

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 7th March 2018, 7pm At the Community Centre

Present: Ian Webb Ken Saunders Adrian Young Alison Durrant

Phil Baker Keith Smith

Apologies: Sandra Rendall Ryan Acres Steve Martin Nick Gardiner

Gary Llewellyn Paul Newton-Smith Ian James Alice Douglass

Martin Wellsted Sarah Olner

2. Minutes of February Meeting:

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

3. Matters Arising:

McColl's Work is due to be complete by mid-March according to head office. This is unlikely to happen

4. Report from HTC representative

Ryan A. was unavailable. The following points were raised:

Police and Crime Panel agreed an extra £1 per month on police precept

Fox roundabout - still waiting for quote from SBC

Football Foundation recommends that Highworth should have a 3G all weather pitch. They will fund 50% the town must find the other 50% approx. £35K. HTC agree to be a member of the committee. A memorial seat is to be erected in Newburgh place in memory of Mike Frost. It will be wholly managed by Tesco.

Concern was raised about the amount of litter on the main road to Inglesham. This is the responsibility of SBC highways not HTC.

Proposed Aldi Store. A resident wants to set up a petition. HTC have agreed to host it in the council offices.

Library: Extended opening is operational and is being used.

The Podium tree – full information is available in the Link. Neil was congratulated as he offered portions as a souvenir – which was well received.

5. Credit Union

Chair thanked PB and KenS for attending the AGM of WSL at West Lavington. Their report was very positive. There has been a complete change of management and the organisation is now on a firm footing.

PB/KenS/IW/KS attended a meeting with Chairman of WSL and a representative from SBC. They are keen for a branch (franchise) to be set up in Highworth. Following a full discussion the members present agreed to proceed with making arrangements.

As numbers were reduced it was agreed to bring an update to the next HCPG meeting.

A report is attached with these minutes.

6. Loneliness – update

Members congratulated SR and KS on the progress they had made, (See notes attached).

It was agreed to set up a separate page on HCPG website in due course.

The next stage will be to co-ordinate activity through a meeting in early May.

7. Town Centre Rejuvenation

AY met with GL. Discussion centred around the importance of the Neighbourhood Plan and how the pivotal discussions will need to be with HTC and SBC.

KS explained there is a Neighbourhood Plan Working Party –to which PB is invited at their next meeting on March 23rd to discuss Tourism. The other item being discussed in the next year will be town centre rejuvenation. Councillors have agreed to work in partnership with HCPG.

AY and KS will meet. To discuss the issue further and to organise a greater presence in the Link.

8. Tourism – Update

HCPG is waiting for the meeting with HTC NPWP on March 23rd In the meantime Visit Wiltshire have indicated that they are willing to meet at any time.

9. Village Green - Current situation

Further to the decision by the strategy group at the previous that the Chair should contact Amalia Morris directly by email to arrange a meeting. This he has duly done and is awaiting a reply.

10. Member Business

Concern was expressed about the Greenbridge Roundabout as it still does not function as effectively as it supposed to.

KenS: reported that Thames Water have put in marker posts to show the path of the new water pipeline. They intend to start work shortly, probably to take out the hedges.

Reminder: residents are invited to help with more tree planting in the park on Sunday March 18th from 10.30 to 12.30. Bring a spade!

Next meeting April 2nd, 2018