

## Market Drayton Community Partnership (MDCP)

### Notes of the meeting held on Monday 17 October, 7.00 pm at Market Drayton Town Hall

#### 25.16 Welcome and apologies

**Present:** Richard Priestley (Chairman), Alistair Duncan (Vice Chairman), Davina Bridge (Treasurer), Darren Green, Pauline Machin, Ron Machin, Roger Hughes, Hamish Armytage, Eric Davis, Roy Claydon, Roy Senior, Kate Woodward (Secretary)

**Apologies:** Steve Glover, Nicola Fisher, Suzanne Edwards

Richard welcomed everyone to the meeting, postponed from the original date of 19 September 2016, and introduced Darren Green, of Shropshire Housing Association and Pauline and Ron Machin of Abientot Art.

**26.16. Notes of the AGM and Business Meeting held on 27 June 2016.** The notes of the last meeting were **agreed**.

**27.16. Matters arising.** None

#### 28.14. Treasurer's report.

Davina **presented** the accounts to 31 August 2016 which were **agreed** to show a healthy balance. Although there had not been much recent expenditure, it was **noted** that monies would soon be paid to fund the DAF 2016 and the canal and arts trail heritage projects.

#### 29.16. Bus services for Market Drayton.

Eric **reported** on the review of local bus services and expressed interest in ideas for promotion of local services via newsletters, notice boards, social media and local radio and would pass these on to a colleague. He anticipated that there would soon be discussion around expanding the services which are offered by the community car.

Richard congratulated Eric and his fellow volunteers for their work and members expressed the hope that the new services would become well-established in the town. It was **agreed** that they would certainly fill a significant gap in the existing provision of public transport

#### 30.16. Town Council Neighbourhood Plan.

The Town Plan had now been published for consultation and copies were available from the Town Council and the Library. It was **noted** that, in order to satisfy government requirements, the document was written in a style guided by planning authorities.

It was **noted** that the MDCP has been formally consulted; all MDCP members were asked to express their opinions as individuals and as members of the Partnership.

It was **agreed that Individual comments should be sent to the Town Hall by 21 November and comments from a Partnership perspective should be sent for collation to Richard by 18 November at the latest.**

It was **noted** that subsequently the following stages would be undertaken:

- After the consultation period, the Plan would be redrafted accordingly. Further details and statistics would be added and a second draft would be presented to the Town Council for comment.
- The resulting document would be submitted to an independent examiner appointed by Shropshire Council.
- In order for the Plan to be considered for approval a local referendum would be held and the result must show a majority vote in favour of the plan's proposals.
- If the referendum resulted in 50% + 1 approval of those voting, it would be forwarded for formal acceptance and implementation.

### 31.16 Young People's Partnership.

It was **agreed** that;

- This item would be deferred until the next meeting.
- Roger would raise the matter with Amy Roberts who supported the young ambassadors at the Grove School.

### 32.16. Group reports.

#### 32.16.1 .1 Drayton Arts Fest 2016

Richard **reported** that this year's Arts Fest will be a blend of old and new. Tried and trusted events such as Jake's Take and the children's calendar workshop would feature alongside new events including martial arts, an Elvis tribute act, an Irish Night at the Red Lion and a self-guided poetry trail around the town centre. Choral events would include a performance by A Choired Taste and a choral evensong at St Mary's Church. Admission to around 85% of events would be free of charge and everyone is urged to come and enjoy this family-friendly festival.

#### 32.1.6.2, Market Drayton Tourism and Visitor group.

Richard **reported** that this project was to improve the urban section of the canal from Bridge 61 towards Tyrley Locks. In part it comprised a comprehensive number of small developments by the Canal and River Trust, some of which are already completed. A further element is to be canal arts and heritage trail, the lead body for which is the MDCP. The Partnership is very grateful to Shropshire Housing Group, for a grant of £4900 to fund the project, and to Abientot Art, who have generously agreed to volunteer their time and expertise as leaders and consultants.

Pauline **reported** that the arts project was planned to include the following:

- In 2016/7 the trail would feature the 'Doorways project': two panels, each to be 8' by 4' strategically placed along the towpath at the bridge carrying the bypass as a gateway to the town. Artistic contributors will include children at Longlands School and U3A poetry and photographic groups.
- In 2017/18 an art trail would be devised which could feature 'Shroppie Stones' to create a pathway of bricks each of which would be inscribed with a personal dedication by its sponsor.

**32.16.3 Environment and Climate Change group.** Kate **reported** and it was **noted** that Shropshire Council had advised that its lease with Severn Trent ran until 2019; it was **agreed** that Kate would contact Charlotte, Eric and Roger to ask what the practical arrangements were for maintaining the site until the expiry of the lease.

**32.16.4 Incredible Edible Market Drayton (IEMD).** Kate **reported** on behalf of Suzanne Byrnes Antoney (IEMD) that raised beds had been planted at Corbet Court in June. Between April and July, Suzanne led a gardening club at Longlands School. The fruit trees planted by the swimming pool some years ago were now bearing fruit.

It was **noted** that the Town Council's Community Orchard in the corner of the Town Park looked very impressive.

### 33.16 News and Views.

- It was **noted** that the Talbot public house, discussed at an MDCP meeting earlier this year (note 22.16.3), appeared to have been sold. It was **agreed** that the MDCP would continue to support the concept of the Talbot as a community venture and that Dr James Bowen should be commended for his research into the history of this canal side hostelry. Roy Claydon **agreed** to forward details to Roger so that consideration could be given to action re this opportunity.
- Hamish invited contributions to the next issue of the Messenger and it was **agreed** that articles should be provided to him by mid-November.
- It was **noted** that the Canal and River Trust had improved some sections of the canal towpath between Market Drayton and Audlem but that some very muddy sections remained.

**34.16. Date and time of next meeting.** It was **agreed** that the next MDCP meeting would be held on **Monday 16 January 2017 at 7.00 pm at Market Drayton Town Hall.**