

# THE HEATHFIELD PARTNERSHIP TRUST LTD

[www.heathfield.net](http://www.heathfield.net)

c/o 92 High Street, Heathfield. East Sussex. TN21 8JD

Tel No: 01892 610314 E-mail: [heathfieldpartnership@fsmail.net](mailto:heathfieldpartnership@fsmail.net)

## HEATHFIELD PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of the meeting that took place on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 6.00p.m. at The King's Church.

<b><u>Present:</u></b>	Colin Williams	-	Chairman & Trustee
	Cllr. Rupert Simmons	-	Trustee
	Rosemary Mays-Smith	-	Trustee
	Doug Brunger	-	Churches Together
	PCSO Geraldine Hodgens	-	Heathfield Police
	Joanne Aldous	-	Town Coordinator
	Sheran Crichton	-	Clerk

### **1. Apologies:**

1. Were received from Cllr. Niki Oakes, Cllr. Angie Muddle, Ruth Waller, Chris Macklin, Cllr. Peter Newnham, Sue Roach, Trevor Goldsmith, John Tolley, PC Ted Anderson and Sgt. Ruth Hammerton.

### **2. Minutes of the last meeting dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2010:**

1. The minutes were accepted as a true record of the previous meeting and duly signed.

### **3. Matters Arising:** *(to save duplication, please consult the previous minutes if clarification is needed)*

1. 6.14.1. This was kindly hosted by Rosemary Mays-Smith with all representatives of various groups in Heathfield attending. It is an exciting project and the meeting looked at setting up a scheme to possibly take on 20 young people who are not employed or in training, Tomorrow's People is famous throughout the country for getting young people into work and staying with them for a year. All who attended were keen to take the project to the next stage and a further discussion is to be arranged.
2. 11.4. On checking her notes, Ruth Waller had already contacted Crowborough Police regarding setting up Street Pastors. They have had an initial meeting with the Churches and are planning to go ahead. They are looking to appoint a co-ordinator. The 'setting-up' can take a few months.

### **4. Sport & Leisure:**

#### **Swimming Pool/Car Raffle:**

1. Between £16/£17000 has been raised so far for planning permission, the main costs being for drawings, research and surveys. £800 has been received from HCC who had an 'own clothes' day.
2. The boxes on the tills at the Coop are going well and the staff raised £300 by running a keep fit cycling event which is too repeated.
3. The public are being very generous and sending in donations.
4. **Car Raffle.** Rosemary is kindly giving a free lunch at her home for 60/70 people to help sell tickets.
5. The prize of the car will be displayed at the Carnival, the Heathfield Show and Le Marche.

**5. Financial Report:**

1. The balance as at 25<sup>th</sup> May 2010 stands at £69,312.23.
2. A successful bid application to WDC has meant £5000 has been received for the 3 year Service Agreement. However due to financial constraints there may not be any further awards for the forthcoming 2 years. Previously £4000 had been received for each of the 3 years.
3. Other funding possibilities will have to be investigated to make sure the Partnership remains robust.

**6. IT Report/Website:**

1. A successful bid to AIRS has produced £2000 which will be put towards communication projects, in particular the website
2. A company has been commissioned to telephone all the businesses in the Heathfield/Waldron area, check that their information is correct on the website and explain that they can opt to put a web link from Heathfield.net to their own site for a small fee. All fees will go into the programming account and help keep the website updated.
3. Progress is now being made with the Educational site with text and photos from HCC. The Primary Schools are not on board yet.
4. A meeting concerning the Youth Website took place on Friday at HCC. Setting up the recording of live bands on the website was discussed. Several Bands will be chosen and then there will be a competition to vote for the best. Beata is to follow up with a live band Concert at the Youth Centre in July.

**7 Farmers' Market:**

The Farmers Market continues to be quieter than in past years, this seems to apply to all the Wealden Farmers Markets. The last few markets have had 21 to 23 stalls. This seems to be the number we can expect over the Summer.

The May Market was very successful, it was busy and all the stallholders that I spoke to at the end of the Market were very satisfied (or as satisfied as a Market Trader will admit to), many of them were sold out.

Roy Wilkinson and a Angie Muddle carried out a survey at the May Market, seeking to find out what our customers want, 166 people were surveyed (approximately 70%) between 9a.m. and 12.30p.m. There were no complaints in fact all thought the Market very good. In answer to the question 'What products would you like to see which are not in the Market?', four main requests were made:

- (1) Unpasteurised Milk and cream. Michael Vine felt he could cater for this if the demand was there. He would probably sell the milk in one pint plastic bottles rather than glass.
- (2) Children's homemade sweets.
- (3) Fresh fish was missed, although is now back in the Market.
- (4) Local fresh cut flowers. It was felt this would be difficult to cater for. However Roy offered to speak to Simon and Ken Wallace, of Wallace Plants ahead of the next market.

Unfortunately Cathy Fordham, the Rural Development Programme England Project Officer is leaving her post as her contract has come to an end. As a result of this we will not be getting much help from Wealden in the promotion of Markets in the near future.

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**MINS25.05.10(3)**

It has been suggested that we should try to improve the Market layout, I have discussed this with most of the stallholders and the responses vary between why do we need to and can we remove the Perrycourt Lorry. As from the June Market we will put the lorry in the corner with the other vans, the stalls on the left side of the Market will be moved to make space for the lorry.

Rob Bookham who made the first suggestion arrived at the May Market, saw that we had not done what he wanted and left.

The accounts show a lower income for the year 2009/10, this is a result of the reduced number of stalls.

Although all markets are quiet at the moment, Heathfield is progressing well with 22 stalls in February. The generator recently failed but has been successfully repaired.

### **8. Inward Investment:**

1. Financial support has been received from AIRS for more Information Boards. One will be on the side wall of Tesco by the entrance to the car park. WDC have shown reluctance to allow a Board in the Cuckoo Trail car park. However Trevor Goldsmith has kindly allowed a Board to be displayed on the exterior of his premises which faces the Cuckoo Trail car park. A request has been received for an Information Board to be placed in Hailsham Road.
2. The Mill attracts young people and the PCSOs are keeping an eye on matters, although the Cuckoo Trail sign has been vandalised.
3. Representatives of the Partnership continue in their dialogue with WDC and officers concerning the Local Framework although all directives were given by the previous Government.

### **9. High Street:**

1. Most of the work has been completed including the roundabout and new pedestrian crossing. There is, however, one snag when coming out of the exit from Cherwell Road onto the Roundabout it becomes quite tricky as cars are parked by the exit. This needs to be monitored.
2. There are reports that cars are being parked between the bollards, along the Bank stretch, to use the cash machine. This really needs to be monitored with number plates being noted and reported to the Police.
3. The road surface has not been completed due to 1) ESCC Highways having a long term plan to resurface from Board Oak to Cross in Hand over the next two years. 2) The Gas Board, who are required to respond to any road works, have not provided any dates for pipe work. Also EDF are due to upgrade the circuit system along the Union Church side of the High Street.
4. Traders were invited to attend a Chamber of Commerce meeting to consider a report on the High Street re-surfacing problems. However, despite Trevor Goldsmith visiting every trader and informing them of the meeting, the turnout was disappointing.
5. Now that the High Street project is almost finished, monitoring reports have to be provided for SEEDA. Part of this will be to monitor the traffic at the new pedestrian crossing and cross referencing the readings with those obtained from the old crossing.

### **10. Transport:**

1. The Skool+ project did not take off due to insufficient interest.
2. Transport is still being provided for twice weekly swimming sessions and one-off trips.

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**MINS25.05.10(4)**

3. There has been very little take up with Community Projects, so Joanne has sent letters out to local care homes giving details of the project.

**11. LAT (Local Action Team):**

1. **Bobby Hamilton, who organised the Neighbourhood Watch scheme in Waldron, is keen that they are linked with the Police Website. Rosemary suggested that he be invited to the next LAT meeting. Rupert to.....ACTION**

**Street Pastors**

2. Ruth Waller's report is under Agenda item 3.2.

**12. Seminars/Guest Speaker:**

1. There was no report.

**13. Public Relations & Marketing**

1. Joanne drew the attention of the committee to recent publicity featuring the High Street, Swimming Pool, Raffle and Pips.

**14. Any other business**

1. Joanne reported that the Police Station is now open on Wednesday between 10a.m. and 12 noon. Also Saturday between 10a.m. and 2p.m.
2. The official launch of the Children's Centre in Sheepsetting Lane takes place tomorrow. The project is designed to be available to young parents with newly born children. The parents can pop into the centre for conversation and gain support from other parents. There will also be professionals on hand if needed.

**13. Dates of the next meeting**

1. The dates of the next meetings will take place at The King's Church at 6.00p.m. They are on Tuesdays:-

20<sup>th</sup> July 2010  
21<sup>st</sup> September 2010  
23<sup>rd</sup> November 2010

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.10p.m..