

SEAFORD COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of Steering Group Meeting 25 held at St James' Club (Seaford Volunteers) Wednesday 4th December 2002

Present:

David Schueler
Mike Murphy
Linda Hallums
Pauline Gower

Cllr Laurie Holland
Jon Freeman
Duncan White
Ted Cowdrey

Christine Sinclair
Tony Rosewell
Chris Hart
Audrey Whitney

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

Cllr Liz Lee, LDC lead member for Community Services and Chair of the Lewes Local Strategic Partnership was welcomed. Cllr Lee explained that she is visiting all of the Area Partnerships to become familiar with the members and their programmes.

Apologies from Peter Sinclair, Colin Brown, Paul Rideout, Stuart Adcock, Owen Clifford, WPC Lee Willsher.

Juliette White was welcomed as a speaker on Public Baby Changing facilities

2. MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 24 - 13th November 2002

Agreed

3. REPORTS FROM THE THEMATIC TASK GROUPS

3.1 Farmers Market (Christine Sinclair)

Christine Sinclair advised that permission for road closures from March to September 2003 has been applied for. This will include the usual 3rd Thursday markets and will request an extension from Church Street to Steyne Road/Lower High Street. The market is popularity continued in October and November and the regular stall holders have advised their intention to carry on through the winter (except for vegetables). It is therefore anticipated that extra stallholders will come along in the spring.

The application also includes the 'fifth' Saturday in May, June and August (as agreed at the November meeting). The Seaford Chamber of Commerce has been advised of this and a request made for a meeting with their membership to discuss the implications. David Schueler reported that the Chamber had agreed a meeting on 13th March and it was proposed to make this a presentation on the Farmers Market and other aspects of the Partnership's activities. The Town Council will also have the opportunity of commenting on the Saturday markets when the road closure application comes before the Planning and Highways committee.

Christine Sinclair explained that the Saturday markets would cater for working people (particularly couples) unable to attend on Thursdays.

It is also aimed at visitors to the beach and leaflet drops need to be made on the beach and promenade on the Saturdays.

The leaflets listing all Seaford traders need to be distributed.

An Autumn food festival in conjunction with the market was proposed. ESCC should also be approached to foster a schools project covering a food trail to the farmers market and involving local businesses and restaurants/pubs

Work on the recipe book is continuing.

It was agreed that Christmas hampers should be given to the Fish & Chip shop, and the local pub who had helped so much with providing electricity supplies and also to Jenny, the traffic warden who is of invaluable help on market days.

3.2 Skills Demand & Supply (Chris Hart)

Chris Hart had reported that the task of putting together the paperwork has commenced for the training project "Passport to Success" and launch ideas are being put together. The project will target businesses of under 10 employees and will use either ready-made course material or tailor-made.

Trained interviewers will go around the businesses to find out and write up existing skills and then recommend a training programme to maximise the effectiveness of the firm.

The funding of £65,000 is sufficient for 100 courses.

A launch meeting is planned for all those interested on 23rd January in the (previous) County Catering Rooms in Dane Road from 10 am to 4pm. Richard Branson is expected to be present.

3.3 First Stop Shop and Seaford Forum (Jon Freeman and Mary Crutch)

First Stop Shop

a) Stage 2 - Station Project

Jon Freeman reported that the SWOT analysis will be amended in the New Year to up-date the station project and include the development of the railway land south of the track on the north of the Salts as discussed at the November meeting. There is considerable interest in this in various quarters.

Talks with Railtrack and the Strategic Rail Authority are continuing to be sought.

b) Seaford Forum

It was agreed that the next Forum should take place on the last Friday in January (31st January) The Maritime Festival would be included and others to be discussed

c) Publicity

Sseaford Gazette is still continuing to publicise our activities.

3.4 Business Development (Peter Sinclair, Ted Cowdrey, Jon Freeman etc)

a) Cradle Hill Industrial Estate - No further progress to report

b) Corsica Hall - it is possible that at least one Seaford organisation is interested and would consider sharing facilities with the community.

3.5 Transport and Safe Routes to School (Ted Cowdrey)

a) ESCC designs for the school crossings is awaited

b) Tidemills Greenway - Colin Clark has advised ESCC are not party to the INTERREG bid. It was suggested that all parties (LDC, STC etc) should get together to discuss this project.

3.6 Waste Disposal Task Group (Jon Freeman)

a) Task Group

A meeting was held on 27th November at which a number of short term objectives were identified.

Waste reduction

- Leaflet drops
- Use of telephone to reduce junk mail
- Recycling pallets e.g for building own compost heaps
- Representatives from Sainsburys, Safeways and Co-Op to be asked to discuss ways of reducing packaging etc
- Approach cardboard and other commercial waste groups to re recycling

b) **Zero Waste Charter**

Christine Sinclair asked a suitable question on this at the November Town Council meeting and advised STC that SCP do support the Zero Waste Charter. The Town Council agreed to support maximum recycling but not the zero waste charter because they had virtually no powers to implement this.

3.7 Seafront Improvements, Tourism and Culture (David Schueler)

a) **Seafront Improvements**

Meeting held 27th November on Heritage Trail. Initial £1000 required from STC grant of £5000 for design work on Heritage trail boards and leaflet - possibly recoverable from overall bid for the boards & leaflets from Local Heritage Initiative (advice from Geoff State)

Promenade side of Salts improvements discussed, including a new café. Suggested that we produce an overall SWOT analysis integrated with the Station Project.

This could facilitate overall funding (Lottery) , possibly on a staged basis.

LDC cabinet considering repairs to existing café for 2-3years pending results of Salts/Station bids

Skatepark facilities, Seaford Town Council still looking at this. Funding of £8500 promised each from STC and from LDC. £1000 had been requested from £5000 STC grant to SCP towards a total cost of £20,000 and this was agreed.

b) **Seahaven Maritime Festival -**

Programme & Budget meetings held. Len Fisher looking at printed programme with sponsorship and free delivery to Newhaven and Seaford by Safeways.

LDC contributing £3k, Newhaven and Seaford Town Councils £1k each. This will allow most functions to take place but some further sponsorship being sought.

3.8 Cinema Club

December show - The Importance of Being Ernest cert.U Saturday 14 Dec at 7.30pm. Tickets currently on sale

3.9 Youth Strategy

Audrey Whitney has advised that she is involved in a meeting to cover the needs of 14-19 year old youngsters.

4. Partnership Accounts

The Farmers Market continues to provide positive balances in the accounts although the cost of renewing the Public liability insurance has not yet been established.

Confirmed that the second instalment of the NHS grant for the First Stop shop has now been received. It was requested that a detailed statement of accounts be presented each quarter.

It was also suggested that, where possible, each task group produce a budget to cover both administration costs and also project funding requirements.

5. LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Owen Clifford asked members to look at www.localvoices.info and pass any comments (via a link to Owen on the website) on the draft community strategy.

The next LSP meeting is scheduled for 6th January and matters to be discussed will include the draft community strategy, LSP Youth priorities and the quality of life.

It was agreed that LSP meeting notes should be circulated.

7. THE SEAFORD COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP CONSTITUTION

Most organisations have nominated their representatives for trustees except for the Chamber of Commerce who could not find anyone to take this on.

The Seaford Volunteers have nominated Joan Pearce

It is anticipated that nominees will be able to sign the Constitution Document early in the New Year so that it can go to Companies House.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Juliette White addressed the Partnership on her campaign to improve public feeding and changing facilities in Seaford.

She advised:

- There are no toilets in Safeways
- Seaford shops have no feeding facilities for babies/toddlers
- Feeding and changing is difficult in car-parks during the summer because of the heat.
- Public toilet cubicles will not accommodate push chairs
- Juliette has spoken to the Seaford Gazette to publicise these problems and drum up support for parents with small children and babies.
- A petition also achieved 200 signatures.

Juliette was advised that she should approach LDC to present the petition to a meeting of the full council. She should also write to John Magnus - Director of Finance and Community Services re the provision of baby facilities in public toilets. Alan Batty is the contact in LDC for arranging to present the petition.

It would also be useful to approach the Chamber of Commerce and doctor's surgeries.

b) Cuckmere Trail

Tony Rosewell introduced the paper which he has prepared on the proposed flooding of the Cuckmere Valley.

It was agreed that Mark Elliot should be written to, expressing concerns about the project and asking him to attend a meeting of the Partnership to discuss the whole matter.

Mike Murphy reported that he is setting up meetings with occupiers of the houses and cottages on the West side.

Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 8th January 2003

DS/Jan 2003

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