

FROME TOWN COUNCIL

making Frome a better place

Minutes of a meeting of the External Affairs Committee

Wednesday 18 December at 7pm
Saxonvale Centre, Garsdale, Frome. BA11 1RZ

Present:

Councillors: Dave Anderson; Tricia Golinski; Peter Macfadyen; Mel Usher; Nick White
Cara Honey (Mayor for Young People); Alex Shingler (Deputy Mayor for Young People)

In attendance:

Councillor Dickon Moore, Kate Hellard, Tessa Hibbert, David Parkes, Annabelle Macfadyen, Dr. Helen Kingston, Paul Wynne (Town Clerk), Peter Wheelhouse (Economic Development & Regeneration Manager), Patrick Moss (Town Centre Regeneration Manager), Sarah Hobbs (Community Projects Officer), Laura Poulton (Administration Officer)

Approx. 20 members of the public

Minute Ref	Agenda Item	Action
2013/86/EAC	<p>1 QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND INFORMATION FROM THE PUBLIC</p> <p>David Taylor expressed his concern about MDC Cllr attendance at MDC meetings. Only one Frome MDC Cllr was present at the recent MDC Planning Board meeting which considered the Asda extension.</p> <p>Neil Howlett from the Chamber of Commerce noted MDC's intention to increase car parking charges by thirteen percent and the deadline for the public consultation was the following day. He urged the public to oppose the increase.</p>	
	<p>2 A SHORT TALK FROM THE CARNIVAL COMMITTEE</p> <p>Annabelle Macfadyen explained that the funding from FTC for the 2013 Carnival had allowed them to put on more workshops, a Pirate Treasure hunt, include new bands and have street entertainment during the day of the Carnival. The Committee worked for two weeks with Frome College on their entry which won the Home in Frome trophy. There was more variety and diversity for 2013 and in addition the shop keepers were happy that people were in the town centre for the day.</p> <p>Annabelle explained the committee wants to build on the success from 2013, encourage more participation, organise more workshops to encourage new skills, make the events more intergenerational, increase the number of volunteers and continue fundraising. She noted that the funding from FTC has given them the confidence for the future.</p>	

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	<p>3 a. APOLOGIES The Chairman formally opened the Council meeting at 7.24pm and apologies of absence were received from Cllrs Hooton, Berry, Burgess and Dobinson.</p>	
	<p>3 b. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS Cllr Anderson declared a non-prejudicial interest in item 8.</p>	
	<p>3 c. MINUTES The minutes of the External Affairs Committee meeting held on 23 October 2013 were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.</p>	
	<p>4 AN UPDATE ON WHAT THE COUNCIL IS WORKING ON AT THE MOMENT The Economic Development & Regeneration Manager noted the Cheese & Grain building will be handed over at the end of the week after the work has been completed and he was pleased with the results.</p> <p>With regard to the play park at Garston Road, the Town Clerk noted he had spoken to the regional director of Bloor Homes the previous week and tried to push the process along. Cllr Usher asked the Town Clerk to write to Bloor Homes and MDC to say that we expected results by now.</p> <p>The EDRM explained that the manager of the Heart of Wessex Community Rail Partnership was planning to hold an event to celebrate the refurbishment of Frome train station. Cllr Macfadyen congratulated the EDRM on his hard work with the partnership.</p>	<p>PWy</p>
	<p>5 FOR DECISION – REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM YOUTH SERVICES RESEARCH Tessa Hibbert explained her research was to find out if current services were meeting the needs of young people. She noted her main finding was that there was patchy provision and not everyone has access to the services.</p> <p>Tessa’s recommendations were to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invest in a youth work coordinator/facilitator (full time equivalent) to provide flexible services according to local need, provide support to local voluntary organisations and undertake quality assurance of provision run by groups 2. Measure success of this work by evaluating progress made after a two year period 3. Set criteria for future grant funding to support places and 	

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	<p>overview of what the week aimed to achieve which included embedding the process of participation in the community. She noted there were eleven events held during the week including seminars, planning events and pop up shops.</p> <p>Postcards asking people what the favourite thing about Frome was and what they would like to change were handed out throughout the week. Several themes were identified including improving access to the river, increasing the range of shops, review the car parking charges, improve car parks for shared spaces, create pedestrian friendly spaces especially for young people and improve traffic flow.</p> <p>The most frequent answer to the question ‘What is your favourite thing about Frome?’ was the friendly people and community spirit.</p> <p>Answers to the question ‘What would you change?’ were public transport as it is not well linked and frequent enough, more clothes shops for men and children’s shoe shops.</p> <p>Kate also found there was a sense of them vs. us, which was between the old and young as well as between new residents to Frome and those that have lived here many years.</p> <p>The most valuable aspect of the week was talking to people and having conversations about what matters to them.</p> <p>Kate found the branding of the week to be successful and the Facebook page reached over 4,000 people.</p> <p>The recommendations were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorse the approach taken by Kate Hellard in developing and planning Participate Frome week 2. Adopt the report including the recommendations 3. Identify what recommendations can be delivered or facilitated by FTC by the next meeting 4. Identify those recommendations that cannot be delivered or facilitated by FTC, for example, where there are significant resource implications, by the next meeting 5. Support a review of Vision for Frome’s Community plan <p>Proposed Cllr Usher, seconded Cllr Macfadyen, agreed unanimously.</p>	
	<p>8 FOR DECISION – PROPOSED COMMUNITY LED DEVELOPMENT AT SAXONVALE</p>	<p>SH</p> <p>SH</p> <p>SH</p>

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	<p>Item brought forward to item 7</p> <p>David Parkes introduced the Carley Community Development Trust as a newly formed Community Interest Company. Their aim is to produce an alternative development plan for the Saxonvale site at Garsdale that is community led. David noted their intention was to bring the landowners together which have the capacity to develop the site and their hope is to have a big stake in Saxonvale by the end of the year. David explained that the Trust requires the support of FTC to enable them to put in an application for funding to the Homes and Communities Agency which would then allow a feasibility study and an application for the Community Right to Build to be submitted.</p> <p>The recommendation was that support be given to an application to HCA for CRtB funding with agreement to pledge up to a maximum of £5,000 in the current financial year (2013/14) and up to a maximum of £5,000 in 2014/15 to support this process using the existing Town Centre Redevelopment EMR.</p> <p>Cllr White requested a recorded vote. The votes were recorded as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="408 1128 1289 1532"> <thead> <tr> <th>Councillor</th> <th>For</th> <th>Against</th> <th>Abstain</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>D Anderson</td> <td style="text-align: center;">✓</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>T Golinski</td> <td style="text-align: center;">✓</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>P Macfadyen</td> <td style="text-align: center;">✓</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>N White</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">✓</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>M Usher</td> <td style="text-align: center;">✓</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Recommendations agreed by majority.</p>	Councillor	For	Against	Abstain	D Anderson	✓			T Golinski	✓			P Macfadyen	✓			N White		✓		M Usher	✓			PW
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	<p>7 FOR DECISION - EMPLOYING A PART TIME MEMBER OF STAFF TO ENCOURAGE DECISION MAKERS TO ESTABLISH AN OUT OF HOURS GP SERVICE IN FROME</p> <p>The recommendation was amended for FTC to support the establishment of an out of hour's hub and write to the CCG and encourage the East Mendip Federation to allocate staff resources.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Golinski, seconded Cllr White, agreed unanimously.</p>	PWy																								

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	<p>9 FOR DECISION – WORK PROGRAMME, BUDGET AND PRECEPT DEMAND FOR 2014/15</p> <p>Budget Cara Honey expressed concern about a drop in funding for the youth council etc. The Town Clerk informed her that this will be compensated in the General Reserves.</p> <p>Cllr Macfadyen queried why there was a budget for property maintenance for the Cheese & Grain. Cllr Usher explained that this would remain for the Tower at the back of the building.</p> <p>Work Programme Cllr Macfadyen requested that the words ‘under employed’ are also added to action 1.4.2</p> <p>Precept Demand 2014/15 The Town Clerk noted it was likely that FTC will have confirmation about the grant from MDC by January and the forecast general reserve will then be revised.</p> <p>The recommendations were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider the Action Plan to March 2015, proposed budget and precept demand for 2014/15 and recommend that Council adopts them on 8 January 2014 <p>Proposed Cllr Usher, seconded Cllr Golinski, agreed unanimously.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Consider the existing EMRs, proposed EMRs and forecast GR at 1 April 2014 and recommend that Council adopts them on 8 January 2014 <p>Proposed Cllr Usher, seconded Cllr Golinski, agreed unanimously.</p>	PWy
	<p>10 FOR DECISION – GRANT AWARDS</p> <p>The recommendation was that the decisions of the Grants Advisory Group are endorsed by Councillors as a block.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Golinski, seconded Cllr Usher, agreed unanimously.</p>	
2013/98/EAC	<p>11 FOR DECISION – USING \$106 MONEY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FOOTPATH FROM HENLEY WAY TO WELSHMILL LANE</p> <p>Cllr Usher requested that the Town Clerk personally writes to Cllrs Snook and Tanswell asking them to support the establishment of a footpath from Henley Way to Welshmill Lane.</p> <p>The recommendation was to support the proposal to spend the</p>	PWy

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	s106 money towards the establishment of a new footpath linking Henley Way with Welshmill Lane. Proposed Cllr Golinski, seconded Cllr White, agreed unanimously.	
	12 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING The next meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday 26 February, Frome College	

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.41pm