

Market Drayton Community Partnership (MDCP)

Notes of MDCP meeting held on Monday 20 April 2015 at 7.00pm at Market Drayton Town Hall

10.15. Welcome and apologies

Present: Richard Priestley (Chairman), Hamish Armytage, Lee Ridgway (Vice Chairman), Roy Claydon, Roger Hughes, Nicola Fisher, David Minnery, Kate Woodward (Secretary), Roy Senior

Apologies: Richard welcomed all to the meeting and advised the group that Laura Newsome, MD Library Branch Manager had planned to attend as a new member but had sent her apologies due to illness. Other apologies were **noted** from Charlotte Hollins, Eric Davis, Alistair Duncan, Davina Bridge.

11.15. Notes of the last meeting

The notes of the meeting held on 26 January 2015 were **approved** as a correct record.

12.15. Matters arising.

(8.15.3) A meeting was held on 02/03/15 to discuss the future of the Youth Centre and Youth Services. It was **noted** that:

- 1 The Town Council might not pursue direct management of the premises but the Girl Guides had expressed an interest in making use of the building.
2. The closing date for expressions of interest was 30 April 2015.

13.15 Financial report to 31 March 2015

The financial report from Davina was received and discussed.

It was **noted** that:

1. the report covered the period 1 February 2014 to 31 March 2015 and presented a healthy financial position
2. from the date of this report, the dates for the financial reporting system would change to 1 April to 31 March
3. following the DAF in 2014 a sum of £1871 remained from the underwritten sum of £3000 committed ; this sum would be carried forward for use by the DAF in 2015

14.15. MDCP development Phase 2

The paper summarizing the outcome of a meeting between Richard, Kate, Davina and Hamish held in March 2015 was received and the recommendations for action in paragraphs 2.1 to 2.9 were **noted**. It was **agreed** to support all these recommendations for implementation which were in hand accordingly.

It was **noted** that the new website www.mdcp.co.uk had been launched and members were asked to visit it accordingly.

15.15. Proposals for Open Evening and AGM 2015

It was **agreed** that:

1. The Open Evening and AGM would be held at Market Drayton Town Hall on the evening of Thursday 30 June and that the event will be advertised via the Messenger and other local media.
2. Richard will draft an agenda to include elections to office and presentations by sub-groups and that proposals with regard to presentations will be included.

16.15. MD Town Council Neighbourhood Plan (NP).

It was **noted** that:

1. The NP is a positive process to create a framework for the long term development of Market Drayton; the first stage of the Plan is under way; a copy of the draft Statement of Intent for the NP had been circulated to all members.
2. In January 2015 a NP working group was established, the members of which are: Cllrs Roger Hughes, David Minnery, Lee Ridgway, Tim Beckett; Nicola Fisher, Julie Jones, Peter Wilson and Richard Priestley (Chairman). It was noted that Peter Wilson and Roger Hughes were to meet Hamish Armytage to discuss publicity through The Messenger, leading to the development of two questionnaires designed for individuals and businesses.
3. The NP process is ultimately subject to a referendum and that 50% of respondents must approve of the proposals set out in the Plan in order for them to be ratified by Shropshire Council.
4. Professional expertise would need to be procured in respect of planning work, survey preparation and analysis, writing, designing and publishing.

17.15. Reports

17.15.1. DraytonArtsFest 2015

It was **noted** that the 2015 Drayton Arts Festival will be held from 30 October to 1 November 2015.

Kate reported on the following:

- Events with a far-reaching appeal will be held in the town in a variety of accessible locations.
- Performers will be of high quality and will be drawn from the local area and across the wider region.
- The Festival will support the aims of the Tourism and Visitor Strategy.
- As happened in 2014, the majority of events will offer free admission.
- The programme currently numbers some 25+ events and more than one third of performers are new this year.
- The festival organisers are grateful for financial support from the MDCP, MD Town Council and the Jean Jackson Trust. Further financial support is sought from other bodies, including Shropshire Council Arts Office.
- The DAF 2015 Business plan which had been circulated to all

The MDCP had **agreed** to underwrite the 2015 Drayton Arts Festival by £ 1871 (see note 13.15.); it was further **agreed** to underwrite the additional sum of £1000 as might be necessary.

17.15.2 Market Drayton Tourism and Visitors group

Lee presented progress on the T and V group; it was **noted** that:

1. The Tourism and Visitor Group meetings were held every two months and that members were encouraged to recruit new people.
2. There had been steady progress in this regard; for example, Glyn from Festival Drayton was a new attendee at the most recent meeting.
3. The website for Tourism and Visitors www.discovermarketdrayton.co.uk had been launched in January 2015 and had already attracted more than 6500 visits and 10000 page loads; ideas for further development were under consideration
4. There would be an agenda item at the next Tourism and Visitor group meeting about the possible promotion via the Tourism and Visitor website / publication of various Walking guides and a Guide to the Tern Valley both written by Andy Boden.

17.15.3 Environment and Climate Change Group

Kate **reported** in Charlotte's absence that some conservation and coppicing work had been undertaken at Walkmill Meadow. It was **noted** that discussions were continuing with Severn Trent and Shropshire Wildlife trust re future work on the site; funds to support this had been secured and could be unlocked once formal agreements were in place.

17.15.4 Incredible Edible Market Drayton

Kate **reported** in Charlotte's absence that during the winter, work on the project had been quiet but promotional plans were in place for the town during the summer.

18.15. News and views / any other business.

It was **noted** that

1. There had been some vandalism in the canal area and there was movement afoot to try to establish a local team to work on canal improvements. It was **agreed** that the possibility of development of the canal would be the subject of an agenda item at the next MDCP meeting and that Roy C. would speak further on this subject.
2. The next meeting of the Tourism and Visitor group will be held on 12 May at MD Town Hall ; Lee invited Roy C. to the meeting to speak about the canal.
3. Lee offered congratulations to Richard and members of MDCP for accelerated progress in its work and its proactive approach to tasks.

19.15. Date and time of next MDCP meeting.

It was **agreed** that the next meeting of the MD Community Partnership would be held on Monday 20 July at 7.00pm at Market Drayton Town Hall.