



Westerham Town Partnership
1 Squerryes Park Cottages
Goodley Stock Rd
WESTERHAM
KENT TN16 1RD

Minutes of Westerham Town Partnership Meeting
19 Jan 2014, Millard Pheasantry Office

Attendees: James Millard, Malcolm Basing, Stuart Merrylees, Jane Hunter, Geoff Tidy, Lesley Moore, Jenny Smith, Yvonne Russell, Marril Gibson, Zoe Colbeck, Gordon Rodgers, Linda Rodgers, Richard Banister, Debra Edwards

Apologies: Kim Jennings, Alan Wesley, Eddie Boyle

Minutes of Last Meeting. The minutes of 3rd October were agreed.

Matters Arising

Defibrillator: LR reported that the Council had now taken over one of the two telephone boxes in the centre of town and it had been decommissioned and would be repainted and become the home for the defibrillator.. Unicorn would replace glass etc where necessary.

Community Play: MG was pleased with the two meetings at Churchill School where the vote was overwhelmingly in favour of writing and performing a play in 2015. New steering committee would meet on 19 Feb and there would be a workshop on 1 March.

WTP constitution : MB raised the issue of our potential liabilities under the current WTP constitution which had been drawn up in 2009 from an example from similar group in Hartfield, provided by James Turner. It had served to define our aims, but our auditor had not been happy that there was no proper definition of members, which meant that voting for the officers was purely from within the steering committee. Moreover, if we were involved in commissioning works which resulted in some sort of a legal claim, the officers might find themselves financially liable. We should look into registering ourselves as a company limited by guarantee. MB to investigate options, suggest we form subcommittee, MB, JM and SM.

Christmas Lights and LN Shopping 2013

JM: disappointing level of maintenance of lights and problems of communicating with JT. JH making a job spec for 2014 lights: wayward timers, bulbs missing. Need to raise more money. Will probably put out tenders bids for 2014

Farmers' Market

We are only running one market per month until April, as winter weather is too unpredictable. GT was anxious that we find some new stallholders, especially meat and/or fish. SM had one short conversation with Richard Hards, who is taking over from Larry. He is keen to attend the market, but lease has not yet been signed.

GT has since recruited a new fishmonger, who comes from Lowestoft and SM has had another conversation with Richard Hards and now has his email, but as yet, no commitment

Business Forum Meeting proposal for Summer LNS

There is a proposal for a day or weekend in June/July for a event which would generate the same buzz as late night shopping. Shops would show what they looked like and what they sold in 1914. Quiz for kids, music on the Green etc. YM thinks this could be well supported by traders. Meeting scheduled for 5th Feb.

Parking in Westerham

SDC dialogue on WTP proposals for parking charges, posted on website.

WTP meeting Richard Wilson and Gary Connor in Darent CP on Fri 31st Jan. JH, SM, LS and LR to attend.

Sevenoaks DC has a public meeting about their own parking issues next week. John Bryant hopes to go. Darent Car Park extension – No response from Nik Edsa. Zoe will be getting quotes for Grascrete at Chartwell. We will write a spec and approach other contractors.

Charmans Farm update: planning application not yet submitted. Farm shop
Park and Ride: No further plans for Easter trial at this time.

Future events for 2014

- 19th Feb Community Play Steering group meeting at Grasshopper.
- 14th Feb History of the Westerham Press - Francis Atterbury. Westerham Society
- 4th Mar Rotary Dinner - WTP invited to speak
- 28th Mar Bill Curtis talk on Westerham History - Westerham Society
- 27th April St Georges Day Breakfast Westerham Society
- 4th May Beating the Bounds Westerham Society
- 17th May Rotary Fair on the Green Rotary Club of Westerham
- 4th July American Independence Evening on the Green Westerham Society
- 30th Aug British Fayre at Squerryes Bradshaw Family
- 15th Nov WW1 commem: London Welsh Male Voice Choir at St Mary's Westerham Society

Commemoration of the Great War in 2014

WTP is anxious to gather information from churches, clubs and societies with a view to coordinating a lottery application. There is a special FWW category for £30-10K. Possibility of a trench a British Legion.

ZC: There will be an exhibition at Chartwell next winter with local photos and exhibits. They plan to hold coaching in public speaking at Chartwell.

The WTP 2014 AGM

LM proposed that we think about new ways of engaging people. How about "Imagine Westerham : an inter-generational forward planning process for 2014 and beyond".

BROADBAND

RB announced that BT were installing cabinets in Croydon Rd and London RD, opp the old Crown. This will please new businesses in Westerham.

Communications, website, Gazette, papers, social media

Brisk business as usual...

AOB

We thanked Ginny for her diligent work on the Chronicle weekly diary

Date of Next Meeting.

The next meeting of WTP steering group will be on Thurs 20th March at 6.30 pm in the Town Council Office