

HEREFORD CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 18 JUNE 2013 at 6pm

PRESENT: Cllrs Kenyon (Chairman), Andrews, Kay, Michael, Nicholls and Tawn.

CD2013/14.14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Members received apologies for absence from Cllrs Boulter Chave, Nenadich, Oliver and Toon.

CD2013/14.15 APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTES
Cllr Boulter was appointed to substitute for Cllr Chave but was unable to attend.

CD2013/14.16 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.

CD2013/14.17 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE
Members received the minutes of the meeting of the Community Development Committee held on the 23 April 2013 and the meeting considering Community Grants on 3 June 2013.

Cllr Michael highlighted an error in the minutes stating she had substituted for herself. This should have read Cllr Boulter substituted for Cllr Michael. The minutes were amended accordingly.

Cllr Andrews proposed the minutes, including the amendment are a true and accurate account on the meetings held on the 23 April 2013 and the 3 June 2013. This was seconded by Cllr Tawn and unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED:

The minutes, including the amendment, are a true and accurate account on the meetings held on the 23 April 2013 and the 3 June 2013 and be signed, initialled and dated by the Chairman.

CD2013/14.18 CITY EVENTS REPORT
Members received and consider a report from Ms Shelagh Callaghan, City Events Manager which had been circulated with the agenda.

Ms Callaghan gave a brief overview of her report highlighting the following:

- **St Georges Day** – next year this day falls within school holiday times.
- **Gardens** event in the May half term went well and Facebook and the ‘What’s on’ section in the Hereford Times are proving to be very valuable tools in promoting events in the City.
- **Historical Hereford Day** – due to take place again this year with events in High Town Castle Green and Cathedral Close.
- **Hereford in Bloom** – 19 July – Window dressing competition taking place in High Town.
- **Tropical Hereford Day** – An annual event which seems to be proving more and more popular and additional attractions are to be added to the event this year.

Cllr Andrews thanked Ms Callaghan for all her hard work with the free City events she is delivering in High Town.

There being no questions from Members the Chairman thanked Ms Callaghan for her time and she left the Chamber.

The Chairman asked if Members were happy to receive item 7 on the agenda before item 6 as Here for the City were set up ready for their presentation. Members agreed to this.

CD2013/14.19

HERE FOR THE CITY GRANT APPLICATION

Members received and considered a grant application from Here For the City for the Hereford Celebration event 2013.

A presentation was received from Lara Latcham from the Hereford Celebration and Jo Pewsey and Michael Hancock from Here For the City.

A brief overview was given about the event that took place in 2012.

Lara explained that she had run the ‘Big Event’ which used to take place on an annual basis on the King Georges Playing Fields and how the group were using the experience and the failings of that event as a learning tool. The Big Event had issues with alcohol and fighting. For this reason the Hereford Celebration would be an alcohol free event and there would also be no fun fair so that people attending the event would participate in the event and not come just for the fun fair.

Lara continued to explain the Hereford Celebration event was about people in Hereford mixing together and sharing each other’s experiences. There would be the chance to experience alternative therapies through the events health and well being theme. Running up to the event and during the event people would be able to make musical instruments out of recycled materials and the finale to the event would be a parade around the field of these musical instruments.

There are issues which are being addressed to make the event all inclusive and make the event easily accessible to people with disabilities both physically and visually.

Cllr Kenyon asked Hereford Celebration what would happen if they did not receive the £9,000 applied for from Awards for All and about the security costs and their requirement for Security personnel rather than stewards.

Lara explained that if the group were not awarded the £9,000 they would have to re-think and scale back the event. Due to there being no alcohol restrictions on the King Georges Playing Fields members of the public are free to drink in the area and this is why they are required to have security personnel rather than stewards.

There being no further questions the Chairman thanked Lara, Jo and Michael for their time and they left the chamber.

It was agreed to consider and discuss the grant award for the Hereford Celebration after the next item.

CD2013/14.20

FLAVOURS OF HEREFORDSHIRE FESTIVAL

Members received and considered a firm proposal from Visit Herefordshire to agree the release of the £15,000 grant award for the 2013 Flavours of Herefordshire Festival.

Sally Roberts and Eve Roberts from Visit Herefordshire presented Members how they proposed to spend the £15,000 grant contribution from the City Council towards the Festival. The proposal had been circulated to Members with the agenda. It was explained that last year the money awarded from the Council was spent on an event on the Castle Green. This it was felt proved too far away from the main event and High Town and the aim this year was to deliver all the events closer to the City centre itself.

The proposal is to cover children's events taking place on the Saturday and Sunday which will be free and be delivered from the Old Deanery/Cathedral School area. There would be signage from the Cathedral Close to the area promoting the events taking place there and street entertainers in both High Town and on the Cathedral Close.

Other items relating to the Herefordshire Festival covered:

- Workshops taking place in Cathedral Close.
- Celebrities that had been secured to take part in the event.
- Advanced flyer informing people about the event.
- The production of 20,000 programmes for the event.
- Sunshine Radio's involvement in the event.
- Poor response from retailers following a letter of contact to them all with only one reply received to date.
- What percentage of the event that would actually take place in High Town.
- The main part of the events taking place on Cathedral Close.
- Consideration of providing elements of the event in Widemarsh Street.
- More elements of the Festival needing to take place in High Town which is the City Centre.

- The need for Visit Herefordshire to engage with the market traders both from the Saturday Market and the Farmers Market in relation to the Festival.
- Market traders working hard to improve what they deliver and concerns that with the main part of the festival taking place on the Cathedral grounds the Festival will detract from these traders and the area in High Town.
- The need to support the regular Market traders both of the Saturday Market and Farmers Market and ensure the festival does not detract from their trade.
- Request that Visit Herefordshire make contact with the market traders in relation to the festival.
- The aim of delivering the festival in late October early November is to co-inside with half term week and to extend the tourist season in the City.
- Visit Herefordshire's plans for a staff away day following the festival to look at the approach for the festival next year and how to develop it.
- Sustainability of the festival.
- Members concerns were that there is a need for more of the festival to be delivered in High Town. It is after all the City Centre.

There being no further questions for discussion the Chairman thanked Sally and Eve for their time and the left the Chamber.

Cllr Tawn informed Members he supports the proposal but there is a need to increase the presence of the Festival in High Town and engage with the market traders so their business is not detracted from during the festival event.

Cllr Tawn proposed the proposal to agree supporting the free children's events for this year as laid out in the proposal. Cllr Andrews seconded this and it was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED:

The City Council supports the free children's events for this year as laid out in the proposal and agrees the release of the £15,000 grant award.

Members requested the Town Clerk writes to Herefordshire Council Markets and Street Trading requesting concession are given to support the regular market traders during the two day festival.

CD2013/14.21

HERE FOR THE CITY GRANT APPLICATION

Cllr Kay proposed awarding the £2,591.82 grant requested towards providing the marquees and toilet facilities for the Hereford Celebration. This was seconded by Cllr Nicholls and unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED:

To award the £2,591.82 grant requested towards providing the marquees and toilet facilities for the Hereford Celebration.

CD2013/14.22

PEST CONTROL AT WORDSWORTH ALLOTMENTS

Members received and consider a report from the 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.

Members enquired as to the reason why the City Council agreed to the silver contract as opposed to the Gold and it was explained that the silver contract has always proved sufficient and achieved the results required.

Cllr Tawn proposed the Town Clerk's recommendation, seconded by Cllr Michael and unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED:

The Committee agrees to waive Standing Orders and Financial Regulations in respect of tendering as the price and quality of the established supplier at other sites is known to be effective and to authorise the Town Clerk to enter into a contract with Herefordshire Council's Pest Control Service for rodent control, silver option, at the Wordsworth allotment site for a price of £1,080 per annum.

CD2013/14.23

HEREFORD CITY COMMUNITY GROUP ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS AND PLANNING FOR REAL CONSULTATION.

Members received and considered the feedback and analysis resulting from the delivery of awards and Planning For Real Consultation.

The Civic and Community Development Officer gave a brief overview of the findings of the feedback from the evaluation forms circulated at the Annual Parish Meeting in relation to the awards and the evening itself. The results showed very positive feedback and the opportunity to develop the awards and evening even further for next year.

The Civic and Community Development Officer informed Members that the Planning for Real event had not been delivered by Here For the City as they had been instructed and agreed. It had been agreed that a large map of the City Parish would be purchased from Herefordshire Council and the City Council would reimburse Here For the City for the cost of this map and any other materials needed to deliver a Planning for Real consultation similar to those delivered during the initial Community Led Plan process. There were also five questions from the City Council for the consultation exercise which was agreed would be displayed as a backdrop in relation to the consultation. The map and materials used to deliver the Planning for Real event on this evening would be the property of the City Council and used as part of the City Council's proposed Community Road Show in the future. Unfortunately and very disappointingly Here For the City failed to deliver on what had been agreed. Instead a few sheets of white paper had been put together displaying coloured shapes. Each shape displayed a different name relating to the seven wards in the City. The 5 questions were displayed by these shapes and

included two additional questions relative to Here For the City. The results of the planning for Real event were very poor and comments could not be related to any specific area or road within a ward as these had not been displayed.

. A full report will be presented to Council on the 25 June 2013 for consideration.

CD2013/14.24

WARD REPORTS

To receive one combined Cllr report per ward submitted on the ward report template provided.

- a) **Aylestone** – A new notice board is to be installed in Churchill gardens which has resulted from the work of the newly formed Aylestone Action Group.
- b) **Belmont** – Members noted the Belmont report as circulated to Members.
- c) **Central** - Members noted the Central report as circulated to Members.
- d) **St Martin's and Hinton** - Members noted the St Martin's and Hinton report as circulated to Members.
- e) **St Nicholas** - Members noted the St Nicholas report as circulated to Members.
- f) **Three Elms** - Members noted the report from Cllrs Chave and Nicholls for the Three Elms ward as circulated to Members.
Cllr Andrews informed Members that the Moor Farm community had been awarded a £40,000 grant from Herefordshire Housing towards play equipment denoted by Herefordshire Housing. This equipment was not what the residents of Moor Farm wanted and a meeting is being arranged between the residents and Herefordshire Housing to discuss this issue further.
- g) **Tupsley** – Cllr Kenyon read out the report from the Tupsley ward as there had been insufficient time in which to circulate the written report to Members.

Members noted the update report from the following:

a) **Here For the City** Activity Report Dec 2012 – Feb 2013

The Chairman asked Sarah Fishbourne to join Members around the table at this point. He explained to Members that Here For the City was set up to run for three years with funding that had been awarded. In September that three year lifespan comes to an end. Funding is being sourced to continue the service and Sarah is conducting an evaluation of Here For The City, the work they delivered, how effective the organisation have been and the benefits resulting from the work they have delivered over that three year period.

The Chairman asked Members and Officers present if they had any comments in relation to their observations of working with of Here For the City.

Comments made were as follows:

- Having sought advice in association with Members of the community wishing to set up a new group they were misinformed and the information they received from Here For the City was completely wrong.
- Leadership in the organisation is a major problem.
- Poor value for money.
- Community events were not well publicised with many residents in the relative areas not being aware they were taking place.
- Lack of support and assistance for Members trying to start new community groups in their ward areas.
- Failure to deliver work/projects as requested. i.e. Planning for Real event.
- No community cohesion which was one of the original aims of this organisation.
- The organisation are there to assist community groups but they themselves failed twice to submit a community grant application on time and it has also taken the four months and a lot of work and advice from the Civic and Community Development Officer to submit an application in line with the requirements of the City Council.
- When asked to deliver a Planning for Real event as instructed they failed to deliver to the standard laid out and agreed.
- The addition of two of their own questions in the Planning for Real consultation. One of those questions was 'Do you see a North South divide?' 20 people responded to this all answering 'Yes' which clearly states Here For the City have failed to accomplish another of the aims of the organisation.
- Many people do not recognise Here For the City as an organisation they see them as another community group and so it is hard for a community group to distinguish them as a body to go to for assistance.
- Work carried out by Here For the City that has been successful has been as a result of working with well established and respected organisations such as Close House, HYKVIS and the Skatepark. How do you measure that success as those groups would probably have achieved those successes even without Here For the City.

- It is apparent the Organisation does not work with the groups that need help only with those groups that are established and successful.
- Lack of working with and engagement with the City Council.
- Duplication of work the City Council is already delivering and developing.
- The City Council awarded a very large sum of money to assist with gaining funding from other bodies to set up Here For the City. The organisation should have been working more closely with the City Council and not keeping it at arm's length.

There being no further comments the Chairman thanked Sarah for her time and consulting the City Council and Sarah left the Chamber.

CD2013/14.26 ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Outstanding from previous meetings.

- Allotments Lease.
- Scaffolding around the building by the Black and White house and clarification on when the work would be completed.
- Hedge Policy
- Other options of Notice Boards
- Close House Annual Report
- Seagull report from Cllr Kenyon.

CD2013/14.27 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY 23 JULY 2013 – Routine Meeting – Noted

There being no further business the Chairman called the meeting to a close at 8.20pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....