

SEAFORD COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of Steering Group Meeting 24 held at St James' Club (Seaford Volunteers) Wednesday 13th November 2002

Present:

David Schueler
Peter Sinclair
Mike Murphy
Linda Hallums
Lee Willsher

Mary Crutch
Christine Sinclair
Jon Freeman
Duncan White

Cllr Laurie Holland
Owen Clifford
Tony Rosewell
Chris Hart

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

Apologies from Sue Moffatt, Colin Brown, Paul Rideout, Audrey Whitney, Ted Cowdrey, Stuart Adcock, Pauline Gower
WPC Lee Willsher was welcomed as the new representative from Sussex Police

2. MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 23 - 2nd October 2002

The Chairman apologised that these had not been completed due to his being abroad for most of October.

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 need to be applied for.

The market is growing steadily - 16 stalls will be available for November.

There will be a satisfactory number of all-year-round traders and three more are applying - Pork Sausages and Bacon, Chutney, Milk, Yoghourt and Cheese.

This means that next year the space required will have to extend from Church St into Lower High Street.

Further consideration was given to Saturday markets on each of the months which contain a 'fifth' Saturday. A pilot should be held on 31st May from 9 am to 3pm and if successful these should be extended to July and September.

It was agreed to extend the market space and to run a pilot Saturday Market but the Seaford Chamber of Commerce and the Town Council should be consulted.

It was also agreed that leaflet drops need to be made to people on the beach and promenade on the Saturdays.

It was also noted that Public Liability Insurance premiums were expected to rise shortly and alternative quotes are required.

3.2 Skills Demand & Supply (Chris Hart)

Chris Hart reported that a bid had been made to SEEDA for small business training (10 employees or less) for £65,500 funding and this had been successful.

The bid had been made on behalf of a partnership of Seaford Community college, SCP, FSB and the Chamber of Commerce.

It was agreed that a management committee should be set up and this would comprise Chris Hart, Ted Cowdrey and David Schueler.

The Steering Group requested that congratulations be recorded to Chris Hart for her success in obtaining funding for this important project of providing training in technical, commercial and management skills for small businesses. It was noted that the funding includes financial

compensation for employees and employers to have time off for training, which has often been a stumbling block for one or two person businesses in the past.

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 is to be amended to up-date the station project and include the development of the railway land south of the track on the north of the Salts. This could have the potential for developing the whole site, including the station as a complete civic and community centre combined with a leisure complex, possibly including a swimming pool.

It is intended that talks with Railtrack and the Strategic Rail Authority would continue to be sought.

Mike Murphy and Jon Freeman had talked to the Friends of Seaford Library who had had a close call with Hastings in bidding for funding although Hastings only had been successful. It is possible that money for the library could be available to Seaford in the future.

b) Seaford Forum

It was agreed that the next Forum should take place on the last Friday in January . Suggested topics were the Maritime Festival, Cuckmere Salt Marshes and Corsica Hall

c) Publicity

Owen Clifford confirmed that the LSP web site is now running and SCP have the facility to add pages of their own..

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

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

b) Corsica Hall

Jon Freeman reported that Corsica Hall is definitely closing at the end of December. There is a possibility of developing the residential part but covenants may require on-going community use.

It was agreed that a task force should be set up to look into future possibilities for Corsica Hall and we should try to recruit some outside people with suitable expertise and also involve the Community college..

3.5 Transport and Safe Routes to School (Ted Cowdrey)

a) Seaford Head School has reported they need more cycle racks and Mike Murphy will check on this.

b) Peter Sinclair reported that ESCC are now considering the Tide Mills Greenway issue. Sustrans have confirmed their proposed use of this.

3.6 Waste Disposal

a) Task Group

Jon Freeman reported that a task group has been set up and this met on 7th November. Trevor Watson - LDC recycling officer - gave a presentation on the latest proposals. For Seaford some houses have now been selected for pilot schemes and he would appreciate SCP carrying out a door-knocking exercise to encourage house-holders to take part.

Other activities should include the provision of bags for paper and glass, commercial recycling and the use of land adjacent to the Cradle Hill amenity site. LDC are making a bid to DEFRA for additional funding.

Jon Freeman has set up a further meeting on 27th November to agree an action plan. This group should have a seat at the steering group.

One proposal is for seven pubs and the downs Leisure Centre to be asked to accommodate glass bottle banks.

b) **Zero Waste Charter**

It was noted that Recycling is a subject to be debated at the next Town Council meeting. The steering group considered the implications of the Zero Waste Charter. Tony Rosewell proposed and Mike Murphy seconded a proposal that the SCP confirms their support for the Charter and this was agreed by all members (except for David Schueler, who abstained).

Christine Sinclair agreed to ask a suitable question on this at the Council meeting and advise STC that SCP do support the Zero Waste Charter.

3.7 Seafront Improvements, Tourism and Culture (David Schueler)

a) **Seafront Improvements**

The Seafront Improvements and Culture task group at their 8th October meeting heard detailed presentations on plans for a heritage trail, with appropriate signage and also the refurbishment of the Salts and seafront.

Consideration is now being given to funding sources for these.

b) **Skate Park Improvements**

Seaford Town Council is leading the plans for extending the Skate-park facilities and is seeking funding from LDC, the town council and possibly from SCP.

c) **Maritime Festival**

The programme and budget implications have been discussed with Newhaven Community Development Association. STC Town Clerk is looking into the possibilities of sponsorship from advertising in a festival programme brochure. Funding is also being sought from LDC and Newhaven and Seaford Town Councils.

3.8 Cinema Club

Next showing - Scooby-Doo cert PG Sat 30th November at 2.30pm

14th December at 7.30pm - The Importance of Being Earnest - Cert U

Stuart expressed thanks to SCP members who had acted as stewards

3.9 Youth Strategy

Whilst appreciating the need for the partnership to embrace the needs of all sections of the community, it was considered that with its present commitments the steering group does not at the moment have the resources to set up another task group to deal with youth activities. It was noted that the grant obtained by Chris Hart may be able to address some of the concerns about providing vocational training for young people

4. Partnership Accounts

The Farmers Market has provided positive balances in the accounts although the cost of renewing the Public liability insurance could reduce these.

Concern was expressed that the second installment of the NHS grant for the First Stop shop had not yet been received

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.

6 INTEREGG III Joint bid

Colin Brown has advised that the bid for employment of project workers was not proceeded with. The scheme is now only intended to support training costs of WICO courses.

It is understood that Government money is available for capacity building in the voluntary sector and bids would be welcomed from SDCVS

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 during December and this can then be processed early in the New Year.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Juliette White has asked to speak to the Partnership for support on her campaign to improve public feeding and changing facilities in Seaford and this is proposed for the December meeting.

Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 4th December 2002

DS/DEC2002

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