



**Annual Report 1st October 2017 to 9 November 2018 and Forward Plans
For LRTC Tourism, Community and Publicity Committee
as per terms of the Grant Agreement**

Annexe for Committee Meeting on 6th March 2019

to be read in conjunction with, and as an update to, the report submitted in November 2018

PART 1: ANNUAL REPORT

Personnel

Heather Prior retired as Partnership Assistant on 31 December 2018.

Wendy Davies retired as a Director of LymeForward at the same date.

Both have served the community work of LymeForward unstintingly, in Wendy's case since its inception.

Funder requirements

For Lyme Regis Town Council

Chris Tipping has met with the Town Clerk four times since taking up his post. The main actions arising from their meetings have been as follows:

- arranged a funding talk with Kirsty Main of the National Lottery for 22nd May;
- sharing knowledge of potential grant funding available for our area;
- developing a funding bulletin to share with any potential beneficiaries in the area;
- sought and provided feedback on the effectiveness of the Gateway Card;
- canvassed opinion on issues that the Town Council might put to the Lyme Voice participants;
- investigating the possibility of a new Business Forum in the town;
- mutual publicising community events through the LymeForward mailchimp mailings and LRTC social media outlets.

Coastal Community Team / Economy (Chairman: Tony Colston)

(i) *The River Lim Path (Round 4 of Dorset Coastal Forum bid to the Coastal Communities Fund)*

The work is almost complete, with some snagging and minor final works remaining. The project is within budget.

(ii) *Coastal Communities Fund (CCF) Round 5 Stage 2 funding bid in 2018*

Final paperwork for the Lyme Regis and Charmouth elements of the Dorset Coast Forum portfolio bid '*Gateways to Business Growth in Dorset*' was submitted at the end of January. The decision on this stage should be announced in April; timings slipped considerably last year so we will continue to monitor progress.

(iii) *Coastal Revival Fund bids*

The Marine Theatre and The Hub were successful under the single-stage Coastal Revival Fund. Chris Tipping is helping Audrey Vivian with another bid for St Michael's Church tower.



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Health and Wellbeing Group (Chairman: Chris Boothroyd)

(i) *The future of health and care provision in the LymeForward area*

Developing the 'new local arrangements' for the GP/medical services at Lyme Regis Medical Centre is proceeding slowly, mostly because the Clinical Commissioning Group is (rightly) concerned to respect the interests of existing staff but has to proceed in association with Virgin Care as current employers. From 1st June the Medical Centre and the Lyme Bay Medical Practice will join together as a single Practice, led by Dr Forbes Watson, and merging their patient lists into the one entity. The intention is for GP and nurse services currently provided at LRMC to continue, in the same building. The only significant difference will be that, instead of being employees of Virgin Care, the doctors and nurses will be employed directly by this single local Practice.

Those community services still retained by Virgin Care, provided to patients at both the present Lyme Practices and the Charmouth Practice, have been put out to tender by the CCG, with its Board meeting to confirm the outcome of that procurement on 25th March.

Existing staff of Virgin Care, whether in the GP/medical 'side' or community services, have the right to be TUPE'd to employment by the relevant new provider. Both sites will remain in use for clinical services and for community services. Maximum continuity and minimal disruption is the key. We are promised more specific information from the Clinical Commissioning Group and from Dr Watson as details are worked through.

The third piece of the jigsaw will be 'Social Prescribing', with a contract starting in April recently awarded by the CCG to Help and Care, the organisation that ran the now-discontinued Partnership for Older People Programme and the 'Wayfinders' service. This should bring a 'Linkworker' to work with our GP Practices, also potentially helpful in developing our 'Care Links Lyme' activities.

Members of the Health and Wellbeing Group have regular conversations and meetings with Dr Watson and officers of the CCG to monitor progress, and have planned meetings with senior staff of providers for community service and social prescribing at the earliest practicable moments.

We expect a further public statement on progress from the CCG imminently, with an open public meeting to be held as soon as legally permissible after the Board meeting on 25th March.

The results of the on-line survey of patient experiences both sides of 'the border', conducted in association with Axminster Medical Practice, have been published and are available on the LymeForward website.

On 28th November 33 non-clinical health and care support organisations attending the Care Links Lyme 'DRoP' event in the Baptist Church halls. Bad weather limited public attendance to 65 people, but those who came found it valuable, and feedback from the guest organisations was positive. Healthwatch has approved the report written about this event, its predecessor in April, and other publicity work, as well as agreeing our retention of £350 of the £1,000 grant to help with preparing directories of support groups and facilities.

Following lengthy research into poor ambulance response times locally, and the Ambulance Trust's reluctance to make full use of trained Fire Service First Responders, LymeForward drafted a letter of protest for the Town Council to send to the Trust's Chief Executive on 29th November. The Council received a reply dated 14th December which it rightly regards as insufficient, believing it should be followed up. Chris Boothroyd has offered to help with such a follow-up.

By the 20th February, after 40 weeks of operation, the Foodbank had served 29 separate clients totalling 37 adults and 28 children, making 124 separate visits; in all, by then 308 'person/weeks' of food had been provided. There are now 19 organisations signed up as official referrers, accepting their responsibilities to help clients in dealing with what causes their food-poverty (often related to Universal Credit and /or housing issues).

PART 2: FORWARD PLANS

The forward planning summarised on pages 7 - 9 of the original report is all being worked on. In particular, Chris Tipping, helped by Sue Davies and Tony Colston, can report promising efforts to help the business community to recreate an effective Business Forum or Chamber of Commerce for Lyme and area. The purpose is for such a body to benefit the business community, which must therefore lead the work, with LymeForward providing assistance where appropriate.

3rd March 2019