

Holmes Chapel Partnership

Minutes for Meeting on Wednesday 26th November 2014

7:00 pm in the Bradshaw Room at the Methodist Church

Present

Bill Armstrong, Jacqui Barton, Glyn Chambers, Dorothy Davidson, Stuart Gammon, Les Gilbert, Phil Hargreaves, Heather Jones, Steve Ranger, Hazel Sutcliffe,

Apologies

Dani Russo,

Guests

Brian Bath, Nicola Clarke, Emma Gardiner, Mark Scott

1. Neighbourhood Plan Update

Brian and Nicola (from the Parish Council) attended to update the Partnership on progress. The NP is designed to complement the Local Plan, provide a road map for development in the area – not just housing but business and economic development between now and 2030.

The Consultation process will take 12 months after which a policy framework will be set up. This will be reviewed by CE and an independent assessor, then there will be a referendum in which policies must be approved by 50% of voters. Planning applications will have to concur with Neighbourhood Plan to be passed.

A Parish Council led core group will be set up but it will need co-operation of local groups. Also need to talk to neighbouring communities as HC is a service centre and will need improved infrastructure to accommodate further development.

2. Previous Minutes/Actions Arising

- Steven Docker has allowed use of his car park for the Christmas Market but not the area in front of his office as he intends to work on the afternoon of the 7th.
- Renting the Skate park for the Christmas Fair is not financially viable
- Precinct car park – the parking fines were issued by an over-zealous official and will be refunded.

Minutes accepted as correct.

3. Correspondence

- Letter from Susan Cooper resigning as Business Representative
- Malcolm Coates invited Stuart to lay a wreath at the Remembrance Service on behalf of the community - a duty to which he willingly agreed.
- Rotary are still running their Christmas Draw although they are joining in the Christmas Market and not holding their Saturday morning Christmas event; Stuart has been asked to draw the winning tickets on Christmas Eve

- Notice of funding available for mini buses has been received from Tina Jones – Stuart to circulate
- Community resilience plan – item in newsletter this month. PC to form a community emergency group providing local knowledge to inform a county / nationwide disaster plan.
- Danielle Parkinson wants to volunteer in HC. Stuart to reply.

4. Exhibition and AGM review

This event was well received and fairly well attended. As the coffee morning format seems to work for us, St Luke's Church Hall has been booked on 17th October for the 2015 AGM

5. Christmas Market

- Will Burnham has offered to collect stalls from Tarvin on Sat eve, Glyn will go straight to Tarvin, so a time needs to be arranged. Need two vehicles because there are 2 trailers. Dorothy to approach Graham Ashmore. Trailers to be parked behind the shops overnight.
 - **ACTION: Volunteers to turn up at 1.00pm to erect market stalls.**
- Glyn has ordered barriers and will bring horse tape,
- Fire service doing first aid for which we will pay £100 to fire cadets.
- Father Christmas moving to opposite side of the road since the traditional spot is unavailable.
- Refreshments to be served in St Luke's Church Hall – 37 outdoor stalls and 16 indoor stalls. Bookings still coming in – extra indoor stalls in St Luke's.

Emma Gardiner and Mark Scott were interested to know about the Christmas Market as they are keen to see artisan markets running in Holmes Chapel as a way of increasing footfall in the village centre.

6. Health and Wellbeing

In order to bid for funding from health orientated sources for the Elm Drive Fitness and Play Area we need to broaden the focus and run a Health and Wellbeing campaign. This seems to chime with current thinking: see article in Reports section*.

Suggestions involve getting a group together to find ways of promoting an active life style but drawing together pre-existing organisations and activities rather than generating new ones. We need to work in partnership with CE, Health Centre, Leisure centre, Everybody Sport And Recreation, etc.. Use monthly newsletter to promote activities (walking, cycling etc)

As there was a lack of time and Hazel, as Chair of Health & Wellbeing had not given the matter sufficient consideration, it was decided to postpone further discussion to next meeting.

7. AOB

- Glyn proposed a Strategic Planning Session for next year – it was decided to devote the January meeting to this.

- Hazel had been approached by John Scarrott who made the suggestion that Partnership help in the organisation of the Village Fair, currently run by the Victoria Club. Hazel emailed Alison Dale to get her perspective but is waiting to hear back.
- 10K run – it has been pointed out that all the local towns do a 10K and we need to co-ordinate with them so as not to clash with dates. Stuart has heard no more from Tom who made the presentation at the October meeting.

8. **Next meeting:** 17th December

Provisional 2015 Meetings *(all 7:00pm at Methodist Church Hall unless otherwise noted)*

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • 28 th January | • 26 th August |
| • 25 th February | • 23 rd September |
| • 25 th March | • 17 th October (AGM)? |
| • 22 nd April | • 28 th October |
| • 27 th May | • 25 th November |
| • 24 th June | • 16 th December |
| • 22 nd July | |

1 Reports

1.1 Treasurer's Report

At present we have £10,094 on hand.

- Project Management will take £2,000 and Project Administration (meeting rooms etc.) around £300.
- £1,630 is allocated to Dane Meadow (from the William Dean grant in 2011).
- £450 is allocated to the Cycling Project (from previous years).
- We have already received £615 from Christmas Market stallholders, and we have £550 remaining from the 2012 grant; any surplus after running costs will be ring-fenced for next year.

Therefore at present we have around £4550 which is not allocated to any particular project.

1.2 Cycling

A Cycling Seminar was held on the evening of Wednesday 22nd October at Congleton Town Hall. Holmes Chapel was represented by Andrew Rowland, a member of the SE Cheshire Cycling Action Group (SECCAG) Hazel didn't get there because the seminar clashed with the Partnership meeting. This is the second of these events where local cycling enthusiasts get the opportunity to have a dialogue with Cheshire East about cycling provision in the area. A presentation was given by a Dutch company called Royal Haskoning DHV which has been brought in by CE to advise its officers on strategy for improving the local cycling infrastructure by creating a cycling checklist for Planning and Highways.

Councillor Phillip Hoyland of Poynton has agreed to be the 'Cycling Champion' on CE council but his role is mainly as a conduit between cycling activists and CE as he has neither budget nor staff. Along with Harry Brookes and David Williams he met with Genni Butler to try and establish a protocol for converting footpaths to dual cycle / pedestrian use. Genni has a list of such projects which are ready to be implemented as soon as funding becomes available. A cycling/pedestrian bridge over the Dane at Dane Meadow would give a boost to the establishment of a viable cycle network in HC.

Another session of Cycle Leader Training and Bikeability 3 will be held in December

SECCAG are planning a ride with a pub lunch - probably at the Bear's Head on January 11th. There is not going to be any specific publicity just a bit of arm twisting - be warned!

1.3 Dane Meadow

Friends of Dane Meadow Committee met on 11th November and the following items were discussed:

All agreed on the importance of responding to the questionnaire about **The Footbridge over the Dane**. There seems to be a misapprehension that the money proposed for the construction of this bridge would be available to HC for other projects if it wasn't spent on the footbridge. When viewed as an investment in the future health and well-being of residents of HC and divided pro capita over 30 years it seems good value!

Sunday **Work Sessions** were re-instated to give the opportunity to join in to people who have to work during the week. The first two were poorly supported but we will continue these first Sunday in the month sessions for the time being in the hope of persuading more

people to join in. The previous Tuesday session coincided with the high winds but four of us turned out and sowed wild flower seeds on the spoil heap from the pond as a start towards our pollinator patch. Latest Tuesday session was on November 18th when 5 of us tackled the nettles in the Bird Viewing Area, had a nice chat and a cup of coffee in the sunshine..

Jude and Khaled have contacted and delivered **Education leaflets** to the two HC Primary schools and Byley. Goostrey and Brereton didn't respond to the email.

Information leaflets have been delivered to Sandbach library, Lowe's Farm Shop, the George & Dragon. Matthew will take some to the Red Lion, Jude is taking some to Holmes Chapel and Goostrey stations. Hazel will try and get some to Knutsford and Middlewich libraries.

David Savage missed the meeting so did not report on whether he had delivered any leaflets.

There has been no further response from David Topping to Hazel's last email concerning the **trailhead sign for Knutsford Rd**. Les Gilbert promised to take up the matter with CE and Highways as the reason for refusing us permission for a sign on Knutsford Rd is unconvincing. A further email has been received from Stuart Bateman of Highways reiterating his objections.

Future dates / events: Dates for further work sessions have been published on the website.

Suggestion for a walk through the Meadow with a bird expert. Hazel to contact Sue Calladine for advice

Sue Calladine visited Morrey's and persuaded them to donate bird food for the bird table in the Bird Viewing Area. They have promised to continue doing so. Hazel to get Mark to put an acknowledgement on the website, need to create a notice for Bird Viewing Area. Next Friends committee meeting was arranged for **Tuesday January 6th**

1.4 Elm Drive Play & Fitness Area

Project is moving forwards, bit by bit, but it's a long road:

- Glyn and I visited the Health Centre to get support for the Fitness Area aspect of the project; I sent out an email about that – largely supportive.
- Mike Street and I met with the Acting Head at the Hermitage School and have arranged a display w/c 1st December - culminating in the school's Christmas Fair on 5th December – where we can get both pupil's and parent's opinions on what they would like to see in the Playarea in particular
- Glyn and I met to plan how to frame grant applications, and to whom we should apply
 - agreed we should split into two sub-projects – Play Area and Fitness Area; at a rough estimate, need £80k for Playarea, £50k for Fitness Area
 - separate funders for Playarea (WREN, Manchester Airport) and Fitness Area (Sport England, Cheshire Community Foundation, Health Heart, Public Health Transformation Fund)
 - proposed that Partnership runs a Health & Wellbeing campaign, for the benefit of all as well as to support this project
- Our latest Elm Drive Project Board Meeting was on 18th November
 - Main topic was a visit from Active Cheshire (cf. Sport England local group) to talk about potential funding and general support for the Fitness Area aspect. Very productive, with more to come

- Subsequent discussion about WREN funding revealed next opportunity is not until March, and will not be decided until July (WREN have switched from regional to national applications)
 - this means we cannot start the Playarea work until at least August ('15) assuming we get the funds
 - have suggested we work on Fitness Area first, as deadline for applications is December/January.
- Had meeting with Friends of Elm Drive Play Area group 18th November
 - Appraised of latest developments
 - Have agreed to help with Hermitage School consultation, including prep of questionnaires
 - Will formalise group next year
- Presented to Parish Council Amenities Committee 20th November
 - Council concerned by delays to Playarea aspect, and looking for more detailed plans
 - Steve Ranger suggested the PC consider putting a further £15k in the pot in the 2015/16 financial year – making their total contribution £30k; dependent on full council agreement
 - Steve also suggested any profits from the proposed 10k run go towards the project – may be too late for the main works, but could provide additional facilities or training.
- Next Project Board meeting 16th December, will concentrate on creating project plan – both what we will provide (guided by consultation results) and how/when we will provide it.

1.5 *THE COST OF INACTIVITY

Public Health England has published “Everybody Active, Every Day”, new evidence based advice to health professionals on how to promote physical activity, including walking and cycling for day-to-day journeys. It notes that one in 6 deaths are due to physical inactivity; that 33% of men and 45% of women are insufficiently active for good health and this costs the country £7.4 bn annually. The same day, the head of the NHS called for a stronger focus on prevention rather than cure for ill-health, in order to help reduce a predicted NHS deficit of £8bn by 2020/1