

FROME TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Matters Committee

Wednesday 6 October 2021, 7pm
Zoom and Frome Town Hall

Present:
Councillors:

In the Chamber: Ali Barclay, Sara Butler, Anita Collier, Nick Dove (Chair), Steve Tanner

On Zoom: Sara Butler, Maxine Crawley, Anne Hills, Paul Horton, Andy Palmer, Scott Ward

In attendance:

Laura Emptage (Edventure), Lucy Rae (Scrapstore) Paul Wynne (Town Clerk), Peter Wheelhouse (Deputy Town Clerk), Sarah Williams (Business Manager), Kate Hellard (Community Development Manager), Viv Whitaker (Project Officer), Laura Flaherty (Executive Assistant to the Town Clerk and Mayor), Miles Macey (Marketing and Communications Assistant)

1 member of the public in the Chamber

0 members of the public on Zoom

Minute Ref	Agenda Item	Action
2021/30/TM	<p>Meeting started at 7pm</p> <p>1a. Apologies for absence Received from Rich Ackroyd, Rob Collett and John Nelson.</p> <p>1b. Declaration of members' interests Ali Barclay declared a personal interest in item 5 as a member of the Frome Area Community Land Trust board. Anita Collier declared a personal interest as a Director of Fair Housing for Frome.</p> <p>1c. Minutes from the last meeting on 4 August 2021 The minutes of the Town Matters Committee meeting held on 4 August 2021 were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.</p> <p>Proposed by Steve Tanner, seconded by Scott Ward, agreed by majority. Ali Barclay did not vote as she was not present at the last meeting.</p>	
2021/31/TM	<p>2. Questions and comments from the public and Cllrs None was received.</p>	

2021/32/TM	<p>3. Presentation from Edventure on the Kickstart Apprentice scheme</p> <p>Laura explained Kickstart was a government scheme enabling a young person on universal credit to take part in a 6 month apprenticeship. She explained Edventure’s role was a gateway for employers. They had supported them through recruitment and on boarding. Employees were also given access to training through Edventure. The training programme included wellbeing, safeguarding, first aid, climate (completing a climate project to help make their employer more sustainable), managing time, building confidence, use of social media etc. Laura explained that many had been so successful that some employers were keeping on the apprentices after six months.</p> <p>Laura noted Edventure had filled 39 placements with 24 employers. The government had extended the scheme until March 2022, the deadline for applications was 17 December 2021. Laura was hoping more employers would sign up before then.</p> <p>Nick Dove asked Laura what he should say to encourage a business to get involved? Laura said that the key draw was getting a fully funded employee for 25 hours a week. Plus the support right from the beginning from Edventure. It was a win win.</p> <p>Viv Whitaker provided a brief update on the work of the vocational training group. She explained they had launched the Spring Forward campaign at the Carnival fun day in September which was attended by 1,000 people. It was a great introduction. Bath and Radstock Colleges, Somerset Skills and Learning were on hand to offer some interactive sessions like stone masonry. Members of the group were able to meet in person for the first time in 18 months. Viv also noted the vocational group had a new leaflet funded by Mendip. Viv showed a video of Critchill students running a catering van at Boyle Cross which was a great experience for the students and FTC to make the Boyle Cross come alive and connect with the community.</p>	
2021/33/TM	<p>4. For information – Update on Play Strategy</p> <p>Kate Hellard introduced the report and Lucy Rae from the Scrapstore. Scrapstore had been successful in their bid to help FTC research and create a play strategy.</p>	

	<p>Lucy explained that play was not just for children and that they were looking at it across the life course. She noted the list of benefits of play was applicable to both children and adults.</p> <p>Nikki Cox, Children and Young People’s Project Officer introduced the Choose Play campaign. She explained they were working closely with the comms team to promote it. They have had conversations with schools, residents, the police, statutory services, and others.</p> <p>The campaign had been launched at ‘Picnic in the Meadow’ with Duke of Edinburgh students interacting with residents and asking them the survey questions. The campaign had also been really well received at the ‘Play Day’ at Victoria Park and Mary Baily.</p> <p>Lucy gave an overview of the Choose Play survey which had good geographical spread. The biggest response came from 35 – 44yr olds, they were pleased to get an adult perspective. Recurring themes included swimming, river access, water play, splash pads, climbing, challenge and adventure for older children and adults, support for play, accessible play equipment, seating and social spaces and indoor play for children. Lucy explained they had set up focus groups which would be exploring themes from the survey and audit work. She noted they were going to be doing next level discussions in the focus groups to check in and see if they were on the right lines. Lucy also noted that they had been auditing all Frome’s play areas and how conducive they were to play.</p> <p>Within the audit they had been thinking about time, space, and permission to play. They were looking at the physical and human environment, how accessible and flexible is it. Lucy explained permission encompassed attitudes, removing signage, giving teenagers the ability to congregate, changing young people attitudes around older people and challenging stereotypes.</p> <p>Lucy said it was all about prioritising human interaction and claiming back the streets. She explained they had been citing the 8 – 80 cities study, which says if you get it right for 8yr olds and 80 yr. olds it will be right for everyone.</p> <p>Kate spoke about how they had been interested in exploring risky play. Nikki had brought in the ‘Woodland Tribe’ to do some sessions during great big green week. The events were great because they were inclusive of the young and old.</p>	
--	--	--

	<p>Lucy said they had identified lots of common threads. They were thinking about staffed play provision, to be a conduit between spaces and permissions. This would take away the age and physical barriers, enabling users of spaces to practice and learn.</p> <p>Anne Hills asked how would they reach people without children? Lucy said it was about building a brand for the strategy about Frome being a playful town. She said they could do more events, provide more opportunities to interact, change attitudes and provide signage. There was a desire to bring people together and remind people how they played.</p> <p>Ali Barclay noted there was a challenge in evaluation of the project. Kate explained this would be built into the strategy. Kate said they were anticipating various funding streams coming online. The data collected gave a snapshot in time so they could understand what was working and what wasn't. She noted they would have baseline data along with qualitative data.</p> <p>Anita Collier agreed that there was a need to remind people to take time out to play and enjoy themselves.</p>	
2021/33/TM	<p>5. For ratification – Community grants Kate Hellard summarised the report.</p> <p>Kate explained that St Mary's Church had made an application which the panel had approved recognising the community benefit of the church hall the wider community. This was on hold until some further advice was sort from the external auditor.</p> <p>The recommendations were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ratify the awards for community grants in table 1 (see report). 2. Delegate authority to the Community Development Manager to ensure the recommended conditions are met and review the impacts of this funding as appropriate. 3. Ratify the Mayor's Grant awards detailed in the report <p>Proposed by Steve Tanner, seconded by Scott Ward, agreed unanimously.</p>	KH
2021/34/TM	The next meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday 8 December 2021, Frome Town Hall and Zoom.	

Table 1 - Agenda items

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.17pm