



**Marketing and Regeneration Committee
Tuesday 12 April 2022
18.30pm - 20.30pm
Council Chamber
Minutes**

**Present: Cllrs L Baker; M Cox; S Cox; C Elsmore; N Penny.
Also, Forest Youth Association Officer A Digby
Apologies: Cllr Drury. Also Town Clerk Chris Haine**

1. **N Penny** noted that should his employment necessitate, he would **declare an interest** at that point of proceedings and leave the meeting.
2. **There were no dispensation requests.**
3. **The minutes of this Committee for 8 March 2022 were agreed** and Cllr L Baker signed a copy.
4. **There were no matters arising** from the minutes of **8 March 2022** which were not on the agenda
5. **Comments from the Public Forum: no public were present.**

Item 10 was brought forward by Cllr Baker: to receive an update on Youth Work activity and to make any recommendations for future plans.

AD presented the update, giving apologies from I. Watkins, who has taken over the main lead from AD for work delivered by the team of four youth workers.

- 150+ interventions have been made since last report, most of which occur on the Thursday night session at Bells Field. Following discussion with young people the time has been changed to 5.30-8pm, and that has doubled the engagement. The young people know the youth workers will be there, and trust, respect, has been built up. Some parents also come.
- Activities such as sports, with equipment, and recently music, in particular, is popular. Some young people felt confident enough to perform at an indoor event in Coleford Tapas bar (see later).
- The young people really enjoy the sessions, help pick up litter, and talk with staff about a variety of issues. The hot chocolate at the end is appreciated, and on occasion, local businesses have helped with pizza and similar treats.
- Conversations re cannabis and alcohol, graffiti, sex education, mental health happen in an informal way which leads to understanding and respect for others. There is a verbal agreement within the group that such behaviour is unacceptable. They want these sessions to continue so they police the attitudes within the group to the benefit of all. Information and messages are spread about tagging, the damage in the Field, including to others who may not attend.
- Youth workers have close relationship with the Police re safeguarding and antisocial behaviour. Recently been working with Youth Music and found some really talented people. 50 young people from Coleford attended a paid entry Forest Youth Music event at the Tapas bar. Open mike nights with reasonable levels of sound to be occasional and organised.



- Links with groups in the Market Place and Queensway are progressing. The workers are developing links with the Church at Wynols Road and Coalway Juniors.

To emphasise their responsible attitude, how can young people make amends, improve areas which have suffered- particularly with graffiti which is increasing round the town?

Recommendation 1: to develop further a collaborative approach to improving anti-social behaviour. Agree a community clear-up, with the whole community helping on a set day, litter picking/ cleaning signs/ painting out graffiti

Recommendation 2: young people with youth workers agree potential designated places for street art. Bring those back to Council. These would be organised to be repainted on a regular basis.

Recommendation 3: workers to liaise with local businesses to gain small rewards eg pizzas to give back to young people who engage.

Recommendation 4: explore with Environment Committee the development of the Bells Field and Cemetery environment group to carry out non- contracted work eg within the conservation areas.

7. Review of tracker with actions/responses

- UWE students report: this is outstanding.** MC to follow up again with students and staff.
 - Foresters Forest map arrived:** to be put on reverse side of Town noticeboard on Tump. Other signage see item 14. / seats/ mobile trees to be kept in view as Mushet Walk extension progresses.
 - Tourist Information Centre:** see excellent report from EB. Noted relevant to Finance and Asset Management, next week, as well. Some issues with volunteer availability over the coming May/June which EB and CH are considering.
8. **Website update** MC reported that illness had significantly affected the rate of progress of the new website, with loss of resources which MC had resent. A further meeting was arranged for 13 April when the expected action plan was to be addressed. Given the amount of time, and the need for others' input, MC to ask CH/L-J to attend, with a view to staff time being allocated to get the final elements up and running. Concern was also raised re compliance as access via the old website to minutes etc. is not fully possible. All agreed that the draft website was to be ready for display to Full Council on the 26 April.
(Subsequently, this was agreed in the meeting of 13th, with an interim meeting on April 20th 4.30pm.)
9. **Communications Working Group had not met,** no update.
11. **Pavement trading, licencing and options for Scoffs, The Dog House:** MC with CH to arrange meeting with S Budd and J Goodson from GCC Highways; W Jackson FoDDC Regeneration; County Councillor, County Cabinet member, MP, to develop the options and take this forward. Suggested that on site consideration of options would be useful with SB possibly in advance. (NB there are also a number of Highways other issues to be discussed.)
12. **Update re FoDDC Regeneration.** Town Clerk to confirm date for next quarterly meeting as Wed 8 June 4pm/4.30pm. Further updates from March 31 meeting to be requested for 10days time. LB notes apologies for that date. **Town Clerk to circulate report received late on day of this meeting.**



13. Newsletters are produced, ready for collection and delivery by Councillors (with events leaflet). Aim for all to be delivered by end of Easter holidays. Map of delivery area also available for collection.

14. Cycle Improvement Schemes: Mushet Walk cycle/footpath extension has progressed since FC accepted stage 1 and 2 of project to proceed subject to written agreement from landlords. One landlord sent appropriate email. Our other landlord agreed verbally and Town Clerk to further chase for written permission; and to add Cycle ways consideration for Highways meeting.

15. Events update:

- a. leaflet in TIC and being delivered.
- b. Ladies Tour of Britain will come through Forest – awaiting route
- c. NP has updated Coleford Town.net
- d. Carnival of Transport nervous re travellers in car park. NP passed thanks to FoDDC who put all in place, and they have now moved on
- e. St George's Day: uniformed groups coming are: ATC (new this year); Scouts; Guides; Army Cadets including Drum Corps and others. Pillowell Band will play. ALL: Marshals are needed to organise the temporary, rolling, road closures for the morning. Please ask anyone interested to contact CH/NP.
- f. **Jubilee:** bunting/posters are to be organised/bought; Town Clerk to contact Sue Middleton and Ian Standing to ask them to unveil copper beeches; and Cllr. Beard to provide markers for trees; CH to organise with Councillors to provide tea/coffee; NP has arrangements for entertainment in hand, with music mainly on lower area (choir, band, busking, open mike); petanque on amphitheatre; BRAZIER has not proceeded, all to consider how a beacon can be provided safely and arranged quickly (light or fire?) Ideas and info to NP before Full Council on 26th April.

16. GCC Highways: see above. Fastershire and way of working needs explanation.

Meeting ended 20.30pm

