

FROME TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Matters Committee

Wednesday 9 October 2019 at 7pm

Frome Town Hall, Christchurch Street West, Frome BA11 1EB

Present:

Councillors: Richard Ackroyd, Ali Barclay, Sara Butler, Nick Dove, Sheila Gore, Anne Hills, Paul Horton, John Nelson, Andy Palmer, Steve Tanner, Andy Wrintmore

In attendance:

Paul Wynne (Town Clerk), Kate Hellard (Community Development Manager), Jess Francombe (Children and Young People's Project Officer), Hannah Stopford (Children and Young People's Project Officer), Rachel Griffin (Marketing and Communications Manager), Becky Byrne (Marketing and Communications Manager), Laura Flaherty (Executive Assistant to the Town Clerk and Mayor)

3 members of the public

Minute Ref	Agenda Item	Action
2019/13/TM	<p>The meeting started at 7pm</p> <p>1a. Apologies for absence Received from Rob Collett, Anita Collier, Maxine Crawley, Mark Dorrington and Scott Ward</p> <p>1b. Declaration of members' interests Andy Palmer declared a personal interest in item 5</p> <p>1c. Minutes from the last meeting on 7 August 2019 The minutes of the Town Matters Committee meeting held on 7 August 2019 were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.</p> <p>Proposed by Nick Dove, seconded by Anne Hills, agreed by majority.</p>	
2019/14/TM	<p>2. Questions and comments from the public and Cllrs Andy Palmer congratulated Nick Dove, Rachel Griffin and her team for their work on Fiver Fest. He said it was an excellent event and he had heard really good feedback from the retailers. Nick explained that when and how often the event would happen again was being considered.</p> <p>Rich Ackroyd asked that it was ensured that the noticeboard was reinstalled next to the library after the environment agency had finished their work on the river.</p>	<p>Chris Stringer</p>

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	<p>Rich also noted that grain was being scattered down by Button bridge once again and was attracting vermin. Paul noted it would be reported to MDC.</p> <p>Karen Stewart asked if a dropped kerb could be installed close to the disabled parking bays on Park Road. Chris Stringer was asked to investigate this.</p> <p>Andy Wrintmore arrived at 7.06pm</p>	<p>PWy</p> <p>CS</p>
<p>2019/15/TM</p>	<p>3. For Decision – Next steps on community development</p> <p>Kate Hellard gave an overview of the report. She had learned a lot by working with the community group in the Trinity area of Frome. In particular, a much better relationship with the police and housing association had been made.</p> <p>Kate noted that much of the work had been organised by three or four core members of the group. Planned outputs included taking on land for a community garden. The group was successful in closing Selwood Road for a street party that was well received and enjoyed by the residents. The group had already arranged a working group to plan the next years street party. Kate gave a special mention to Karen Stewart who had been a huge part of making lots of things happen and bringing the community together.</p> <p>Karen noted what she had learnt was there was a fine balance of having and sharing knowledge. Particularly who has the power and who takes credit. Her fellow residents said they were better connected, having common goals really helped with this (i.e. cracking down on arson and drugs). They had learnt that things didn't happen quickly, and it couldn't be predicted what events would be successful with the residents.</p> <p>Kate explained that the desire was to build on the findings of the project. The next suggested area in Frome was Stonebridge. The houses were more spread out, with multiple pockets of green space. The majority of people living in the area commuted for work and there were very few communal spaces. Anecdotal evidence suggested that loneliness was a problem in the area.</p> <p>Nick Dove said Stonebridge was a more affluent area of Frome, he asked if FTC could work with other areas that needed more help? Kate explained that people suffering poor health and wellbeing and communities with little cohesion were found throughout the town. Trinity had been chosen as it had been identified in a past study to be an unconnected area with no shared spaces. The Mount, for example, it was built with people in mind and there is a strong sense</p>	

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	<p>of community there now. The purpose of the community development work was to connect people.</p> <p>Cllrs and members of the public were given ten minutes to discuss the merits of starting a community development project in Stonebridge.</p> <p>Sara Butler felt it didn't strike as a place of need but would be interesting to understand the age profile and how many people rented in the area. She said the Frome half marathon always brought out residents in the area and that could possibly be built on.</p> <p>Rich Ackroyd noted that Stonebridge was a very large area with high density housing and low-income families as well as lower density housing and higher income families.</p> <p>Terry Stewart suggested starting in a specific area of Stonebridge to eventually bring the whole of the area together. Sara noted there were lots of cul de sacs as readymade starting points.</p> <p>Sheila Gore noted that if it was not done in the right way this project could result in a community that felt it was being 'done to', rather than wanted by them.</p> <p>The recommendations were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Start exploratory work in Stonebridge in February 2020 2. Use the Community Development budget to fund support stewards to support project delivery. 3. Delegate to the Community Development Manager to work up a detailed and costed project plan to be tabled for discussion at the Town Matters meeting on 11 December. <p>Proposed by John Nelson, seconded by Sheila Gore, agreed unanimously.</p>	KH
2019/16/TM	<p>4. For decision - Taking Participatory Budgeting The People's Budget: Events into 2020/2021</p> <p>Rachel Griffin introduced the report. She explained that if Cllrs agreed this now it meant there would be more time to plan and think through events.</p> <p>The recommendation was to take forward PB Events for 2020-2021 to enable a vote in March 2020 and allocate at least £25k in the 2020/21 budget</p> <p>Proposed by Steve Tanner, seconded by Sara Butler, agreed unanimously.</p>	RG

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5. For decision - Community Grants £300 - £2,000
Kate Hellard gave an overview of the Grants Advisory Panels decisions.

She said they had asked her to source some further information from Frome Park Bowls Club before making a final decision on their application at the meeting. The location of the storage facility had been confirmed as being within the curtilage of their grounds and a full budget breakdown had been provided. Kate suggested awarding the bowls club £1000 on the condition it was only used towards the storage facility and not the scoreboards. Cllrs discussed how much to award.

An additional recommendation to award the bowls club £1500 towards the cost of the storage container, instead of the £2000 requested, was proposed by Ali Barclay, seconded by Anne Hills and agreed by majority.

Applicant	Project	Amount requested	Amount agreed	Conditions / recommendation
Merlin Theatre	Toilet Refurbishment	£2000	£2000	The recommendation is Merlin Theatre to provide a full budget breakdown for this project prior to the release of the funds.
Frome Park Bowls Club	Storage facilities and scoreboards	£2000		Additional information to be requested. Recommendation to be agreed at TM meeting.
Jackdaws Music Education Trust	The Stylist of Somerset	£500	£500	None
Black Swan Arts	Community workshops for Window Wanderland	£2000	£2000	None
Frome Collegians Football Club	Tractor repairs and training equipment	£400	£400	To speak with Community Development Manager to explore their links with

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				other community organisations		
	TOTAL		£6,900			
	<p>The recommendations were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agree the proposals made by the Grants Advisory Panel in the table above. 2. That a new condition be added to the grants' approval letter that all grant recipients acknowledge FTC funding explicitly in their accounts. 3. Delegate authority to the Community Development Manager to ensure the recommended conditions are met and review the impacts of this funding as appropriate. <p>Proposed by Anne Hills, seconded by Sheila Gore, agreed by majority.</p> <p>John Nelson left at 8.24pm</p>					KH
2019/18/TM	<p>6. For decision - Adopting a Busking Code of Conduct in Frome</p> <p>Rachel Griffin explained the need for the code had come from recent work with MDC officers to help streamline events in the town particularly at Boyle Cross.</p> <p>A member of the public queried who would have the right to ask a busker to move on. Rachel explained that this was likely those listed in the code such as retailers and street traders. She noted there was only one enforcement officer for the whole of Mendip, so it was not practical to limit this responsibility to one person.</p> <p>The recommendation was to adopt the Busker's Code of Conduct</p> <p>Proposed by Sara Butler, seconded by Nick Dove, agreed unanimously.</p>					
2019/19/TM	<p>The next meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday 11 December 2019 at Frome Town Hall</p>					

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.35pm