

## THE HEATHFIELD PARTNERSHIP

### Minutes of the meeting that took place on Tuesday 12 September 2006 at 6.00pm at The Union Church, Heathfield

Present:

Teresa Blaxland	Chair, The Partnership Executive
Rosemary Mays-Smith	Heathfield Partnership
Colin Williams	Farmers Market
Angie Muddle	Heathfield and Waldron Parish Council
Sue Hanley	Heathfield and Waldron Parish Council
Doug Brunger	Churches Together/Ramblers Association
Liz Williams	Governor, Heathfield Community College
Joanne Aldous (notetaker)	Heathfield Partnership Co-ordinator

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

1. Apologies were received from Sue Roach, Trevor Goldsmith, Rupert Simmons, John Tolley, Peter Newnham and Niki Oakes.

#### 2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

1. The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

#### 3. Matters Arising

1. 3.2 Discussion about Heathfield tunnel questionnaire. Partnership view suggests CCTV and tunnel lit so that it can be left open. Liz Williams suggested motion sensors and mirrors at the bend in the tunnel may help.
2. 6.5 Teresa reported that take up for training is now full with places on reserve for absenteeism.
3. Joanne had e-mailed Diana asking her to include a flyer on the computer training, but Diana felt that this was not appropriate, as a lot of Parish Councillors did not use computers.

#### 4. Sport and Leisure

1. Sue H reported that the feasibility study was reporting back to the Sport and Leisure Committee on Friday 29 September, 9.30am, Red Cross Hall.
2. Sue H reported that the draft feasibility study recommends Heathfield Leisure Centre, Heathfield Community College, as the best site.
3. Sue H reported that Jan Dunk, Wealden District Councillor for Heathfield said WDC, do not want to be lead body or give financial support only verbal support.  
*Rosemary arrived.*
4. Cycle route. Rosemary was at the Youth Centre in Heathfield on the 10 September when the Paris to London cycle ride stopped for

Action

lunch. There were about 35 entrants. The Chairman of the ESCC and Matthew Lock, Chairman of Sport and Leisure, ESCC, were there to greet them. Matthew Lock told Rosemary that agreement had been reached between the three London Boroughs affected by the NCR21 and West Sussex and East Sussex are to work together on the completion of the NCR21 project. East Sussex would be taking the lead on this project. Rosemary also reported that the ESCC had found W Atkins feasibility study on the Heathfield to Mayfield stretch of the NCR21 very disappointing and had demanded that W Atkins did more work on the study and to a higher standard.

## **5. IT Report/Website**

1. Meeting with WARR Partnership in summer very long but beneficial. Currently on target to complete final report by end of September.
2. Website – business site going slowly because Sue is so busy with the training. Currently working on Neighbourhood watch pages.  
*Joanne arrived.*

## **6. High Street**

1. Phase 5 – letters have been sent to the 9 traders between Cherwell Road to the McCarthy & Stone entrance to ask them if we could change their forecourts to the same as the rest of the high street.
2. Phase 6 (library side), Phase 7 (William Hill side) are going to be taken together and funding has been obtained from ESCC Transport (10K) and WDC (£12,250). Overall total is 90K. It has been agreed to use the 10K to pay for development plans for both phases, which helps to obtain further funding. The £12,250, which has to be spent by the end of March 2007, will be used to purchase materials in advance
3. Rosemary was looking at providing flower baskets in Station Road and Hailsham Road and baskets on the railings on the Station Road corner or outside Trading 4 U.

## **7. Transport**

1. Sue H reported that a lot of questionnaires (approximately 500) had been returned. She was starting to input the data on a spreadsheet supplied by Action in Rural Sussex. The data will be analysed with the help of Juliet Easton, Action in Rural Sussex.
2. The next meeting is being held on Monday 25 September, 9.30am, Red Cross Hall.
3. Sue had written confirmation from the Red Cross that the funds have been earmarked for this project.

## **8. Financial Report**

1. Joanne circulated a copy of the financial report.
2. The Partnership were going to be re-imbursed for Sue's and

Joanne's time spent on the PiP training project, which was just over £3,000.

3. Colin had contacted Le Marche about possible funding, but this was not looking likely.

#### **9. Seminars**

1. Joanne had not been to any seminars recently.
2. Teresa to confirm to Joanne that she can attend the East Sussex Economic Partnership (ESEP) launch event on the 28 September.

**TB**

#### **10. Farmers Market**

1. Colin reported that the market was doing well and it was the right size.
2. The Food and Drink magazine had contacted Colin, after obtaining details on the market from the heathfield.net website and will be including details on the market in the January edition of the magazine.

#### **11. Public Relations and Marketing**

1. Joanne has a folder available which contains copies of all the articles mentioning the Partnership.
2. Joanne was submitting information to the new WDC Market Towns E-Bulletin, the new on-line South East Rural Towns Partnership Newsletter, as well as Heathfield First, Heathfield Xtra and the local papers, when necessary.
3. Rosemary to pass Joanne a copy of the article mentioning the Partnership in Sussex Life.

**RMS**

#### **12. Inward Investment**

1. There were 11 signs promoting the car parks and community buildings and 3 gateway signs, when produced, to be installed.
2. There had been some debate whether to continue to use the Cuckoo lady on signage.
3. Funding was being obtained to install tourist information boards.

#### **13. Any Other Business**

1. The AGM is on the 1 November, 6.00pm, Goldsmith and Allcorn. Everyone is welcome to attend.

#### **14. Date/Time of the next meeting**

1. Tuesday 7 November, 6.00pm, Union Church.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.00pm.