda to collate a list of qualified First Aiders – as the meeting had run over again, it was agreed to move this item further up the Agenda for the next meeting.

There was a discussion as to who would replace JC from September when she leaves to go to University. JC suggested that contact is made with Mr. Gwynnet/Miss Pierce (6th Form Leadership) as both the Head Girl and Head Boy next year both live in Middlewich. It was thought that school website, Facebook and Twitter could be used to promote this vacancy.

Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting is due to be held on Wednesday 25th July 2012 at 7.00 p.m. Victoria Club, Holmes Chapel.