

DT11 Forum minutes

Date: 08<sup>th</sup> December 2009

Venue: Stourpaine Village Hall

1. Apologies: Brian Isherwood, Trevor Savage, Doc Addison, Bob Kempson, Joe Hickish, Helen Reed, Steve Richardson, Mike Jones, Nicci Brown, Bob Kempson, Andrew Pemberton, Peter Webb, Simon Evans, Simon Everett

Attending: Bob Brannigan, Scott Norman, Peter Slocombe, Steve Adamson, Keith Yarwood, Hilary Ritchie, Brian Anderson, Jacqueline Bolson, Diane Cooper, Dave Aitchison, Barrie Cooper, Mike Jones, Mike Wills, Sue Bennett.

Resignation:

Guests:

In Attendance: Jo Rose CDW, Pauline Figg Admin

Agenda item	Discussion points	Action
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 14 <sup>th</sup> October 2009, The Old Brewery Hall, Ansty	Two amendments made to the minutes 1. Dave Aitchison - Change Blandford over 50's lunch to launch. 2. Nicci Brown - (by email) The Milldown is not only a recreational area, but also a road full of private houses. I think the idea of knocking them all down to build new ones is very unlikely. I think the Milldowners are talking about the Milldown Primary School which is due to become vacant when the new one opens across the road!  Ongoing from last meeting - Barrie Cooper to research future use and exact title of the Milldown. Also investigate whether the 1 <sup>st</sup> school in Blandford which may be made	Barrie Cooper

	<p>redundant would be a suitable site for the Art Centre.</p> <p>-Carrie Lewis to speak to Mary Tambini regarding the Art Centre.</p> <p>-Jo Rose to speak to John Ivay regarding the Art Centre</p> <p>-Steve Richardson to give his first presentation about Transition Towns and climate change at the next DT11 meeting in February.</p> <p>Minutes proposed by Steve Adamson and Mike Jones.</p>	<p>Carrie Lewis</p> <p>Jo Rose</p> <p>Steve Richardson</p>
3. Matters arising, not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda	None	
4. Treasurers Report	<p>Balance at bank as at 08<sup>th</sup> December 2009 is £3,992.69. This balance represents the operating budget for DT11 Forum Community Partnership and not project funding.</p> <p>The next payment for rent and services is due shortly. Also the next quarterly bill from BT is due.</p> <p>Brian Anderson suggested looking at the possibility of sharing the office so that we could reduce the running costs. Bob Brannigan, Scott Norman and Peter Slocombe currently looking into this.</p> <p>Accounts proposed by Dave Aitchison and Brian Anderson.</p>	
5. Questions on projects	<p>Steve Adamson - Sowing Seeds - Possibility of looking at a large project to promote the market towns in North Dorset this would be done through the Blackmore Vale Tourism and Development company.</p> <p>Brian Anderson - Submitted a couple of projects at the community project event. 1. Open up the Tarrant Valley by putting up a couple of National Trust type signs weatherproof in 2 places to advise people where to walk. 2. Cleaning up the river Tarrant.</p> <p>Carrie Lewis - Needs funding for 50 copies of a report to be printed. Supported by Rob Buckley from DCRS.</p>	

	<p>Keith Yarwood - Stourpaine parish council, the church and Raglan Housing Association looking into building affordable housing in Stourpaine through a housing association and providing a new village hall as part of the development.</p> <p>Scott Norman - The Trailway negotiations still going on with Mr Pitt Rivers for the right of access. All the undergrowth has been removed on this side of the river. Hopefully the bridge will be open by the end of the summer 2010.</p> <p>It was proposed by Keith Yarwood and Steve Adamson that Scott Norman on behalf of DT11 approach County on negotiations for the next leg of the Trailway and what possibilities are available.</p> <p>Scott Norman also noted with the assistance of the DT11 office approximately £500k of funding for projects had been secured.</p> <p>Dianne Cooper - Works for the volunteer centre. She would like to thank the DT11 Partnership for the continuing use of the DT11 office on a Tuesday afternoon.</p> <p>Dave Aitchison - Age Concern has changed its name nationally to Age UK.</p> <p>Peter Slocombe - Investigating funding for the roof renovation at Pimperne Village Hall.</p> <p>Mike Jones - Iwerne Minster is seeking funding for rebuilding the Abingdon Hall (2010 is a special anniversary in the life of the hall).</p>	
6. Environment Update	<p>Carrie Lewis reported Blandford is not ready to become a Transition Town but the Green Group is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Arranging talks in the area.</li> </ol>	Carrie Lewis

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Looking at Green mapping.</li> <li>3. A new volunteer suggested looking at a Green Week instead of a Green Day which may take place the second week in July.</li> <li>4. Looking into the possibility of a green loyalty card.</li> </ol>	
<p>7. Chairman's Report/Next steps for DT11 Partnership</p>	<p>The Agenda was modified to take item 8 before Chairman's report.</p>	
<p>8. Any other business/Questions from the floor</p>	<p>Jacqueline Bolson - The POPP event held on the 17<sup>th</sup> October was a great success.</p> <p>Dave Aitchison - Old Bishopwake School will be used to put meal facilities in place to cater for up to 80 people. Dave asked DT11 if they knew of any groups that may wish to use this facility, it is open to any group not just the elderly. It is due to open in September.</p> <p>Peter Slocombe - Would like to thank Vivienne Tomlin an Admin volunteer working in the DT11 office for all her hard work.</p> <p>Peter Slocombe - Once The Blandford School is developed the whole of the Milldown school is due to be demolished. Part of the school may be of suitability for use the hall, gym and kitchen are in good condition. It might be good to use it for community facilities. The building is constructed substantially. Barrie Cooper agrees with Peter Slocombe it is worth pursuing this with county. Steve Adamson suggested perhaps looking at the building for adult education, extended education or possibly an art centre or multi use building. Barrie Cooper to look into the state of the building and look at the planning side and the register side. See if there is anything to be done to keep this part of the building. Need to look at detailed planning permission.</p>	<p>Barrie Cooper</p>

Chairman's Reports

A detailed sheet regarding the restructure of the partnerships was given to all partners at the meeting. The new structure had been agreed by the partnership chairs, North Dorset District Council and DCA who wanted more local project delivery and less ongoing consultation. NDDC wanted to make best use of the available resources which required modification to the current structure. The partnership chairs had been asked what they needed for their partnerships. From these core elements DCA had drawn up new job descriptions.

As a consequence of this the whole team has officially been put on 30 days consultancy possibly leading to redundancy. Bob Brannigan had been shocked to hear this news as he was not aware that this process was going to take effect this quickly he thought there would be a transition period and consultation on the core model with local partners and staff prior to implementation. All the DT11 partners are very concerned with regards to business continuity in the new year.

Hilary Ritchie stated that the changes are not to do with budget. She stated the model was reviewed in line with the 2007 independent evaluation and needed changing. North Dorset District Council wants to see the Partnerships more closely linked together. DCA have taken legal advice on the redundancy procedure. Further discussions will take place between DCA and staff Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Hilary stated the council have put in place what the partnerships have been asking for.

A question was raised whether NDDC and DCA can ensure the business continuity of the partnership if current staff is made redundant. Hilary was not able to ensure this.

Steve Adamson asked if there was a mandate from the partnership to agree to this. He stated the chairs should have got permission from all the partners in each area and if this was not done which it wasn't in the case of DT11 the agreement should be null and void.

	<p>Mark Brownbridge has now left the council and has been replaced by Hugh Delongh. Scott Norman felt filling the role of Community Planning Officer should have remained open until after this procedure took place so that those staff currently under the consultation process could have applied for this job.</p> <p>Steve Adamson asked whether the new structure is "Better" ? Bob Brannigan had been instructed not to speak to staff or the Partnership about this therefore he was put in a difficult position. The new model will not be cheaper and DCA will be paid more due to increased management of staff. The Service Level Agreement between North Dorset District council and DCA has not yet been signed.</p> <p>Bob Brannigan states he had misunderstood the process.</p> <p>Peter Slocombe asked what can we do about it. Carrie Lewis felt that the process had made a mockery of the Partnership. Steve Adamson suggested speaking to the other chairs to see if they have a mandate in place. Possibility of extending the consultation period. He felt that many of the partners were not aware of the implications.</p> <p>Jo Rose suggested that the difficulty with the new structure was that "one size doesn't fit all". There is no team element in this new structure simply parallel working and the management is via DCA in Dorchester. The current structure had represented a really strong team.</p> <p>Scott Norman what can we do about it. Suspend the process immediately for further discussion but time is of the essence. Bob Brannigan will speak to the Chairs of the other partnerships.</p> <p>Bob Brannigan stood down immediately as chairman due to being elected to the Town Council. Jo Rose given a vote of thanks to Bob. Scott Norman will be acting chair until the AGM.</p> <p>Bob Brannigan thanked Hilary for attending the meeting.</p> <p>Brian Anderson would like to thank on behalf of everyone Bob Brannigan</p>	<p>Bob Brannigan Scott Norman</p>
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	<p>for all his hard work.</p> <p>Scott Norman thanked Jo Rose and Pauline Figg for all their hard work in the event of them no longer being in post at the next DT11 meeting.</p>	
9. Date of next meeting	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2010 at Tarrant Gunville Village Hall	