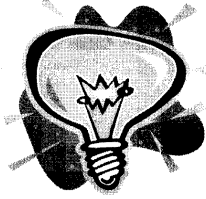


VENTNOR PARTNERSHIP



PUTTING IDEAS INTO ACTION

VENTNOR PARTNERSHIP ~ 26th March 2009

Ventnor Winter Gardens

7.30pm

Present: V.Taylor, R.Chuter, S.George, T.Coleman, R.Mew, M.Cawley, R.Reed, M.Compton-Hall, S.Scoccia (chair), R.Hodd.

Apologies: J.Shuter, J.Farrant, L.Chester

Notes of the Last Meeting:

Ventnor Community Projects:

Val Taylor responded to the minutes of the February meeting with reference to Ventnor Community Projects. She stated that she had not been a member of VCP since November. She stated that she had only been responsible for three months income and expenditure and that every month members had been told what the bank balance was. She also stated that some difficulties with figures arose due to the incompatibility of the two Excel programmes data was being transferred between using a memory stick. She expressed that she had always given freely to VCP. A formal objection to the minutes of the February 26th meeting was made by Val Taylor. She also felt that minutes should be formally approved before they were circulated in the future.

Stuart George commented that having attended the last meeting he felt what had been written was a true reflection of what had been said. Susan Scoccia concurred with Stuart George and responded that Val Taylor's dissatisfaction would be minuted but that what had been recorded was a true reflection of what had been provided at the February meeting.

Lowtherville Garden Estate:

An amendment to the minutes of the 26.2.09 will be made to alter the correct spelling to Dave Groocock.

Tom Coleman added that he had requested that information be ascertained regarding current bed occupancy rates in Ventnor. It was agreed that this request had been made and would be added to the minutes. Susan Scoccia would make enquiries regarding these figures.

Minutes of the meeting 26.2.09 will be signed at the next meeting once the amendments have been made.

Matters Arising:

These were covered in the course of considering 'Notes of the Last Meeting.'

Ventnor 2009:

Mark Compton-Hall referenced the Town Plan that had previously been circulated. He also encouraged those present to look at the updated photographic gallery, a comprehensive record of all the visual changes in the town.

It was reported that there had been some developments regarding the SWAGA facility. Some issues remain unresolved but discussions with Rev. Graham Morris have been most useful.

Mark Compton-Hall commented that the Skate Park was doing well a full report was provided later in the meeting.

He also stated that public realm work continues and requested that any contributions regarding road orders and traffic regulations should be documented and presented to Susan Scoccia as soon as possible ready for the formal audit at the end of April/early May. This could take the form of problem → brief description → recommendation.

Mark Compton-Hall proposed that the Town Plan be considered only every second/third month and the implications of this for meeting dates needing to be less regular were briefly discussed, to be re-visited in A.O.B.

Mark Compton-Hall drew attention to the links and information available on the website which provides a wealth of social and economic data which could be used for grant applications and associated work.

Tom Coleman enquired as to whether the stated 'Esplanade Improvements' in the Town Plan referred to the current issue with railings. Susan Scoccia responded that it did not and instead addressed issues of accessibility, seating and paving. Rob Mew commented on the height differentials and drops from pavement to road that exist in places which can potentially be dangerous and hazardous if block pavement is not kept in good repair or if conditions are icy. Val Taylor expressed her frustration that utility companies do not safeguard block pavement and do not re-lay. Rob Chuter enquired when Esplanade work would take place. Susan Scoccia replied that it would need to go before Council and through a consultation and tender process first but if this was all ok it would be after the October $\frac{1}{2}$ term.

Stuart George enquired about allotments with reference to the Town Plan. He passed on four suggestions to be taken to the Town Council that he had received relating to sites currently occupied by schools or potentially for SWAGA use. These suggestions were noted by Susan Scoccia who responded that the situation would remain unclear whilst the school re-organisation discussions continue.

A.O.B

* Skate Park: Val Taylor reported that two grants had been acquired to complete the first phase of the Skate Park work which will be shortly transferred to the Skate Park accounts by the grant funders. One grant was incumbent on lighting work which has now been completed with timed lighting switching off at 10.00pm.

Funding had also been received from the Town Council and Youth Inclusion Forum. The second phase of work will focus on StreetScene enhancements also using grant funding.

* Ventnor Flags (Community Arts and Culture IW): Rob Chuter reported that the project had been well received and that he had very encouraging feedback from residents. Fundraising was under way and a street collection will be held on the 9th April. Rob Chuter added that regarding matters raised at the last partnership meeting as to public liability insurance, planning and flag noise; at the Ventnor Business Association meeting the noise issue was addressed with a good shaking of the samples taken and everyone appeared

content that this would not be an issue. He went on to state that caaciw wish to make it known that as the flags are a replacement for the existing worn out ones used in the High Street and Pier Street, and that public liability insurance and conforming to any planning regulations rests with the organisation using them to support their particular event and was not the liability of caaciw.

* Transport: Stuart George reported that the Wighlink FastCat timetable would be changing next Monday. The train connections in the evening would no longer coincide with the RailLink. RailLink services in the day will not now connect with the train that connects with the ferry. Stuart George to inform Ventnor Partnership of responses to this and further timetabling changes.

* Esplanade Railings: Tom Coleman enquired if the issue had been resolved. Susan Scoccia replied that it had not been resolved at present.

* Ventnor Enhancement Fund: Maureen Cawley reported that the playground plans had been presented to the Town Council. Planting at the Central Plaza was progressing nicely. Issues relating to damaged lighting by landscapers on the cascade were being pursued.

* Bonchurch Community Association: Maureen Cawley reported that village green plans had been halted and awaits fencing work. Benches and sculpture have been developed for the site.

* Youth Club Upper Ventnor: Rob Reed is involved in trying to get funding for a Friday night Youth Club in Upper Ventnor. A bid has been put in for PTCG.

* Ventnor Community Projects: Mark Compton-Hall read an e-mail from Janet Shuter relating to their current projects providing pensioner lunches and applying to Tesco for a small grant for an e-commerce access service to help people who wish to do online ordering or price comparisons.

- Rob Chuter asked if anyone had information on public spaces in Ventnor licensed for regulated entertainment other than Ventnor Park as he is trying to compile a list.
- Tom Coleman enquired about take up after advertising relating to the Sports Development Project. It is hoped that Tony Flowers will be able to update at the next meeting.
- Susan Scoccia revisited the possibility of revising the frequency of Ventnor Partnership meetings and this would be considered at the next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting:

Thursday 14th May, Ventnor Winter Gardens, Lower Meeting Room (accessed via the door from the rear car park) 7.30pm.

Rachel Hodd