

SEAFORD COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of Steering Group Meeting 27 held at St James' Club (Seaford Volunteers) Wednesday 5th February 2003

Present:

David Schueler
Mike Murphy
Linda Hallums
Pauline Gower
Stuart Adcock

Cllr Laurie Holland
Jon Freeman
Chris Hart
Owen Clifford

Christine Sinclair
Tony Rowswell
Joan Pearce
Peter Sinclair

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

Apologies from Ted Cowdrey, Duncan White, Paul Rideout

Ted Cowdrey had sent a message to say that due to illness he would not be able to participate in the partnership's activities for the foreseeable future. Members expressed their regret and conveyed their appreciation of all the hard work and dedication he had put in to the partnership's activities since it was founded. Ted was wished a speedy recovery from his illness.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 26 - 8th January 2003

Agreed

3. REPORTS FROM THE THEMATIC TASK GROUPS

3.1 Farmers Market (Christine Sinclair)

Christine had attended the regional Farmers Markets Co-ordinating Group meeting

Ideas from this included selling coppice produce such as bird nesting boxes, feeders, hurdles, etc and also locally caught fish (crabs) and Sussex grown Christmas trees.

West Sussex donates £4000 to the co-ordinating group for a joint advertising budget. Advertising bags are available for sale at the markets

It was confirmed that a meeting is being planned by the Chamber of Commerce on 13th March to enable the partnership to talk to Chamber members about the farmers market and other projects.

It was agreed that continuation of Saturday markets should be reviewed in June after experience with the first two and public/traders reactions..

3.2 Skills Demand & Supply (Chris Hart)

Chris Hart confirmed that the breakfast launch meeting of Passport to Success on 23rd was successful, with a good cross-section of interested business representatives. The guest speaker was David Philips of Steamer Trading, who gave a most inspiring talk on the creation and development of a successful business.

Training managers Nicolas Fuller and Yvonne Goddard have conducted interviews with interested businesses to establish their training needs and it is likely that some 50 individuals are signing up for appropriate training schemes.

A training manager is going to concentrate on Cradle Hill Estate where there is most likely to be a need for appropriate training schemes

A quarterly progress report has been sent to SEEDA (copies available at the meeting).

A grounds maintenance company is one of the businesses being signed up and several one/two person firms are taking part.

3.3 First Stop Shop and Seaford Forum (Jon Freeman)

a) Stage 2 - Station Project

It was agreed that in Ted Cowdrey's absence the team looking after this project needs to be reformed and reconvened to consider a revised SWOT analysis to up-date the station project and include the development of the railway land South of the track on the North of the Salts Talks with Railtrack and the Strategic Rail Authority will be sought when the SWOT analysis is complete..

a) Seaford Forum

It had not been possible to arrange the Forum planned for 31st January due to other commitments and lack of people to put together the necessary paperwork for publicising the event. It was agreed that a Forum should take place once a quarter which would provide a greater variety of topical subjects and ease the administrative arrangements.

b) Publicity

Nothing to report

3.4 Business Development (Peter Sinclair, Jon Freeman etc)

a) Corsica Hall

Jon Freeman reported that at the meeting held on Wednesday 15th to discuss the implications of the sale of Corsica Hall, representatives from Seaford Head Community College had expressed the suitability of the building for their needs to expand the 6th Form and Adult Education facilities and which would also help to satisfy the town's needs for Community purposes. A meeting with Daphne Bagshaw, Deputy Leader of ESCC should be sought to discuss how this could be achieved.

Subsequent discussions with the County treasurer had indicated that the council wished to dispose of Corsica Hall so that the proceeds could be used to create school places in other parts of the county.

It would therefore be necessary for SCP to investigate the possibilities of partnership with any other interested purchasers in order to pursue the goal of access to the building for Community activities.

b) Cradle Hill Industrial Estate - No further progress to report.

3.5 Transport and Safe Routes to School (Ted Cowdrey)

a) Survey work is in hand by ESCC for the Safe Routes to School proposals. Bids are being sought for the work.

3.6 Waste Disposal Task Group (Jon Freeman)

a) Task Group

A meeting had been planned for Wednesday 12th February and some 30 people had expressed an interest in taking part. It was proposed that a request should be made for volunteers to help with the general administration of the SCP, particularly in respect of secretarial work.

Andy Price, LDC recycling officer, has produced a list of some 8 to 9 points which could be pursued in Seaford.

Waste machines could be loaned free-of-charge to pick up rubbish and electrical vehicles could be available to transport this to recycling locations. Half-buried compost bins could also be made available.

3.7 Seaford Improvements, Tourism and Culture (David Schueler)

a) **Seafront Improvements**

At the 15th January meeting it was reported that design work is proceeding for the Heritage trail and cost estimates obtained for an overall bid for the boards & leaflets from Local Heritage Initiative

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

Skatepark facilities,. Funding of £18,000 has been obtained plus a further £1000 from the Lioness Club towards the required £25,000. The young skaters are exploring fund raising activities to help with the balance of required.

b) **Seahaven Maritime Festival -**

Letters had been sent out by NCDA to proposed participants to receive details of their involvement for the preparation of a detailed programme and brochure. The brochure is expected to be funded from advertising and sponsorship. A further bid is contemplated for general funding of the event to augment the £5000 already pledged. Next meeting of the task group is due on 12th March

3.8 Cinema Club (Stuart Adcock)

The January shows attracted 112 for My Big Fat Greek Wedding in the evening and 127 for Lilo & Stitch during the afternoon.. The 8th February booking is for the new Bond film, Harry Potter in March and Lord of the Rings in April.

3.9 Youth Strategy

It was decided to drop this theme for the time being

3.10 Cuckmere Haven (Tony Rosewell)

Tony Rosewell reported on the meetings which he had attended and spoken at in the Golden Galleon and at the Lewes District Council Environmental Review Board. Both meetings had revealed considerable public concern about the proposals which it is considered could have severe effects on tourism as well as reducing access to a well used community facility

4. Partnership Accounts (Pauline Gower)

Pauline Gower had indicated that due to other commitments she would like to step down from the post of Treasurer. She was thanked for the work she has put into preparing the partnership's accounts since we have started to obtain funding for projects.

Linda Hallums had indicated that she would be pleased to take on the duties of Treasurer. It was agreed that there should be a changeover period with Pauline, and Linda would formally take over after the accounts had been 'audited'. In the meantime Linda agreed to put the accounts on to her computer, using an EXEL spreadsheet and splitting the figures into suitable cost centres.

Work will continue on preparing budgets for Partnership Administration and Project funding.

5. LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (Owen Clifford)

The LSP Web site is being updated and area partnerships are being asked to put in their minutes and agendas together with any general information they wish to add.

The next LSP meeting is on 24th March and a main item will be to finalise the community strategy.

There will be a presentation on Youth issues.

Lewes District Transport Group are in the process of setting up a series of linkages.

7. SEAFORD COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP CONSTITUTION

Arrangements are in hand for signatures at an early meeting.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Christine Sinclair announced that a Sussex Archeological Society dig is due to take place in Bishopstone during August and September and bursaries are available at £180 per week. Please refer any interest to Christine

Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 5th March 2003

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