

MARKET DRAYTON COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP AND WORK PROGRAMME MAY 2017

1. At the MDCP meeting on 24 April 2017, discussion arose with regard to membership, attendance at meetings and the MDCP work programme. This paper describes the position and offers proposals for consideration.
2. The MDCP presently has work programmes and membership participation relating to the following which broadly speaking have reference to the overall objectives of the Town Plan – September 2011- whence the MDCP was established:

2.1 The MDCP group– www.mdcp.co.uk - has a total of 30 recipients of agendas, papers etc of whom some 14 are active members with others receiving the papers for information. Participation in meetings over the last 3 years has been as follows:

- February 2014 – 15 attendances and 2 apologies
- April 2014 -10 attendances and 6 apologies
- June 2014 – AGM – 15 attendances and 1 apology
- July 2014 – 10 attendances and 2 apologies
- December 2014 – meeting postponed
- January 2015 – 13 attendances and 2 apologies
- April 2015 - 9 attendances and 5 apologies
- June 2015 AGM – 12 attendances and 2 apologies
- September 2015 – 12 attendances and 3 apologies
- December 2015 – 7 attendances and 10 apologies
- March 2016 – 10 attendances and 10 apologies
- June 2016 (AGM) – 12 attendances and 7 apologies
- October 2016 – 12 attendances and 3 apologies
- January 2017 – 8 attendances and 9 apologies
- April 2017 – 10 attendances and 4 apologies

Thus, there has been an average attendance of some 11 members per meeting over the three years.

2.2 The Drayton Arts Festival group – DAF – www.draytonartsfest.org which consists of some 30 members of whom some 15 are regular participants.

2.3 The Environment and Climate Change group focuses on developments in the locality where action can be taken to make a visible difference to the local environment. The group of six active members has organised working parties in the area of Walkmill Meadow, which is leased to Severn Trent Water Company by Shropshire Council until 2019. The group is currently dormant, pending further developments at Walkmill Meadow.

2.4 The Tourism and Visitor group – www.discovermarketdrayton.co.uk - which is open to any member of the MDCP or other person to join for the benefit of the local tourist economy. It comprises a small number of active MDCP members who meet on specific tourism related issues as required. Present work relates to the MD canal area tow-path and its environment, particularly to improve the general state thereof, to provide information for canal users and to create an arts and heritage trail.

2.5 Resilient Communities MD – a very new group being established to encourage early interventions in social care and other services to help avoid crisis situations arising. This could involve Statutory Social Services, NHS services and voluntary organisations.

2.6 Management of the three websites (MDCP, Draytonartsfest and Discover Market Drayton)

Two areas where the MDCP supports existing groups include:

2.7 The MD Incredible Edible group which meets as required and has some 9 active members. Its aim is to promote the aims of the Incredible Edible movement in MD by encouraging local people to participate in growing food for healthy eating. Around 40 people of all ages work with the core volunteers to plant out. Still more people enjoy the harvest.. There are schemes ongoing at Longlands School, Market Drayton Infants' School and Corbet Court.

2.8 The Talbot Inn support group, with a focus to ensure continuity of the Inn as an Asset of Community Value – ACV.

3. Thus, and avoiding double counting, there are presently up to some 65 – 70 members within the various elements of the umbrella organisation of the MDCP, of whom some 39 - 45 are active members, who seek to pursue the aims and objectives of the MDCP in varying ways.

4. It would be appropriate in 2017 to recruit and encourage more members to the MDCP and its groups to ensure that they are vibrant and stimulated, allowing for new options for special interest groups to emerge. It is **proposed** that :

4.1. Such efforts should focus on consolidating existing action in 2017 by securing further 2 / 3 + active members for the MDCP group.

4.2. Members should consider how this might realistically be achieved, From recent experience, it may be that this could best be done by personal contact.

5. Members should actively consider additional areas of work – say 1 or 2 in number - which could be designated special interest groups, as appropriate ideas and resources are identified.

6. It is **proposed** that the frequency of formal MDCP meetings should be maintained on a quarterly basis for 2017 onwards with meetings being arranged as follows:

- June 2017
- October / November 2017, to include the AGM noting that a December meeting has proved less useful.
- January 2018 ++

7. Members are **asked** to consider the issues above and come to the meeting prepared to discuss particularly paragraphs 4.2 and 5 above and agree a course of action.

Richard Priestley – Chairman MDCP

Kate Woodward – Secretary MDCP

June 2017v2