

# FROME TOWN COUNCIL

*making Frome a better place*

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Matters Committee

Wednesday 27 July at 7pm

Saxonvale Centre, Garsdale, Frome BA11 1RZ

Present:

Councillors: Richard Ackroyd, Ali Barclay, Jean Boulton, Colin Cobb, Toby Eliot, Tricia Golinski, Sheila Gore, Peter Macfadyen, Al O’Kane, Cath Puddick, Mel Usher, Heather Wride

In attendance:

Satya Waterston, Julian Hight, Des Harris, Stina Falle, Bo Walsh, Paul Wynne (Town Clerk), Peter Wheelhouse (Economic Development and Regeneration Manager), Jane Llewellyn (Planning and Development Officer), Chris Stringer (Environment Manager), Ruth Knagg (Community Projects Officer), Laura Poulton (Democratic Services Administrator)

Approx. 50 members of the public

Minute Ref	Agenda Item	Action
2016/1/TM	<p>The meeting started at 7.05pm</p> <p><b>1. Elect the Chair and Vice Chair</b> Jean Boulton proposed Peter Macfadyen as Chair, seconded by Richard Ackroyd, agreed unanimously.</p> <p>Mel Usher proposed Colin Cobb as Vice Chair, seconded by Tricia Golinski, agreed unanimously.</p> <p>Cath Puddick arrived at 7.07pm</p>	
2016/2/TM	<p><b>2. How committee meetings will run and the remit of the committee</b> Peter Macfadyen explained the committee meetings would be more informal and with a chance for more discussion around each of the items.</p> <p>Peter explained that the committee was responsible for promoting prosperity, regeneration of the town centre, wellbeing and overseeing the community grants.</p>	
2016/3/TM	<p><b>3a. Apologies for absence</b> None was received</p> <p><b>3b. Declaration of members’ interests</b> Mel Usher and Toby Eliot declared personal interests in item 8.</p>	

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2016/4/TM	<p><b>7. For decision - Little Keyford Lane - proposal for a development</b></p> <p>Peter Wheelhouse explained that the landowner had approached FTC to help bring forward a scheme for affordable self-build homes. Jane Llewellyn explained that some work had already been undertaken such as an Ecology and Biodiversity Assessment and a reptile survey. She noted that the next steps were to agree the members of the steering group and to appoint an agent in order to undertake a feasibility study of the site. Jane noted that there was a grant from Locality of £10,000 in order to do this.</p> <p>A number of local residents to the site expressed their concerns about the proposal. Access to the site is a narrow country lane and flow of traffic will significantly increase. They were also concerned about the loss of a greenfield site.</p> <p>Peter Wheelhouse noted that these issues would be taken into account as part of the feasibility assessment. If the assessment showed that the site was not viable, FTC would not pursue the development.</p> <p>The recommendations were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Agree the proposed members of the Steering Group:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cllr Mel Usher</li><li>• Cllr Pippa Goldfinger</li><li>• Cllr Peter Macfadyen</li><li>• Cllr Colin Cobb</li><li>• Peter Wheelhouse, Economic development &amp; Regeneration Manager</li><li>• Jane Llewellyn, Planning &amp; Development Officer</li><li>• Tim Cutting, Frome Co-Housing</li><li>• Graham Burgess</li></ul></li><li>2. Appoint an Agent/Architect to carry out initial feasibility and viability assessments</li></ol> <p>Proposed Richard Ackroyd, seconded Jean Boulton, agreed by majority.</p>	JL/PWh
2016/5/TM	<p><b>6. For discussion - An exploration of the proposal to establish a nature bye-law to protect the River Frome</b></p> <p>Colin Cobb arrived at 8.02pm</p> <p>Satya Waterston, working with Sustainable Frome, explained how nature rights had been established in some states in America. Satya explained that nature rights recognises a eco system, such as river,</p>	

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	<p>as a living entity which has legal rights. He noted that Frome would be the first town in the UK to establish nature rights.</p> <p>The recommendation was to explore the proposal in detail with Sustainable Frome and, if all went well, progress to the stage where a draft bye-law is brought back to a suitable Council meeting for approval.</p> <p>Proposed Richard Ackroyd, seconded Al O’Kane, agreed by majority.</p>	<b>PWy</b>															
<b>2016/6/TM</b>	<p><b>5. For discussion and decision – trees in Frome</b></p> <p>There was a long and varied discussion on trees in Frome. The trunk of the Copper Beach Tree from St John’s church yard has been retained and there was a discussion on what to do with it. There was enthusiasm for a section of the tree to be taken and preserved to display its age at Frome Museum, a large amount of the remains to be used for play and climbing, and a plaque be placed at the stump to commemorate the tree.</p> <p>The importance of mature trees in the town was also a point for discussion, as well as the importance of succession planting. Julian Hight, tree enthusiast, noted that he currently had 88 young oak trees that could be planted around the town in the near future.</p> <p>There was also an enthusiasm for having more trees in the town.</p> <p>Chris Stringer was asked to bring together a group of tree enthusiasts to consider the next steps.</p>	<b>CS</b>															
<b>2016/7/TM</b>	<p><b>8. For decision – community grant awards</b></p> <p>The recommendation was to approve the follow:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="424 1525 1230 1993" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Applicant</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Project</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Amount agreed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Shared Earth Learning Co-op</td> <td>Roots in Frome</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£2,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Frome's Missing Links</td> <td>Route Selection</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mendip YMCA</td> <td>High impact/low cost fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£2,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Frome Heritage Museum</td> <td>Browne's Hole Exhibition</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£400.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Applicant	Project	Amount agreed	Shared Earth Learning Co-op	Roots in Frome	£2,000.00	Frome's Missing Links	Route Selection	£1,500.00	Mendip YMCA	High impact/low cost fund	£2,000.00	Frome Heritage Museum	Browne's Hole Exhibition	£400.00	
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	Harry Foreman (Frome College)	Films 4 Europe	£1,000.00	
	Frome Community Education CIC	Include Us In	£4,950.00	
	Frome FM	Building sustainability	£3,000.00	
	Frome Gateway Club	Three events	£650.00	
	5th Frome Scout Group	Project Recruit	£900.00	
			<b>£16,400.00</b>	
	Proposed Jean Boulton, seconded Ali Barclay, agreed unanimously.			
<b>2016/8/TM</b>	<b>9. Review of how the meeting went</b> Peter Macfadyen asked members of the public to leave any suggestions with regard to future meetings on the flip chart as they left the room. He also invited anyone to leave their email address to be notified of future meetings and to be kept informed of FTC's work on trees.			
<b>2016/9/TM</b>	<b>The next meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday 28 September 2016 at the Saxonvale Centre</b>			

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.20pm