

FROME TOWN COUNCIL

making Frome a better place

Minutes of a meeting of the Council Matters Committee

Wednesday 26 October 2016 at 7pm
Rook Lane Chapel, Bath Street, Frome BA11 1DN

Present:

Councillors: Kate Bielby, Jean Boulton, Toby Eliot, Pippa Goldfinger, Sheila Gore, Peter Macfadyen, Mel Usher, Nick White

In attendance:

Ali Barclay, Adam Boyden, Paul Wynne (Town Clerk), Peter Wheelhouse (Economic Development and Regeneration Manager), Jackie Wheeler (Responsible Finance Officer), Anna Francis (Resilience Officer), Cara Naden (Resilience Officer), Kate Hellard (Community Projects Officer), Laura Poulton (Democratic Services Administrator)

8 members of the public

Minute Ref	Agenda Item	Action
2016/21/CM	<p>The meeting started at 7pm</p> <p>1a. Apologies for absence Received from Gary Collinson and Tim O'Connor</p> <p>1b. Declaration of members' interests None was received</p> <p>1c. Minutes from the last meeting on 24 August 2016 The minutes of the Frome Town Council meeting held on 24 August 2016 were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.</p> <p>Proposed by Peter Macfadyen, seconded by Toby Eliot, agreed unanimously.</p>	
2016/22/CM	<p>2. Questions and comments from the public and Cllrs Rachel Bodle from Mendip Credit Union noted that their latest newsletter was available and she would make sure copies were available from FTC's offices and at the library.</p> <p>Pippa Goldfinger noted that an architect had been appointed to complete the feasibility study for Little Keyford Lane.</p>	
2016/23/CM	<p>3. For information and discussion: Resilience Work Plan 2016/17 Anna Francis gave a comprehensive overview of her work programme and the significant projects that have been completed or are in progress. She is also introduced Cara Naden who would be</p>	

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	<p>covering whilst she was on maternity leave.</p> <p>Peter Macfadyen noted that Anna’s role as Resilience officer had become much more about community resilience rather than just environmental. He also noted that he had spoken to the organiser of the Frome Cobble Wobble, Andrew Denham, who had said that due to funding the event would likely go ahead next year.</p> <p>Mel Usher asked Anna if the Car Club could be given more emphasis and be expanded to ensure those who are unable to own their own car are the main users. He also suggested targeting specific communities to promote the benefits of the car club. Anna explained that she was currently considering incorporating the car club into a spare travel programme as well considering the possibilities for free membership. Ali Barclay suggested that advisors could be on hand to help with test drives to encourage more membership to assist those who are nervous about using an electric vehicle. She also noted that a van would be popular. Pippa Goldfinger also noted it would be worth promoting the car club to housing associations and explained it would be looked at as part of the Little Keyford Lane development.</p> <p>Mel Usher asked if the Share Shop was any closer to finding a new home. Anna explained that there was no imminent need for them to move however they were looking at other spaces. She noted there was also a contingency plan in case they are ever asked to vacate at short notice.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CN</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CN</p>
<p>2016/24/CM</p>	<p>4. For information - Financial update at 30 September 2016</p> <p>Jackie Wheeler noted that the external auditors had signed off the year end accounts. She explained that the general reserves were inflated due to the recent payment of the council tax support grant and precept from MDC.</p> <p>Nick White asked if Chris Stringer had asked for three quotes for the resurfacing of the Showfield paths. Jackie confirmed that this was the case and that Chris had followed the procedure for costs over £5k.</p>	
<p>2016/25/CM</p>	<p>5. For decision: Tenancy agreement for Saxonvale Training Centre</p> <p>Peter Wheelhouse explained that the CIC, based at the Saxonvale Centre at Garsdale, is responsible for delivering training for adults to help them back into work. Peter also noted that there were a range of organisations who deliver training to variety of groups also based at the centre. He noted that just under 200 people had received a qualification through the centre.</p>	

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	<p>Peter explained that the proposal was to enter into a Tenancy at Will agreement which would allow both parties to walk away with little notice and would give the most flexibility if the centre needed to be relocated due to a development of Saxonvale. Peter explained that in normal circumstances a commercial rent would be charged, but in this instance a peppercorn rent was appropriate due to the fact that SSL CIC is a not for profit organisation and the community would derive benefit from its operation. The value of this support to SSL CIC is in the region of £8,500 per annum.</p> <p>Peter Macfadyen asked that a press release was written to note that a variety of organisations would be supported due to the tenancy agreement.</p> <p>The recommendations were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To agree to a tenancy at will for the Somerset Skills & Learning CIC in respect of their occupation of part of the Council's Garsdale site 2. The agreement to be subject to a peppercorn rent only <p>Proposed by Pippa Goldfinger, seconded by Kate Bielby, agreed unanimously.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PWh</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PWh PWh</p>
<p>2016/26/CM</p>	<p>6. For information and discussion: Update on delivery of Sport and Leisure recommendations</p> <p>Kate Hellard noted that the recommendations from the Sports Panel had been reviewed at the last sports forum meeting on 17 October. From the forum's discussions, she noted that they had identified three priority areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To increase the number of people actively involved in sporting activity. 2. To progress improvements to sports facilities in the town. 3. To continue to develop cycle routes and footpaths across the town. <p>Kate noted that she was working closely with SASP to increase participation in sport in the town. Kate explained that the middle schools, in particular, had fantastic sporting resources. She noted that she was talking to Oakfield about using their MUGA to enable the Netball Club to play in Frome again. She explained that she was going to arrange a community consultation evening for residents in the area to get their approval to install flood lighting. Kate noted she was looking into signage to inform pedestrians and cyclists that the paths would be multi use.</p>	

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	<p>Charles Wood asked what was the latest update on the use of Frome golf club. Kate explained that they had considered the possibilities in detail however, the cost of the rent was not feasible and no external funding could be leveraged as a long-term lease was not possible. However, she noted that the football club for juniors were making use of it.</p> <p>Ali Barclay enquired as to why the cycle routes and footpaths would not have the line to designate cyclists and pedestrians. Kate explained that the path would have to be 2.5m wide which the paths were not. She also noted that a map of the routes would be a future project.</p> <p>Adam Boyden asked Kate to maintain conversations with Fusion about the installation of cricket nets at the leisure centre. Adam noted that Selwood Academy had received permission to install a 3g pitch. Kate explained that she was aware and was working with Selwood and the Football Club on a plan for installation.</p> <p>Mel Usher asked if SASP was writing a report on provision of facilities in town. Kate explained that she was working with them to produce the report. Mel also asked what progress had been made with the Walkers are Welcome status. Peter Wheelhouse explained that Chris Stringer was taking it forward and funding from the Heart of Wessex LAG was currently being explored</p> <p>Jean Boulton asked Kate to consider the older generation in provision and participation.</p>	KH
<p>2016/27/CM</p>	<p>7. For information: Health and Safety update Nothing to report</p>	
<p>2016/28/CM</p>	<p>The next meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday 11 January 2017 at Frome Medical Practice</p>	

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.17pm