

**Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 6th June 2018, 7pm
At the Community Centre**

Present: Keith Smith Paul Newton-Smith Sandra Rendall Steve Martin
Ken Saunders Alison Durrant Ian James Ian Webb
Phil Baker Ryan Acres

1. Apologies Alice Douglas Adrian Young Gary Llewellyn Sarah Olnier
Martin Wellsted Nick Gardiner

Welcome: To Ian Webb following surgery, lovely to have him back

2. Minutes of May Meeting:

Minutes of previous meeting signed and filed. Proposed by **KenS** seconded by **SM**

3. Matters Arising:

McColls – Glass and canopy left to do. Good job done so far. **PB** still waiting for a response to his letter

4. Report from HTC representative:

Julia Bishop was elected Mayor and Ryan Acres as Deputy Mayor. Ryan did not want to chair any meetings, so Lynn Vardy will do this.

HTC has agreed that 3 out of 4 meetings will be specific and every 4th will be a general meeting for visitors and public.

5. Credit Union – update and action

- First Credit Union was held on Tuesday 5/6 which was well received, many responses coming from May Day launch. 5 members joined and 3 took paperwork away with them. A few basic mistakes were made.
- Trevor from HO in attendance. Trevor's message is that CU has lots of money. 90% can be lent but lending only 30% at present. He is looking for people to take out loans
- Dividend at end of year to investors
- HO open 9-5, 4 days a week and Steam CU open 1 day.
- **IJ** asked what numbers could benefit? Working with CAP
- Now that we are open, should we leaflet certain parts of the town?
- Maybe make CAB aware that we are open for business
- Regular rota needs to be set up

6. Tourism - report and action

- Now live on Visit Wiltshire website, although basic with an introduction and photo
- **PB** attended HTC sub group. They would like us to do a consultation with the town, this is happening on 21/7. **GL** will do A3 sheets asking questions with post it notes for answers, suggestions etc. A 9.30 and 10.30 short presentation to encourage ideas.
- Agreed to meet with Retailers when we are ready to launch, finance of leaflets. There will be forms for pubs and cafes to advertise for free on the VW website
- We plan to launch Jan/Feb, renovations in Church will hopefully be finished
- Establish our website (Visit Highworth) to link in with VW. A 2/3-minute video to use on both websites. **PNS and Jan** will do, we need to get together to discuss what we want included etc.
- Approach Coach Companies again for meeting to sell our idea and do a presentation
- PO, could this be rented as a museum? It would assist Tourism. Funding – Plunkett Foundation, HTC could be approached. Bet Fred has shown an interest in the building. Do we want to proceed

with this idea? YES. **KS** will investigate project money available, or financing through precept. Could we declare as a community asset?

- We need to do a business plan, include enhancement and emphasise the High Street and its viability. **KS, PB and GL** will draft a Business Plan then get HCPG and HTC points of view
- We are arranging a meeting with Theresa Hopwood to help us exploit what we can get for our money from VW
- Stats of VW 2017/18 – 258,000 magazines, 3 million-page hits, 48,000 social media, so definitely connecting.

7. **Loneliness – update**

- Need to compile a list of every group going on in Highworth
- Circles meeting at The Old Bakery on 5/6 was very successful. WI want to get involved with knit and natter and celebration cakes
- Debbie from Music Alive would like to get involved with singing and instruments

8. **Town Centre Rejuvenation – none**

9. **Fox Roundabout:**

Daniel reported from an HTC meeting which led to **KS** being interviewed by Tom Howarth, this had the right effect from SBC regarding the chevrons. **KS** is dealing with invoice and in contact with SBC. **KS and SR** to meet with artist to view rock.

10. **Members Business:**

PNS - taking a back seat whilst receiving treatment, we wish him well

PB – foodbank continues, a new trust will take over following the mismanagement by the existing charitable trust. 8 families a week are using the facility. CAP is needed and used, 94 families over 4 years have been helped. Westrop Surgery, waiting times are up which is being investigated.

SM – sent HTC a request for overhanging bushes outside community centre to be cut back, this has been passed onto HCA, they are responsible

KenS – community litter pick has not been happening as Stephen now has a full-time job. Better to keep as a community group as insurance, equipment etc covered. Ken will speak to **NG** and write to HTC

IJ – white lines along Highworth Road have been done, much better. Mobile signal in Highworth not brilliant, is there anything that can be done? This is a supplier problem, but **KS** will talk to David

IW - grass cutting appalling, will let HTC know. Gulley's need cleaning will contact Highways, SBC

SR - retailers have asked about having flags, where are the old ones? Flower baskets are looking sad – weather related and being investigated. HTC social media – Ryan and Nick to investigate

Next meeting July 4th, 2018