

Minutes of LymeForward Meeting held in Woodmead Halls at 2.00pm on 23rd March 2017

1. Present:

Owen Lovell,	Mayor & Chair Lyme Regis Town Council (LRTC)
Cheryl Reynolds	Lyme Regis Town Council
Stan Williams	Lyme Regis Town Council
Jane Nicklen	West Dorset District Council (WDDC)
Adrian Ragbourne	LymeForward Coordinator
Simon Williams	Footprint Futures
Alison McTruskery	Altogether Group
Anne Hardman	Help @ Hand
David Hardman	Help @ Hand
David Edwards	Marine Theatre
Sue Herman	Steering Group
Philip Sankey	WATAG
Chris Boothroyd	LymeForward Director/TLG, /Event Organisers' Network
Wendy Davies	LymeForward Director
Audrey Vivian	St Michael's PCC/St Michael's Primary School
Sally Holman	LymeForward Director/Lyme Regis Sailing Club
Rob Greenman	Bethany Chapel
Rachel Pope	

As Observer	
Richard Doney	Lyme Regis Town Council

2. Apologies

Nick Kiddle	St Michaels School
Richard Salisbury	Charmouth Parish Council
John Calder	LandArt
Rev. Jane Skinner	St Michael's Church
Caroline Powley	Lyme Regis Medical Centre PPG
Joanna Scotten	Charmouth Medical Centre PPG
Julie Barton	Facilitator with Altogether Group
David Sarson	Royal Voluntary Society
Godfrey Thomas	Lyme Regis Development Trust
Sue Atkinson	LF Member
Peter Jeffs	Lyme Regis Development Trust
Julie Shepherd	LF Member
Ken Lavery	LF Member
Tony Colston	Lyme Regis Business Group

3. Minutes of Last Meeting - October 13th 2016

3.1 Accuracy agreed with the amendment of 8. AOB: to read: Members were reminded of an upcoming coffee morning for Magna residents being facilitated *by St Michaels School and Church.....*

3.2: Matters arising:

Adrian Ragbourne reported that since that meeting in October, Tony Colston had been co-opted onto the Steering Group. The meeting confirmed its approval of this appointment.

4 Update by CIC Directors

4.1 Sally Holman, chair of Directors, reported that governance and banking registration processes were all now completed, with the current level of funding due to continue until March 2018. Directors were very aware of the need to seek other sources of core funding.

4.2 Chris Boothroyd, Chair of the Steering Group, reminded the meeting of the membership and that the Group's main purpose was to focus aspirations into a deliverable work plan. A paper was circulated which set out its operational ground rules. Two meetings had been held so far, fully attended, which agreed a (not exclusive) focus on Health & Wellbeing and CCT/Economy.

5. Coastal Community Team (CCT).

Chris Boothroyd circulated an explanatory paper (see Appendix) and briefly described how the team was set and the funding already brought into the area, Adrian Ragbourne introduced Simon Williams of Footprint Futures, a self-employed regeneration consultant. Simon explained that his involvement with the Charmouth foreshore regeneration feasibility followed on from his work with a similar scheme at Seatown. Looking ahead, the actual work will need a bid to Round 5 (expected summer 2017) and that it would make sense to do a linked bid with Lyme Regis. If the Town Council's ideas for upgrading the gardens were worked up and included in the bid, they could count as match funding. Such combined bids were viewed favourably, partly because they demonstrated local support. Simon outlined other potential sources of funding including the very competitive, 2-stage LEADER where Dorset has £1million allocated but unspent. Outcomes of Round 4 awaited "Spring 2017", there are hopes that there might be a Round 6. DCLG looking for increased employment, matched funding, and linked projects.

6. Health & Wellbeing.

6.1 Chris Boothroyd outlined the rationale for a more formalised Health & Wellbeing Group. The Steering Group had seen the need for a core team who would proactively drive the work forward without relying on Adrian to lead. A group of able and willing people was currently being recruited. Once firm commitments were received, the group will finalise the Terms Of Reference which will then be circulated to all LymeForward members.

It was reported that LymeForward's strategic approach had already paid dividends in that representatives have been invited to be involved with the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group as the future provision of medical services in Lyme Regis is considered.

6.2 Meanwhile, the Steering Group had agreed that it would be helpful if members learnt more about the issues facing some of the people Adrian was helping on an individual basis.

Adrian introduced Alison McTrustery, who described how valuable the Altogether Group (previously part of the Bridport-based Moving On before it closed) was to herself and 8-12 others with long-term mental health issues. They meet on Wednesdays in Charmouth and on Fridays in Lyme Regis. It gave them a "reason to get out of bed" and out of the house "even on bad days". They contribute £1 per person per attendance, have days out when they can afford it, the current facilitator Julie Barton sometimes taking a small group out in her car. To a large extent, this mutual support is replacing more "official" help from the Mental Health agencies who Alison felt had failed them. Cllr Reynolds asked what Alison would like people to do to help, and offered to visit and talk about Herbalism on a personal basis. Alison replied that visitors would be welcome with open arms, mental health was currently an invisible problem. Sally Holman asked if this group were only

the tip of the iceberg, and was there an issue about volunteers needing insurance or backup support? Adrian said that as it was a social group, there should be no problems with eg insurance, and Audrey Vivian stressed that the essential words were social and local. She felt it was important not to let the group become too official..

Adrian then introduced **Ann and David Hardman of Uplyme's Help@Hand** group. Their 39 volunteers are currently supporting 22 clients, in the majority of cases with neighbourly help such as support with food and medications when discharged from hospital or with transport needs. Loneliness was the greatest problem not money, especially for widowers. Tea and outings provide social opportunities. Some cases can take an immense amount of time and coordinated support, for instance for a young man with addiction problems.

When asked what she would like to see happen, Ann made two suggestions:

- 1) that a person be made available who could establish which GP practice a person was registered with; and
- 2) that from time to time, GP Practices would review their lists and visit the elderly to see if their living conditions were reasonable. It was suggested that Rebecca Siebenthal of the Fire & Rescue Service could be contacted to arrange a visit to the house.

It was recognised that one of the crucial benefits of Help@Hand was that they would tackle any issue, whereas for instance, the RVS had very specific requirements of its volunteers, and now have to at least ask for a £3.50 donation. **[NB: This statement has been subsequently corrected by RVS: "RVS can ask for a donation in a closed envelope if the client wishes - but it is purely voluntary."]**

Adrian noted that isolation does not only mean physical isolation, he was aware of 5 young men in their early 30s coming from prison to Lyme with no money and having to wait 6 weeks for Universal Credit.

It was agreed that "joining the dots" was very much within LymeForward's remit, and hoped that a really strong Health & Wellbeing group would look into these issues, identifying where possible who was the responsible person, and putting pressure on them to act. Meantime, Adrian felt he had to respond to individuals as LymeForward was group turned to when people had run out of options.

7. Reports and issues arising.

71 Town Bus Wendy Davies asked the Chair as Mayor about the Council's discussions on possible replacement services for the 71 Town bus. The Mayor replied that the Council was investigating options. County have said they are unable to help to piggy-back on school services. The operators themselves do not yet know if they have been awarded contracts for which they have applied as the announcement dates keep slipping. There is an option for a ring-and-ride scheme, or linking with the park & ride schemes. Chris Boothroyd suggested that if it proved impossible to link with existing services, the Council could consider an electric bus, possibly part-sponsored by the manufacturers as an exemplar.

Jane Nicklen reported than an SLA for LymeForward for 2017/18 would be prepared shortly.

She had attended that morning a meeting of Dorset Public Health where she had heard of funding opportunities from Sports England, where £65K was available for active ageing and are putting in for a local delivery project across Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole. She will send details.

Sue Herman reported that she was still a HealthWatch champion and was interested in comments on Care Homes. She also suggested Rotary or POPPs for small grants.

Rachel Pope reported on her experience of continuing healthcare assessments. It is not made clear that you can have an advocate present, many don't qualify because of savings, is a very subjective assessment. There is the added problem of finding careers even if funding available.

9. AOB

Adrian took the opportunity to thank the meeting's four speakers, and the Mayor, Owen Lovell for chairing LymeForward meetings for the past 2 years.

LymeForward Coastal Community Team Background and Terms of Reference

The Coastal Community Team (CCT) was created by LymeForward, supported by Lyme Regis Town Council, Charmouth Parish Council and Uplyme Parish Council. It was established in September 2015 with funding from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG).

CCTs must be partnerships of local authorities, business interests and community representatives able to develop local solutions to economic issues facing coastal communities. With an economic plan covering the town and both parishes as its foundation, the CCT has access to government grants through the Coastal Revival Fund (CRF) and larger Coastal Communities Fund (CCF).

West Dorset District Council (WDDC) and Dorset County Council have acted as the CCT's 'accountable body' for funding purposes.

The CCT is the means by which LymeForward carries out the 'Economy' theme of its Community Plan 2007-2027 as updated in 2012.

Purpose

The objectives of the Coastal Community Team are to:

- encourage greater local partnership working;
- support the development of local solutions to economic issues facing our coastal community;
- encourage the sustainable use of heritage/cultural assets to provide both a focus for community activities and enhanced economic opportunities.

Priorities

The team has established five priorities that will continue to make Lyme Regis, Charmouth and Uplyme a great place to live, to work and to visit:

- moving from a peak-season economy to a year-round economy;
- enhancing cultural assets;
- sea-front enhancements;
- infrastructure improvements (including public transport);
- strong marketing.

Economic Plan

As part of the initial funding conditions a CCT economic plan was commissioned, with the three councils collaborating to create the future vision for our area. This plan was published in January 2016.

Funding

The CCT's initial funding comprised:

- £10,000 from DCLG for set-up and preparation of the economic plan;
- £1000 from Uplyme Parish Council, £500 from Charmouth Parish Council, £250 from the Town Mill Trust, and £250 from Charmouth Traders.

Membership

The team initially comprised

From Lyme Regis Town Council:

Cllr Owen Lovell, Cllr Cheryl Reynolds, the Town Clerk (John Wright), the Deputy Town Clerk (Mark Green)

From Charmouth Traders:

Phil Tritton

From Uplyme Parish Council:

Cllr Andy Turner

From West Dorset District Council:

Cllr George Symonds, Trevor Hedger (Senior Economic Regeneration Officer)

From Lyme Regis Business Group:

Tony Colston

From LymeForward:

Adrian Ragbourne (LymeForward Coordinator)

with others invited to contribute on specific topics

While there is no intention to change that spread of representation, the team is reviewing its structure so that a dedicated Chair, assisted by a small core team, can drive the work of

- updating the economic plan;
- profiting from links with strategic bodies such as the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) which is managed via the LEP.
- determining priorities for funding bids;
- reacting to ad-hoc opportunities (funding or development work);
- implementing funding bids;
- organising public information and consultation on CCT activities.

Meetings

Planned meetings will occur every four months to align with and feed into the LymeForward Steering Group meetings in March, June and September.

Ad hoc meetings to handle specific tasks will be arranged as necessary by the Chair.

Communication by email and phone will be essential to keep meetings to the practicable minimum.

Fund-raising record to date

2015 - 2016

From the Coastal Revival Fund

£8,000 for the Town Mill Trust (feasibility study)

£40,000 for the Marine Theatre (roof repairs)

£10,000 for the Hub (window replacements)

£2,000 for Charmouth Coastwatch (Charmouth Lookout)

2016 -2017

Current bids to Round 4 of the Coastal Communities Fund, outcomes awaited:

- land art and natural sculptures to promote walking routes into Uplyme, Lyme and Charmouth (£10,000)
- Devon Way upgrade between Lyme Regis and Uplyme (£250,000)

2017-2018

Coastal Communities Fund, Round 5 Summer 2017, bids in preparation:

- Charmouth seafront enhancement project
- Lyme Regis seafront enhancement to include theatre square, accessible pathway through gardens to lift and a café by the minigolf

Dorset Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG)

Bid in preparation for share of £800,000 won by Dorset County Council and the Dorset Coast Forum from the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund: focus on harbour related-projects

A collaborative bid by Dorset partners including LymeForward to a national service provider has won £2.5M over 2 years across Dorset to provide innovative activities to help young people aged 15 to 24 who are NEET (not in education, employment or training) to enter the labour market, giving Lyme Regis access to a proportion of this funding.

Public Art presence for Lyme Regis seafront gardens, following the Sculpture Trails of 2015 & 2016, has received funding of £1500 from Lyme businesses, £500 from the Aviva fund, and match funding of £2000 from LRTC, to see it through to 2018.

Litter Free Dorset

The CCT has sponsored a litter-free collection point for £250 with By the Bay who will place it out on the promenade each day and take it in – currently with LRTC for permissions. This is a high profile Dorset-wide project and one identified in the original plan (keeping Lyme tidy, involving visitors).