

DT11 minutes
22nd July 2014
Blandford Parish Centre

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| 1. Welcome | Nic Welcomed everyone. Sue Chandler, David Rose, Bobbie Church, Peter Slocombe, Nicci Brown, Hugh De longh, Steve Adamson, Pam Eaton, Tony Harrocks, Margo Kirk, Barbara Thomson, Sue Inman (POPP Blandford) and Julie Wigg were in attendance. | |
| 2. Apologies | Val Potheary, Mike Jones, Jenny Balson, Sara Loch, Jennifer Harrison | |
| 3. Minutes Agreed | Minutes of the AGM were agreed | |
| 3. Presentation | <p>a) <u>Northern Dorset LAG</u>. Hilary Ritchie briefed the meeting. Powerpoint attached. Hilary said that funding is for rural areas only, but hub towns can bid for funding that benefits the local rural area. Anything with a population of over 10,000 is counted as urban. Blandford is considered as a hub town – a centre for its rural area. Gillingham and Verwood are also counted as a hub towns.</p> <p>Hilary explained LEADER funding. There is a heavy focus on economic growth, and a lot more input from DEFRA than in the previous scheme.</p> <p>£1.53m available from 2015. To be spent between 2015-2020 on direct economic benefit.</p> <p>Some of this funding can be used to access larger sources of funds through the European Investment Programme.</p> <p>Hilary would like us all to have a think about it. It is a community led project. What local issues we would like to see covered. Any projects ready to roll? Hilary needs a rough timetable of when money will be spent.</p> <p>The stronger our strategy, the stronger our chances are of getting more money.</p> <p>It is a two stage application process beginning with a discussion with the DEFRA programme manager - if OK then an expression of interest is submitted. There will be a template produced with standard questions they want to see covered in an application.</p> <p>Projects have to be funded and paid for in advance before money can be claimed back. Money comes from Rural Payments Agency.</p> <p>Other funding sources could be used for match funding eg. Growth Factor, Heritage Lottery etc.</p> <p>Hugh suggests that perhaps the Trailway could be used to promote the towns at either end. He says we need to wait until DEFRA have released their rules on Hub towns but feels that we could get funding for signposting out but not signposting in. Hilary feels signposting in to town would be covered.</p> | Powerpoint attached. |

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| | <p>b) <u>Blandford Town Team Survey</u>. David Rose explained that town teams were set up as a follow on to Mary Portas to make town centres more vibrant. We decided to carry out an independent survey. There is an overlap and parishes are included. The Town Team feels it's important to take all views into account, not just the town. People enjoy the quality of life in Blandford and its architecture. Parking, litter, poor standards of cleanliness in the town and the limited range of shops, were criticised.</p> <p>The Town Team are liaising with the Chamber of Trade regarding the survey results about shops.</p> <p>Issues raised by free text – public services were high on the list and Law enforcement and anti-social behaviour were mentioned. Buses and routes were a big issue. We need to encourage people to shop in Blandford not go elsewhere. There were planning issues mentioned in the survey which will be handy for Blandford + to use.</p> <p>Tony said the Town Council have discussed the survey and felt the majority of issues were for District and County to respond to. There will be a public meeting on the 23rd September where the Town Team will be asking the accountable bodies to respond to the survey.</p> | Powerpoint attached |
| 5. Treasurer's report | Peter Slocombe took the meeting through his report. There were no comments. | |
| 6. Chair's report | Nic briefed the meeting on his chair's report. Steve asked how the TAG leaflet will be advertised. Nic said website, advertorials, leaflet drops, parish magazines and village shops. | |
| 7. Steering Group Proposal | Vote on suggesting to expand the management group to include a wider representation – CARRIED | |
| 8. Meetings and voting | <p>a) Steering group will meet 3 times a year ahead of the Partnership meeting. Plans must be approved by the Forum meeting.</p> <p>b) Partnership to provide a quarterly report and newsletter for all stakeholders.</p> <p>CARRIED</p> | |
| 9. Update on DT11 projects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blandford + - Bobbie said that Blandford + are having a meeting with the Planning department on Monday and it is hoped they will have a better understanding of the direction the plan is taking. • BOG (Blandford Opportunity Group) – children with severe learning difficulties – DT11 will help raise their profile, support events and help with fundraising. They need funding for their sensory room. • Broadband – Superfast Dorset – aka DCC – have been putting it about that their scheme with BT will provide 97% of households in Dorset with superfast broadband. That is 24mbps or above. What they didn't say is that this 97% includes the Poole / Bournemouth conurbation which has the majority of the properties in the county. When you take these out of the equation, the remainder, in rural areas, are far harder to reach | |

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| | <p>and that means that many more will be left out. DCC did confess that there were likely to be about 18% of rural properties which would not be getting Superfast BB. Figures from other parts of the country with a similar profile show that 20% / 25% is not unusual.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fording Point – The only objection the Mayor and Town Clerk had was any access issues when building work is taking place. We explained this had been taken into account and a method statement will be produced. The Fording Point will have a distinct useage whereas the Corn Exchange is multi use. They (BFTC) accept there is no confliction. • Planning for the Health & Wellbeing week is continuing but Julie is concerned that if they don't get enough clubs and societies getting involved throughout the week the event will just be a health and wellbeing fair. It would be a shame for everyone throughout Blandford to be involved and miss out on some free advertising. Please get the word out to any clubs and societies you know. • DT11 Transport Action group are producing a leaflet detailing local services including timetables and community transport scheme providers. This leaflet will be released in the beginning of September. | |
| 10. AOB | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hugh mentioned that Superfast Broadband is being rolled out and there will be a map of covered areas released in November. Steve said as the final 3% includes Bournemouth and Poole the estimation is that 25-30% will not be covered. • Julie asked if everyone would be happy for future DT11 partners meetings to be held at 5.30pm for 6pm. The majority are happy with this. • Julie also asked for volunteers to help Margo at Bus2Go. Margo does so much work herself and could do with some more help. | |
| 11. Date of next meeting | <p>Steering group date Wednesday 1st October 6pm in the DT11 offices.</p> <p>DT11 partnership meeting Tuesday 7th October 5.30pm for 6pm at Durweston Village Hall.</p> | |
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