

Market Drayton Community Partnership (MDCP)

Notes of the meeting held on Monday 21 March 2016 at 7.00 pm at Market Drayton Town Hall

1.16 Welcome and apologies

Present: Richard Priestley (Chairman), Hamish Armytage, Davina Bridge (Treasurer), Roy Senior, Eric Davis, Nicola Fisher, Steve Glover, Kate Woodward (Secretary) and Roger Hughes and Roy Aldcroft from item 7.16 onwards .

Apologies: Alistair Duncan (Vice Chairman), Lee Ridgway, Roy Claydon, Charlotte Hollins.

2.16 Notes of the last meeting .

The notes of the MDCP meeting held on Monday 7 December 2015 were **approved** as a correct record.

3.16. Matters arising. None were raised.

4.16. Financial report to 29 February 2016.

Davina **presented** the financial report of the MDCP finances which showed a healthy position as at 29 February 2016 and thus coming towards the end of the financial year with a balance of £4,414.12 and one cheque awaiting clearance. It was **noted** that work on the MDCP website has accounted for a proportion of the expenditure. Richard thanked Davina for her continuing work on the accounts.

5.16 MDCP attendance and membership.

Kate presented the paper on attendance and membership at the MDCP and groups. Regarding quarterly meetings, it was **noted** that agendas and papers were sent to a total of 25 recipients of whom some 12- 15 are active members. Some 10 other people received the papers for information. There has been an average attendance of some 10 members at each meeting over the past two years.

Avoiding double counting, a further 70 or so members are involved in the sub-groups, of whom some 39 - 45 are active members.

It was **agreed** that

1. All those involved in the MDCP should be encouraged to seek new members to take forward practical actions to benefit the town and that the body as a whole would flourish if new people joined and new sub-groups were developed to meet further challenges.
2. Hamish would continue to promote the activities of the MDCP through the MD Messenger.
3. Future meetings would be quarterly and that the June 2016 meeting would include the AGM.

6.16 Bus services in MD

Eric reported on the recent Senior Citizens' Forum (SCF) Survey, which identified public transport services as a key concern. Representatives from SCF were due to meet Owen Paterson on 15 April 2016 and it was **agreed** that at the next MDCP meeting, Eric would report on the outcome of this meeting and progress generally..

7.16. MD Town Council Neighbourhood Plan.

Richard gave an update on the work of the Town Council's Neighbourhood Plan Group. It was **noted** that:

1. The Neighbourhood Plan survey published in the November 2015 issue of the MD Messenger had now closed and that Grove School Juniors responded very well; around 200 students took part; results of the survey were currently being analysed.
2. There had been strong support for the proposal to create a marina for the town and there were many comments on local sports facilities and the concept of Shared Spaces. More information is available on the MD Town Council website www.marketdrayton.gov.uk
3. The first draft of the Plan would be published in June 2016 after which there would be time for feedback and discussions; work on the Plan should conclude for publication in March/April 2017.

7.16 MD Schools Partnership Stakeholder Forum

Richard drew attention to the paper submitted by John Hargreaves, Chair of the MD Learning Partnership, about the formation of a Schools Partnership Stakeholder Forum to facilitate the existing MD Learning Partnership's links with the local community. The paper asked that the MDCP should propose a representative to contribute to the work of the Stakeholder Forum. It was **agreed** that Davina should be the MDCP nominee.

8.16 Young People's Partnership

Richard referred to a proposal from Councillor David Minnery, Shropshire Council's Portfolio Holder for Young People, that a Young Persons' Forum might be established in the Town. It was **agreed** that Richard would respond that the MDCP strongly supported this idea and that such a group could be formed under the aegis of the MDCP in the context of a Special Interest Group with quasi autonomous as suggested .

9.16 Reports from groups

9.16.1 Drayton Arts Fest (DAF) Group. Richard **reported** that a meeting to discuss DAF 2016 took place in February 2016 and that attendees expressed a strong desire to undertake another DAF weekend and bring in new artists and volunteers. The DAF group was seeking financial support. A first draft of the programme will be available at the end of March and new arts elements will be featured. It was **agreed** that the MDCP would underwrite the Festival costs to the sum of £2,000.

9.16.2. MD Tourism and Visitor Group

Richard **reported** that the work of the group was presently focussed on enhancements to the canal area with the intention that small actions will make significant differences to its appearance. The Canal and Rivers' Trust Community MD Canal Development Group had produced an action plan surveying the towpath area from Orwell's Yard to Tyrley Locks identifying actions, outline time frame, costs etc. A bid had been submitted to Shropshire Housing Group for funds to support some of the work.

9.16.3. Environment and Climate Change Group. It was **noted** that the existing agreement between Shropshire Council and Severn Trent Water would expire on 16 April 2016 after which it was planned that management / responsibility for this area would transfer to the Shropshire Wildlife Trust.

9.16.4. Incredible Edible MD. It was **noted** that in the Spring schedule, the Group had been invited by the management and the residents of Corbet Court, to plant raised beds for a further year with the help of MD Infants School. Preliminary discussions had taken place with Shropshire Housing Group about involvements with improvements to the canal towpath area; and that help had been confirmed for the Longlands School's weekly gardening club.

10.16. News and Views.

It was **noted** that:

1. The next Local Joint Committee meeting would take place on Wednesday 25 March at Festival Drayton.

2. There will be a Queen's Celebratory Market on 13 August 2016, run by LSD Promotions, operator of the regular market days. Those interested in taking a stall should contact the Assistant Town Clerk for more details.
3. The websites **mdcp.co.uk**(5,869visits logged) **discovermarketdrayton.co.uk** (122,384 visits logged) and **draytonartsfest.org** (24,535 visits logged) were regularly updated and the figures quoted above indicate that usage was good.
4. Discussions continued between the Senior Citizens' Forum and a company which offered solutions to counteract dog fouling.
5. It was **agreed** that it would be valuable to devise a **You said ... We did** list which could be published in the MD Messenger and used elsewhere, e.g. the AGM to update local people on the work of the Partnership and encourage them to contribute their energy and time.

11.16 Date and time of next meeting.

It was **agreed** that the date of the next meeting of the MDCP Group which will include the AGM will be on Monday 27 June at 7.00 pm at Market Drayton Town Hall.