

HEREFORD CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 23 APRIL 2013 at 6pm

PRESENT: Cllrs Kenyon, Chairman, and Cllrs Andrews, Chave, Edwards, Kay, Michael, Nicholls, Oliver and Tawn.

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr Boulter, Steve Kerry, Town Clerk, Tracy Morriss, Civic and Community Development Officer and Shelagh Callaghan, City Events Manager.

NOT PRESENT: Cllr Toon

CD2013/14.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Members received apologies for absence from Cllr Nenadich.

CD2013/14.2 APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTES

There were no appointments of substitutes.

CD2013/14.3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest under the Herefordshire Code of Conduct pursuant to the Localism Act 2011 in respect of items on the agenda were received.

CD2013/14.4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

Members received and confirmed the minutes of the meeting of the Community Development Committee considering grant application held on the 4 MARCH 2013 and the minutes of the meeting of the Community Development Committee held on the 12 MARCH 2013.

Cllr Edwards proposed the Chairman signs the minutes as a true and accurate account of the meetings, seconded by Cllr Andrews and unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED:

The minutes of the meetings of the Community Development Committee held on the 4 March 2013 and 12 March 2013 approved as an accurate account of the meetings and initialled, signed and dated by the Chairman.

CD2013/14.5 CITY EVENTS REPORT

Members received and considered the report from Ms Shelagh Callaghan, City Events Manager as circulated with the agenda.

Ms Callaghan gave a brief over-view of her report covering the following points:

- **Wedding Fayre** – Huge success, broke even on cost, loads of positive feedback and will continue for future years.
- **Easter holiday events** – Good response, lots of positive feedback.
- **St Georges Day** – Due to meetings was not present for the events of the day. Will bring feedback to the next meeting.
- **May half term events** – Theme – gardens.
- **Historical Hereford Day** – Similar to last year. Cathedral Close has proposed a better offer for events taking place there. Members are asked to all robe and attend the procession.
- **Tropical Hereford** – August 12 – 26. Sand pit will be in town again.
- **Little Apple** – A regular half-page will be appearing each month in the Hereford Journal starting in May. This column will replicate the information which appears in the What's On section of *The Little Apple*. It is more cost effective than printing off, folding and delivering by an external company and there are not sufficient resources in-house to undertake this now that there is no longer a City Events Assistant.
The Journal's distribution means that the information will reach more people than can be achieved through *The Little Apple* alone. However, *The Little Apple* will still be sent electronically and a few copies will be printed for distribution through libraries and in the Town Hall reception.

Magna Carta proposal – An outline of events throughout the year with an aim to deliver one event a month and the City Council's involvement with delivery of these events.

It may be that additional funding will be required to support the other parts of this proposal, which will be delivered by HCC in partnership with a number of other bodies, including Hereford Cathedral, HM Courts & Tribunals Service, Education, and Museums & Heritage among others. Where appropriate it may be that HCC will fund the event, but that delivery will be dependent on a partner organisation to deliver it.

Because of the volume of work which this programme would require Councillors at Hereford City Council will need to consider whether they wish to appoint a temporary events assistant, as they did for 2012, to support the additional programme, or whether they wish to remove any other events from the calendar for 2015. It is not possible for one officer to deliver this number of events, even in partnership with other bodies, as well as managing the current number of events delivered each year.

There were no questions from Members of the committee. Cllr Andrews congratulated Ms Callaghan.

The Town Clerk asked Members of the committee if, in 2015, they wished to deliver the annual programme of city events and add to them with the proposals laid out in the report or replace the annual programme of events for this one year with the proposals for the Magna Carta events.

Members agreed the annual programme of events should continue and the additional Magna Carta events be included in the events calendar for 2015.

CD2013/14.6 CIVIL ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Present to deliver presentations for the next two items were: Chief Inspector Adam Thomas, Inspector Nick Semper, Shane Hancock, Marc Willimont and Craig Sandman, who between them cover the Police, Criminal Enforcement Team and Civil Enforcement Team.

Members received and considered the report from Steve Kerry, Town Clerk as circulated with the agenda.

The Town Clerk gave a brief overview of his report and asked Members if they had any questions for Chief Inspector Adam Thomas, Inspector Nick Semper, Shane Hancock, Marc Willimont and Craig Sandman.

Cllr Edwards informed Members of the committee he was not in support of this proposal. The Police and Herefordshire Council already do an excellent job. A project like this would be so open ended to try and manage. It would not be a wise option to spend tax payer's money by supporting our own officer.

Shane Hancock asked what it was Members of the City Council are looking for. What enforcement is the City Council wishing to implement.

Mr Hancock explained to Members that different ranges of powers in enforcement and the different powers are delivered by different services. Dog mess and littering are a criminal offence and carry penalties. These issues are dealt with by the criminal enforcement team. They are the only ones who can issue fines and prosecute people. Parking issues etc are in the remit of the Civil Enforcement Team.

A Civil Enforcement Officer does not deal with litter and dog mess. This is the remit of a Criminal Enforcement Officer.

Chief Inspector Thomas informed Members that re-structuring is being implemented in the near future. The area the City comes under will be known as Hereford City, Southside and Rural. This will be an area of high demand on resources. For this reason it is the only area that will command 2 Police Officers and 3 CSO's at any one time. The City Centre patrol zone will have a dedicated Officer present 24/7. There will be a rolling programme of deployment covering anti-social behaviour, drinking, toilets, intelligence, and pre-loading. CSO's will be working extended hours and their legal powers will be increased. Support will be increasing in the City not diminishing. He continued to explain that enforcement is well covered by three different departments and the City Council having its own Enforcement Officer might be a waste of City Council money.

Many of the issues covered in the following discussions were as follows:

- HCC having own Enforcement Officer would deliver a very sparse service for the area he would have to cover.
- Significant amount of dog mess in Ross compared to Hereford and yet they have their own dog warden.
- Parking Officers (Civil Enforcement Officers) 13 full time Officers.

- Officers cannot cross legally between civil and criminal enforcement.
- Cross training between criminal and civil enforcement officers.
- A civil officer will take details of anyone they see dropping litter or not clearing up dog mess, this is then passed to the criminal enforcement team who the retrospectively issue a ticket.
- Dog Wardens are volunteers and are a preventative measure. They show the community the Council is keen to address the matter.
- In a better position in the last 12 months since the Civil and Criminal Enforcement Teams have been working together.
- The need for better information about who to call to report issues.
- The main problem of dog mess and litter is most apparent within parks and open spaces. Solution may be to implement Dog Wardens (volunteers) to patrol these areas.
- Litter and riding bikes through the City Centre.
- The new shopping centre will have its own private security team and will be kept very clean. HCC does not want to end up with a distinction between the two areas – a very clean side and a feral side.
- Community litter picks – communities taking pride of their areas and taking ownership.
- Possibility of a trial period of 3 to six months for a HCC Enforcement Officer.

Cllr Edwards proposed

- That the City Council puts an information leaflet together to inform people who to contact for reporting different issues.
- That the City Council invests in tabards and litter picking equipment to supply to community groups for community litter picks.
- That the City Council funds voluntary community initiatives addressing dog mess and littering issues.

This was seconded by Cllr Nicholls.

The discussion continued covering the following points:

- Community litter picks are not possible in the City Centre, only in residential areas.
- City Centre and subways need a dedicated officer.
- The 101 number is fantastic and works brilliantly.
- Enforcement Officers can do something if they see a person commit an offence.
- The City Centre is too large for only one officer to patrol and have a real impact. Unless you put someone on every street you are going to catch very few people.
- Educating people is the key to resolving this issue.

Cllr Edwards proposal, seconded by Cllr Nichols was put to the vote.

6 Members voted in favour, 3 Members abstained.

RESOLVED:

The committee recommends to Council:

- That the City Council puts an information leaflet together to inform people who to contact for reporting different issues.
- That the City Council invests in tabards and litter picking equipment to supply to community groups for community litter picks.
- That the City Council funds voluntary community initiatives addressing dog mess and littering issues.

CD2013/14.7 TAXI MARSHALLING

Members received and considered a report from Marc Willimont and the Town Clerk.

Mr Willimont informed Members that this scheme had proved a great success. Taxi drivers have reiterated this also in relation to their role in the night time economy. There is a wish from the various organisations and businesses involved in the night time economy for this service to continue.

Mr Willimont continued, last year we gained funding from a variety of sources, that funding has now run out and we are now seeking funding to continue this service through the next year. If funding is not secured the service will cease to run from May.

£15,000 is needed to keep the service running for the next year. It is hoped that the Licensee Association will contribute something towards the scheme and hopefully Heineken will be committing £2 – 3,000 funding. It is hoped that the City Council will also support the scheme again this year.

Members asked if there was any way the taxi owners/companies could contribute to this scheme as they also benefit from it.

Cllr Edwards proposed the City Council awards 1/3 of the funding required to cover the delivery of this service for the next year. £5,000 This was seconded by Cllr Oliver.

Cllr Kenyon suggested that funding should be gained from licensed traders who directly benefit from the delivery of this service.

Cllr Andrews suggested a higher amount could be awarded and this was seconded by Cllr Michael. It was proposed by Cllr Andrews and Seconded by Cllr Michael that £7,500 be awarded towards the funding of this scheme.

This amendment to Cllr Edwards original proposal was voted on. 8 Members voted in favour, 1 Member voted against.

The proposal of £7,500 was put to the vote. 8 Members voted for, 1 Member voted against.

RESOLVED:

The Committee recommends to Council:

The City Council awards £7,500 towards the funding of the Taxi Marshalling Scheme for the financial year 2013/2014.

CD2013/14.2 HEREFORD CITY COMMUNITY GROUP ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Cllr Kenyon informed Members of the committee he would not partake in this discussion or voting on this item as a community group in his ward, of which he is Chairman, had submitted a nomination.

Members received and considered the report from Tracy Morriss, Civic and Community Development Officer as circulated with the agenda.

Tracy Morriss gave a brief overview of the report.

Cllr Edwards praised the support partners and how well thought out and how well they presented their views at the meeting considering the winning nominated group. Members were also informed that no one apart from those who were present at the selection of the winning group new who had won.

Cllr Tawn proposed everything as laid out in the report. This awards scheme is an excellent idea and should continue in future years. This was seconded by Cllr Edwards.

All members voted in favour noting Cllr Kenyon's abstention from the voting for the reasons as laid out above.

RESOLVED:

- **To award a second prize of £200 from the committee's community grant budget.**
- **The 3 certificates, as circulated with the agenda, in recognition of work delivered within the community by community groups are accepted and agreed.**
- **Cargill include some promotional information about the yearly awards in their charity packs.**
- **For future years: A promotional day of the awards to be carried out in Asda and Tesco.**
- **To include a question in future nomination forms asking If the group won the winning amount of prize money what would the group use the money towards?**

- **Creation of two categories for the award. One community group – community area (as this year) and a second one which is the delivery of community work City wide.**
- **That next year the committee award a first, second and third prize. The first prize being £1,000 to really encourage community groups to submit nominations, a second prize of £500 and a third prize of £200.**

Cllr Kenyon requested it be minuted the committees thanks to Tracy Morriss for all her hard work and well done for what she is achieving with the awards initiative.

CD2013/14.9 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Cllr Andrews proposed passing a resolution pursuant to the provisions of section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 excluding the press and public from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business proposed to be transacted. This was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED:

Pursuant to the provisions of section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 excluding the press and public from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business proposed to be transacted.

CD2013/14.10 BRANDING AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE HEREFORD CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY ROAD SHOW

CONFIDENTIAL

Re-admission of the press and public.

CD2013/14.11 UPDATE ON THE REMOVAL OF THE BUNTING STILL UP AROUND THE CITY FROM DIAMOND DAY

The Town Clerk reported that he had made no further progress on this issue.

CD2013/14.12 ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Outstanding from previous meetings.

- **Allotments Lease.**

The Town Clerk informed Members that this was on hold until the current situation with the flooding at the Rose Gardens had been resolved. He also informed Members that a public notice would be printed in the local paper in relation to the additional land at the Asda site for allotments.

- **Update on the current situation with the Buttermarket.**
Members requested the Town Clerk invites Philip Price and/or Roger Philips to attend the next meeting of the committee to report on the current situation.

CD2013/14.13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members noted the dates as laid out below.

MONDAY 3 JUNE 2013 – 10 am – COMMUNITY GRANTS MEETING

(NOTE: This will be the committee's first meeting considering large grants as well as small and dependant on the number of grants may mean the committee receives presentations in the morning, breaks for lunch, supplied by HCC, and reconvenes after lunch to resolve awards on the applications received)

TUESDAY 18 JUNE 2013 – 6 pm - Routine Meeting

There being no further business the Chairman called the meeting to a close at 7.16 pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....