

**Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd January 2019, 7pm
At the Community Centre**

Welcome

Present: Keith Smith Phil Baker Ian James Robin Clegg
Ian Webb Sandra Rendall Adrian Young Sarah Oler
Ken Saunders

1. Apologies Alison Durrant Nick Gardner Paul Newton Smith

Visitor:

2. Minutes of November Meeting:

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

3. Matters Arising: none

4. Loneliness – Progress to date:

Email received from Martin who expressed an interest in taking this forward in many ways. SR had responded to this explaining what had already been undertaken. SR to thank Martin and arrange a meeting with him and Mary of WI to see if they could work alongside each other.

- 'Lunch Together', 12-3 with lunch and afternoon activities
- Lunch club is up and running at the Methodist Hall on the 1st Wednesday of the month. Decembers was a hit with 15 attending and a school choir.
- Coleshill Catering is providing the food at a cost of £6 per head for 2 courses
- Starting at Community Centre in February and on the 3rd Wednesday of the month
- Mary WI needs access to kitchen before February to make sure ok

5. Town Centre project – High Street Traffic:

AY is concerned about the High Street traffic and has looked up the rules of one-way streets. Would it work if traffic from Lechalde side turned left at the traffic lights making the high Street a one-way down. Is it worth having the road configured?

As a resident on the High Street, **KS** is against one-way, as are businesses. The High Street could be made car and pedestrian friendly by becoming a 'shared space', which works freely and safely as seen in Cirencester and the top of Swindon. A 20mph limit could be put in place for the whole of the town. **AY** feels it needs to be dealt with sooner rather than later.

Neighbourhood Plan – every reason to approach HTC as they should be working on this and not delegating to HCPG. Resources need to be made available, **KS** has written to SBC economics dept and awaiting response.

Lorry weight restrictions, signage not obvious, deliveries allowed.

Restart rejuvenation project in May and work in traffic issues

KS will re-read NP about our Town Centre and go to SBC with an outline view of what we could achieve successfully over 12 months. Thoughts to **KS**

6. Tourism – update and action:

Museum, Information Centre and crafts

Renting Lloyds Bank

Free sessions from Plunkett Foundation, help with setting up share issue documentation, cost of shares £10 up to £100k but only 1 vote, major push once paperwork has been completed

Visit Highworth LTD is a Community Benefit Society (CBS)

Temporary board until share issue and first meeting

Looking for funding and grants

Chris keen to get started

Members of Visit Wiltshire, which is proving fruitful. We were town of the month and have appeared in a national newspaper

Another visit to bank to be arranged with interior designed. **SR** sister in law has agreed to advise for good write up. **PB** also knows of a local student doing phd in museums.

Tim, Bloomfields very positive, he has worked with Plunkett and National Trust in the past

RC Libraries and Museums no longer exist and merged with Arts Council. There are 120 grade 2 listed buildings – Heritage lottery? Heather Perry, Museum and Development Officer in Chippenham **RC** will go and see her who could point us in the right direction.

Need to visit other museums to see how they operate

We could have Friends Of offering a monthly/yearly standing order, other options available

Tourism Meeting with David Miskin – Friday 18th, 1pm. Meet at 12 for pre meet.

AY would like to do an editorial piece on historical buildings. National Heritage Centre, Swindon has photographed every listed building in Highworth with editorial. **RC** to look into.

AY asked about cost to run per annum? Some costs are built in, savings can be made, all eventualities covered. Need a realistic revenue to operate and where to generate from.

Push for more involvement from HTC

a local charity has set aside £12k start up

7. **Fox Roundabout:**

mid February for installation. Signage has been lowered and new lighting

8. **Members urgent business**

PB – members poll very positive. Ipsos Mori poll the surgery is 2nd out of 26

CAP and Foodbank inundated

AY – has done a few link articles, objective is to write informative pieces of services available. Community Centre and CAP, are there any others? Nexus, Loneliness? Surgery – now employs a mental health nurse, online systems offering new services.

KS – did 2 radio interviews regarding Museum

Aldi – SBC planning Tuesday 8th.

Co-op is a shambolic mess and mismanaged. **PB and AY** will arrange a Public Meeting for Co-op members to push for answers

KS – a newspaper article on National Clean Up Day for the High Street. £675m available. He will write to SBC with a copy to our MP to request a portion for Highworth to clean up our grade 2 listed buildings, shared spaces

KS – May 2nd HTC will re-elect 15. Article for link to ask people who are interested in becoming independents to attend a meeting on 11/2 for a crash course in what is required of a councillor. A minimum of 8 independents required to make a difference.