

Holmes Chapel Partnership Meeting

Wednesday 28th November 2012 at 7.00pm at the Victoria Club Holmes Chapel

Present:

Harry Brooks, Glyn Chambers, Dorothy Davidson, Stuart Gammon, Phil Hargreaves, Heather Jones, Hazel Sutcliffe, Bethan Wiggett

Alan Lawson and Donna Peddie from Cheshire East

Apologies:

Jacqui Barton, Les Gilbert, Steve Ranger, David Steer

1. Previous Minutes / Actions Arising

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th October 2012 were approved.

Actions from previous meeting

Harry reported back on replacing the plastic sheeting on the Cycle Shelter. Current sheeting is only 3mm and needs to be 5mm to be vandal-proof which would cost in the region of £680. Suggestions for reducing the cost were: having the bottom of the shelter covered with aluminium, doing the repairs ourselves.

Phil had given cheques of £50 to Holmes Chapel Guides and Fire Cadets towards their money raising.

All other items referred to main agenda

2. Correspondence

Email received questioning whether there was adequate publicity for the Christmas Market. This was before the Villages Mag with the full page ad had been published.

No further contact from the Blue Sky group.

3. Community Engagement

Alan Lawson, Local Area Partnership Manager for Cheshire East, outlined the current position of the Local Area Partnership towns. The 5 LAP towns have been joined by Warrington. Representatives from each town meet 6 times a year to discuss priorities both within the individual member towns and projects in common. An example of the latter being Action for Market Towns where the LAP is preparing a bid to hold the 2 day annual conference next July. It was suggested that this would be based at Cranage Hall with delegates visiting the various towns. Holmes Chapel could offer the Dane Meadow and Cycling Village projects as examples of current developments.

Donna Peddie has recently taken up the post of Local Engagement Officer for Cheshire East. Her remit is to support community groups and develop community projects. She outlined a few projects she had been involved in around Crewe and Nantwich such as

promoting health among older residents and combating dog fouling which not only promote community well-being but make economic sense.

Heather suggested it would be useful to receive feedback from the 2011 census to have a clear view of the area profile in order to address issues of deprivation within Holmes Chapel. Information will be available in March / April 2013.

As teenagers as a group seem to be less well-catered for in Holmes Chapel than other age groups it was proposed that the Partnership consult young people on their priorities. Bethan suggested a meeting with the School Council to develop a relationship between community and school.

Chris Greenhalgh from Cheshire East assists in the co-ordination of activities for young people.

4. Communications Strategy

Bethan reported back on work she had been doing on social media as a communication strategy, showing screen shots of possible twitter and facebook sites developed along the same lines as those of Byley Players. She emphasised the importance of linking these with the Partnership website and of regularly updating the latter. It was suggested that The Dane Meadow Project could also benefit from a similar social media strategy.

Action: Stuart to inform Bethan about editing the website

5. Future Projects

This item was postponed until a later meeting owing to lack of time.

6. Final Christmas Market Update

The committee discussed final arrangements for the Market.

7. AOB

Harry suggested putting the Persimmon Homes Planning Application on the agenda for the next meeting in order to make a co-ordinated Partnership response to the application.

Date of next Meeting

7.00 pm Wednesday 19th December 2012 in the Committee Room at the Victoria Club.