



**Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 3rd September 2014 at 7pm
The Centre**

Present: Keith Smith Sandra Rendall Ian Webb Paul Newton Smith
Ken Saunders Mark Pritchard Alison Durrant Phil Baker
Matt Goddard

Apologies: Helen Holly Sarah Olnier Adrian Hares Shirley Colbeck Smith

2. Minutes of July Meetings:

Minutes of previous meetings signed and filed. Proposed by **PNS** seconded by **IW**

3. Matters Arising:

5. Windrush Village Green – meeting with MP to arrange
Nationwide – Still haven't received cheque. Kerry Foods have donated 36+ memory sticks
to Job Club, thanks to Ian Webb

4. Locality Team Input:

- Projects – 'Circles of Support' being launched on 10/9. These are small care packages (4 hours per week) for older lone people who may need support to stay independent for longer in their own homes. This helps SBC save money on larger care packages which is their largest spend.
- Early 2015 'Streetsmart Ambassadors' – To find more like minded people to work alongside residents who already litter pick, mow council grass outside their properties, clean graffiti etc.
- Big Lottery Fund, Power to change. Setting up Community Enterprises, advice etc. AD - Could we set up our own Credit Union? When mentioned at HTC meeting there seemed to be disinterest but AD has asked that Credit Union be put onto next HTC agenda to be discussed. Possibility to start our own Credit Union look at The Clivey Project and Archbishops Fund.
- TS Tech have an army of volunteers who are available for a two week period when Company shut down (sept-oct) looking for environmental things to do. KenS will chat with them.
Listening Exercise – HCPG will apply for an admin grant so the information can be typed up, this way we can claim some ownership. Proposed **KS** Seconded **KenS**.
- Mark is to have an assistant on a short term basis. They may be able to sort through 449 projects in the Town Plan. **KS** grateful that work being done by localities is focused.

5. Correspondence:

- Healthwatch Newsletter-lots of useful information
- Your Shout Letter – Proposed Solar Farm at Lint Farm, saying that Community could benefit from new style, footbridge, park, beehives, bird and bat boxes. They are engaging with HTC about a benefit fund. AD raised legitimate objections to the planning department. Solar Farm at Stanton will go ahead.
- Swindon Community Conference – Saturday 11/10, 10-3.30 at the National Trust HQ. Community and Voluntary groups can share information, receive development support, strengthen and influence, networking etc. **IW** may go. **KS** to email details to him.

6. Social Care Connections update:

KS, **MP** and **Matt Ford (MF)** met with **Debra Brown**, Manager and **Heather Mitchell**, Chief Executive of **SEQOL** to say what Highworth would like to achieve regarding elderly care for Highworth people. They are very interested in the concept as Highworth is a distinct area and by helping us. They will

let us have access to their website to advertise, help us set up as a social enterprise, use their back office admin support. Our present list could go on their website.

Next is a meeting (repeat of June) in November of groups, volunteers and professionals to push further forward with the concept and the links we have made.

7. **Report from HTC Representative: AD**

- Post Office Consultation – Simpsons Garage has planning for a supermarket, the main Post Office has said they wish to modernise, reorganise and move our Post Office to the site. It needs to be placed within a retail site. Karen and Paul who run PO have said it is not economical for them to be done in its present location. There are terms and conditions about moving so will be discussed at next HTC meeting. PO will advertise for new owners to take over.
HCPG as a committee will explore options in retaining PO:
 - Consider community run Post Office
 - Most people in favour of Co-op housing PO. Invite Co-op to meet with HCPG, HTC etc to reconsider
 - Gerry Edwards a Co-op member has written to them already. Individual members should also consider writing to Co-op to reconsider.
 - Move to Library as once suggested, but SBC would not be able to subsidise the move.
- Surestart (Children's Centers 0-2 years) SBC Consultation – these were set up as universal centers but are moving towards vulnerable children, which include single mums, teenage parents, domestic abuse, parent in custody or in care but does not include rural areas. Most are looking to be closed with a few Super Centers open catering for 90% vulnerable and 10% others.
- Highworth Ladybird Centre in Jan 2014 received an inadequate Ofsted report but is making progress. There are 1,520 under 5s in Highworth and Blunsdon, 285 (19%) are vulnerable, with a £1,825 budget, with the new system we would receive no funds. Ladybird Centre will most probably close 2015-16 and become available for community use or Health Visitor Clinic.
- Consultation deadline 3/10. You can access this at www.swindon
- HCPG will respond. AD will draft the response and KS will sign

8. **Projects for 2014:**

Highworth The Vision: Meeting in October – Statistics from SBC

Neighbourhood Plan: Drafting in progress, another meeting end September. Phil Smith, SBC Strategic Planning Officer gave helpful advice and confident moving in right direction. Timescale is slipping. Plan to be ready by March 2015, then 6 months until referendum.

Totally Locally: Moving very slowly, meeting 8/9, 7pm at Council rooms

9. **AGM – date, time and format:**

Wednesday 8th October, 7.30pm at The Centre

- KS to invite individual HTC members
- SR to email HCPG interested list
- IW will get Joan to do teas and coffees
- Apologies from PB

10. **Members Business:**

- PB – CAP going really well with a target of 1 a week. Presently have 7 clients. Money management courses at end of September need to apply.
- Stepped down from Patients Forum at Doctors Surgery. MP and Debra have a meeting at Doctors regarding Social Care Enterprise so will ask about Forum, and if it is still going
- IW – Glad that May Day is continuing
- Following telephone call to SBC, good to see lights have been done by Supermarine area
- Write to HTC to ask if they have a Strategic Plan? 3 SBC Councilors referred back to David Lane. Will send to all HTC councilors to be put on Agenda

Next Meeting will be the AGM on Wednesday 8th October 2014, 7.30pm at The Centre