



**BEWDLEY**  
Town Council

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON  
MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY AT 6.00PM AT THE GUILDHALL, BEWDLEY**

**PRESENT**

Cllr Linda Candlin (Chair)  
Cllr Calne Edginton-White  
Cllr Mary Fishwick  
Cllr Derek Killingworth  
Mrs A Bakr  
Mrs Cat Banks  
Mr Richard Perrin

In attendance: Mrs Barbara Byng (Assistant Town Clerk)  
One member of the public

**1 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr John Beeson, Mr Peter Michael, Mr Martin Guard and the Town Clerk.

**2 Declarations of Interest**

None.

**3 Dispensations**

None.

**Public Question Time**

Mrs Gill Holland queried whether the Town Council had news of the emergency planning arrangements and fate of the Bewdley Fire Station. Cllr Edginton-White advised that Cllr Beeson was attending a consultation meeting tonight and we should know more after this.

**4 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**5 Neighbourhood Plan**

Actions and Notes from the last meeting of the NP Steering Group were noted. The Assistant Town Clerk advised that a Vision & Objectives Workshop is planned for 22<sup>nd</sup> August, which will incorporate the results of the additional survey recently carried out. This was targeted at obtaining the views of young people in the town and local schools. Story boards will be updated to reflect the views obtained. Another public event is planned for the autumn.

## **6 Bewdley Traders Group**

Mrs Cat Banks, Deputy Chair of Bewdley Traders Group provided an update. Cllr Philip Edmundson now attends as Town Council representative in place of Cllr Beeson, who wishes to avoid any conflict of interest during his term as Mayor of Bewdley.

Mrs Banks said the Group were disappointed that County/District Cllrs Campion and Clee failed to attend Friday's Traders meeting. Cllr Rob Wilson did attend and offered assistance. Traders have experienced a 50% drop in trade since traffic has been diverted away from the main thoroughfare of Load Street. More signs are needed that businesses are still open as usual. Alison Bakr reported that Museum attendance has also been down since the works began. Discussion took place regarding the dangers encountered in the Load Street car park when drivers ignore the No Entry sign at the end of the bridge and then use the car park as a cut through to Dowles Road, making it extremely dangerous for pedestrians accessing the car park. More policing is needed and examples of instances seen recently were quoted, e.g. Emergency Services having difficulties getting through, not to mention large lorries/towed caravan getting stuck and causing long queues of traffic but also confusion regarding signage (diversion sign to Kinlet facing the wrong way). All of which has contributed to some people becoming abusive and aggressive.

### **AGREED**

Another request be made to Worcestershire County Council Highways in order to improve signage, road safety and highlight the problems being encountered.

## **7 Road Safety (20's Plenty)**

The Notes and Agreed Actions from the meeting of the Working Group held on 13<sup>th</sup> June were noted. The ATC reported that David Hunter has agreed to surveys to be carried out at the locations requested. However, the request for a pedestrian crossing at the rear of St Anne's Church could run the risk of creating additional congestion, which could compromise air quality beyond that currently experienced in Welch Gate. WCC intends to raise different options for dealing with AQMA with Wyre Forest DC as part of their review of the Local Development Plan. He agreed that the Town Council will be involved in future discussions.

Responses to a WCC A 'No Waiting at any time' Traffic Regulation Order proposal at designated areas on the B4195 Stourport Road/Sandbourne Road/Brook Vale are required by 11<sup>th</sup> August. Members considered the proposal and agreed to the restrictions.

### **AGREED**

That the decision to agree to the TRO be passed to Town Council for ratification on 1<sup>st</sup> August, due to County Councillor involvement.

## **8 Events & Markets Working Group**

Cllr Edginton-White welcomed Kyle Daisley, newly appointed Community Engagement & Events Officer. She confirmed that Kyle will attend future CDC bi-monthly meetings and Events & Market Working Group monthly meetings. Plans are in place for lots of forthcoming events, listed on the Action Chart circulated. Particular reference was made to:

- Crowd control barriers – BDT to be approached (to borrow theirs)
- BDT Harvest Fair - BTC (KD) to co-ordinate this event. BDT have agreed to pay for 2 days of Kyle's time
- Christmas 2016 – good progress being made and an update will be made at the next CDC meeting

- Produce Market – to take place once a month (would be good to have this on a weekly basis)
- Next E&M Working Group is to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016
- Antique Market – criteria is that items are homemade, vintage or antique. (Plans are in hand to include details on the Town Council's website)

## **9 'Fairtrade' Town Status**

Fair Trade is about better prices, decent working conditions and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers. It may take up to five years for Bewdley to regain 'Fairtrade' town status in view of the amount of work involved. At present, Tesco and the Co-op stock Fairtrade items, however, it is not presently known how many local shops and businesses would support the initiative and how much cost (if any) would be involved.

### **AGREED**

Cllr Beeson be asked to present a case to the next meeting and consideration also be given to asking for public opinion via the Neighbourhood Plan.

## **10 Together Group**

Cllr Candlin reported that:

- A new Luncheon Club has been launched. This takes place on the second Thursday of each month, with dinner and pudding provided for £4 per head, including tea or coffee.
- A Christmas Party is to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> December. The Stourport Monday Night Group have kindly donated £200.
- Events include: a talk by a member of the Kidderminster Carpet Museum, a trip to a plant nursery and demonstration of how to make up winter hanging baskets, a pub signs talk and a performance of hand bell ringing.

Discussion took place regarding the fact that a Suggestion Box is used at the Hall to gain ideas and also that people are always encouraged to join the committee to generate help and suggest new initiatives, etc. In response to a query, Cllr Candlin confirmed that the Committee is always looking at ways to encourage people to attend, particularly when they have been attending and then fall ill or fail to come. However, there are limited resources.

## **11 Team Wyre Forest**

Cllr Edginton-White extended thanks to the Town Clerk for attending these meetings on behalf of the Town Council. The Team Wyre Forest handbook was circulated and noted. No further public houses have signed up. A school competition has been carried out to design posters to deter dog fouling and the winning poster is being printed and will be posted up in town.

## **12 Riverside North Park**

Cllr Edginton-White was unable to attend Wednesday's meeting. However, she commented that it would be good if BTC could encourage WFDC in designating the area with Town Park status. Discussion took place on the meeting held with Lesley Fox and Alan Bream, Partnership Services, WFDC who are investigating the legal aspect of Fields in Trust.

### **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**TUESDAY, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 6pm** in the Guildhall, Load Street, Bewdley.

*The meeting closed at 7.20 pm*

**Signed.....  
Chairman Community Development Committee  
19<sup>th</sup> September 2016**