

Market Drayton Community Partnership (MDCP)

Notes of the meeting held on 24 April 2017 at 7.00 pm at Market Drayton Town Hall

10.17 Welcome and apologies

Present: Richard Priestley (Chairman), Alistair Duncan (Vice Chairman) Eric Davis, Hamish Armytage, Suzanne Edwards, Jane Hughes, Nicola Fisher, James Bowen, Gareth Bowen, Kate Woodward (Secretary)

Apologies: Davina Bridge (Treasurer), Roy Claydon, Helen Vaughan, Roger Hughes

Richard welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Jane Hughes speaking on the Drayton Arts Fest, and James Bowen and Gareth Bowen speaking on the Talbot Inn nomination as an Asset of Community Value.

It was **noted** that Darren Green, of Shropshire Housing Group, had left his post and that Helen Vaughan was presently covering his work and was keen to retain the SHG link with the work of the MDCP.

11.17 Talbot Inn

James Bowen and Gareth Bowen described how the Talbot Inn had become listed as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) It was **noted** that the Inn is the only ACV in Market Drayton and that James and Gareth would welcome support from the MDCP.

Following detailed discussions, it was **agreed** that Richard would write to Shropshire Council outlining the MDCP's strong support for the Talbot Inn's retention as an ACV and objecting to the current proposals for planning applications submitted as a result of action by Meynell developments Ltd and Huntington Properties Ltd , the retention of this asset being in accordance with the MDCP's support for work on the Market Drayton Canal. Richard thanked James and Gareth for their information.

12.17 Notes of the meeting held on 16 January 2017

The notes of the meeting held on 16 January 2017 were **approved** as a correct record.

13.17. Matters arising.

1. **Market Drayton Education Partnership.** Davina had provided an informative paper, included in Information and reports, www.mdcpc.co.uk on the work of the MD Education Partnership Stakeholder Forum, for which she is the MDCP representative. Richard spoke to the paper in Davina's absence.

It was **agreed** that Davina would be asked to provide updates on a six monthly basis.

2. It was **noted** that there had been no progress so far with the **Young People's Partnership** (note 06.17 notes of meeting on 16 January 2017); it was **agreed** that this item would only be added to MDCP agendas at such times as there was something to report.

14.17 Financial report

Richard thanked Davina for preparing the reports for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017. It was **noted** that the bank account was in a healthy position and income stood at £14,349.12. The total expenditure for the period was £7,264 and there would be further expenditure, such as on the DAF, in the forthcoming months.

It was **agreed** that it was very helpful to see balances itemised by groupings of income and expenditure.

15.17. Resilient Communities

Nicola reported on the Shropshire Council initiative to develop Resilient local Communities which encouraged early intervention in social care of all kinds, thus helping to avoid crisis situations arise . A supporting paper was available separately on the MDCP website. A project had already been established in Oswestry. Nicola reported on the Market Drayton networking meeting which took place on 24/4/17 at the Phoenix Centre (formerly known as MD Youth Club), at which 25 organisations met and exchanged information and undertook a mapping exercise of services provided. Shropshire Council, the Clinical Care Group, the NHS and local General Practitioners were involved, together with Market Drayton's Community and Care Co-ordinator. It was **noted** that Shropshire Council had committed £100,000 of existing money via existing staff costs to facilitate the project.

It was **agreed** that paragraph 7 of Nicola's document above should be supported by the MDCP and that the MDCP would act as a coordinating body and resource of local information for the work of the local Resilient Communities programme so that it formed part of the MDCP's portfolio of projects.. The subject would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

16.17. Festival of Health and Well Being .

Eric reported on the Festival of Health and Well Being due to take place at Festival Drayton on Wednesday 10 May. This very successful event had attracted 27 exhibitors and over 200 visitors in 2016. This year there would be 39 exhibition stands, some promoting more than one group. In addition, there would be a number of presentations in the Green Suite. It was **noted** that a second community car might be obtained for the town. Eric and his colleagues were warmly congratulated for their endeavours.

17.17. Neighbourhood Plan

Richard reported on the Neighbourhood Plan and some of the recent issues involved..

It was **noted** that, as a result of recent meetings on 12 April and 18 April 2017, responsibility for the continuing work of the Neighbourhood Plan had been taken back by the Town Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group had disbanded.

It was **agreed** that the Neighbourhood Plan would no longer be a standing item on the MDCP agenda but would feature as issues were identified for consideration..

18.17. Reports from groups

18.17.1 Drayton Arts Fest 2017. Suzanne reported that Jane Hughes had taken over the role of administrative and organisational support for the DAF 2017. Hamish was managing publicity and marketing and Glyn Jackson and Nick Ainsworth were giving support in their areas of expertise. Jane spoke about the draft Business plan and artistic programme which this year featured some new art forms, such as martial arts. Suzanne was arranging for the calendar exhibition and other art to be on show at the Phoenix Centre. Venues were being booked and the necessary steps were in place vis a vis health and safety policies, insurance etc. Image on Food had promised to support the DAF and financial support has been secured from Shropshire Council. MD Town Council, the Jean Jackson Trust and Meadons would also be approached. It was **agreed** that £1000 of MDCP funds would be allocated to support the Festival .

18.17.2..Tourism and Visitor group. Richard outlined the current status of the group's action plan. Work on the canal trail continued with discussions with the Canal and Rivers Trust. Full details of progress can be found at mdcp.co.uk in the Information and reports section.

18.17.3. Incredible Edible Market Drayton (IEMD). Kate reported on behalf of Suzanne Byrnes-Antoney, IEMD's co-ordinator. The Men's Shed Group had made some seedling trays and Longlands School hoped to run another gardening club this year. Suzanne planned to contact Corbet Court to offer help in planting raised beds as in previous years. Suzanne understood from Roger Hughes that some land might be available for a gardening project if the Grove School was so interested: she was now awaiting a response from the school. Suzanne would welcome other expressions of interest and ideas.

19.17. Priorities for MDCP 2017 +

It was **agreed** that members would welcome an expanded range of projects and people prepared to commit time and energy to bringing them to fruition. Current projects are as follows:

- Drayton Arts Fest (DAF)
- Work on the canal area towpath
- Resilient Communities
- MD Community Partnership website **mdcp.co.uk**
- DAF website **draytonartsfest.org**
- MD Tourism and Visitor website **discovermarketdrayton.co.uk**

and support for groups including:

- Incredible Edible MD
- Talbot Inn support group

It was **agreed** that

1. The next agenda would focus on developing new projects for which there were volunteer leaders and workers.
2. Richard and Kate would circulate an email inviting all members to attend the MDCP meeting in June at which they could speak on any items which they saw as potential viable new initiatives for the MDCP. Members were further encouraged to consider recruiting new people who would enjoy working on community projects which will be of benefit to the town.
3. The AGM, which usually took place in June, would be deferred until later in the year. It therefore followed that the election of officers would be deferred until the AGM; thus the existing officers should roll forward their commitment until the next AGM .

20.17. News and Views.

- The Phoenix Centre was operating from the building which was formerly the Youth Club, under the oversight of a consortium of local organisations.
- The MDCP website www.mdcp.co.uk had 17,956 visits
- The DAF website www.draytonartsfest.org had 27,053 visits
- The tourism website www.discovermarketdrayton.co.uk had 358,858 visits
- Bee-friendly information was available from the following website: **38degrees.org.uk**

21.17. Date and time of next meeting and AGM.

- The AGM deferred until the autumn, as above
- It was **agreed** that the date of the next meeting would be Monday 26 June at MD Town Hall at 7.00 pm