

MEETING OF TOWN TEAM COMMITTEE
23rd January 2015 at 5.30pm

At the Town Hall, Ivybridge

Present: Gary Streeter (in the Chair), District Cllrs Saltern and Barber, Town Cllr Mrs Silsbury, Steve Hitch, Caroline Hodgson, Margaret Punchard, and Joanne Parr;

In attendance – Lesley Hughes (Town Clerk, Ivybridge Town Council)

1. Apologies were received Cllr Roger Croad, Richard Peachey, Cllr Mrs Karen Pringle, Amanda Pellatt and Steven Vincent.
2. Declaration of interests and permitted dispensations
No new declarations were made in addition to those approved at the meeting on 28th September 2013.
3. Notes of the meeting held on 4th April and the AGM on 22nd April 2014 were considered (previously circulated).
The minutes were then approved and signed by the Chairman.
4. Future of the Town Team and arrangements for the ongoing projects/initiatives

Gary Streeter outlined the reason for the meeting which was to bring the Town Team process to an end. It had been right to launch it and come up with the Town Plan but it was now one organisation too many and the Town, District and County Councils plus the Chamber of Trade were able to move projects on. The key partnership was between the Town and District Councils and they were working closely together.

Tony Barber concurred and felt the remaining need was for an organisation to market the town which fell within the remit of the businesses themselves.

Turning to the Plan Gary Streeter went through each of the 10 points referring to the establishment of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and the report on the Leisure Centre which he understood had just been considered by the Executive at SHDC.

Margaret Punchard advised that the Chamber had met and had found a Town Crier who could go into the car park and people could pay for their events to be announced by the Town Crier. The Chamber had teamed up with Lee Mill Woollens to increase footfall – they had coaches going there and those could also come to the Town Centre to park. Cllr Saltern advised that an arrangement would need to be made with SHDC car parks team as the coach bays had been removed many years ago.

The Christmas celebrations were praised and reference made to those at Plympton where Traders had provided the lights. Tony Barber raised the idea of the tree in Fore Street and Margaret Punchard thought the Chamber could take on that role- perhaps with contributions from SHDC Locality budgets.

Mike Saltern referred to the links with the College and the work done with the community at Christmas in relation to the Food Bank and Christmas Day party where the thanks had been relayed to students.

The opportunities for development around the Leisure Centre and police station were discussed and Steve Hitch as Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan group indicated that he would be writing to the Police and Crime Commissioner about the potential development of the police station site whilst retaining a police presence in the town.

Action: projects would be taken forward as outlined above.

5. Tesco 106 money and Portas money – use of 106 money after the dissolution of the Town Team.

Mike Saltern confirmed that the Portas money had been allocated towards the new Christmas lights and had been spent.

He then explained how Tesco 106 money had been spent or earmarked, with £7800 on the car parking subsidies in 2013; money for Christmas festivities in 2013 and 2014 (total £5000); £3000 allocated for promotion of markets and events (it had been hoped in conjunction with Creative Connections) and £10,000 for marketing and branding the town.

A succession application to SHDC for expenditure would be needed relating to the unspent £13,000. It was proposed that Ivybridge Town Council, in discussion with Cllr Saltern, apply for the funding taking into account the view of the Chamber and other stakeholders

Action: Ivybridge Town Council to liaise with Cllr Saltern to finalise the detailed arrangements for the process and work towards using the money for the purposes outlined as soon as practicable..

6. Any updates on projects/initiatives

Margaret Punchard reported that membership of the Chamber has been increasing with 3 new members over the last 3 weeks. Lot of positives and ideas were being generated.

Steve Hitch updated the group on the Neighbourhood Plan process and the work to identify the boundary of the town centre which was broader than had previously been utilised. He referred to discussions with Richard Peachey about the alleyways behind Fore Street and some quite dilapidated areas. The plan

period was to 2031 so long term ideas could be included. Road south of the A38 was being explored as a new junction was unlikely. Dealing with poor air quality in Western Road was an issue. Lee Bray was retained as the consultant to do the written work and it was taking a quantum leap forward with his input.

Action – the updates and ongoing efforts were welcomed.

7. Confirmation that the Ivybridge Town Team is disbanded

Gary Streeter thanked all the participants who had given their time – he believed a legacy had been left which would be taken forward by others. The group in turn thanked Gary Streeter for his chairmanship.

Meeting closed at 6.25pm