

HIGHCLIFFE CENTRE PARTNERSHIP

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14th APRIL 2015

TO DISCUSS THE HIGHCLIFFE SHOPPING CENTRE

Those Present: Cllr John Lofts (Highcliffe Ward)
Jane Fereday
Helen Kennedy
Ian Stevenson
Malcolm Mawbey

1. Apologies for Absence: Mary Reader, Myra Mawbey, Claire Bath, Adrian Thorne, Tracey Beesley

2. Notes of Meeting held on 12th March were agreed

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 The following actions not covered by the Agenda from the March Meeting were discussed:

3.2 Investment. Claire and Richard Porter have still to arrange a mutually convenient date and time – Action continues

3.3 Opening Hours. The fact that opening hours are not standardised was a matter for individual traders but was a problem for potential customers; this would be raised with HOSTA members.

ACTION: Helen

3.4 Mentoring. Action continues. Jane confirmed that the Christchurch Chamber of Trade also offered advice to traders and that Brockenhurst College provided speakers.

ACTION: Helen

3.5. BID. CBC had received a Business Improvement District grant and that he would establish whether any of the funding was being directed towards Highcliffe; John would discuss this with Claire.

ACTION: John

3.6 Local Weather Data. Action continues. It was suggested that the local schools could be interested in using the data produced in a project.

ACTION: John

3.7 Tesco Express Deliveries. John stated that from a Highways viewpoint there were no parking restrictions which prevented early morning deliveries. Malcolm suggested that if there was a noise nuisance this would be a matter for CBC Environmental Health department. Helen thought that there were restrictions placed by the Planning Approval. John agreed to check.

ACTION: John

3.8 All other matters were discussed under the agenda items.

4. Food Festival

4.1 Progress Jane said that everything was progressing satisfactorily. Permission to close the road had been received from DCC and it was proposed to maintain access up to Stanley Road in the East and to the Premier Inn in the West. It was proposed to have the majority of the stalls in the road. Malcolm would check with Mary that the library would be involved.

4.2 Advertising. Advertising the event in the local media would be arranged and WAVE radio would be involved. Leaflets and posters would be circulated and possibly Hinton Admiral Station would display them. Details of the Highcliffe event would be found in the Christchurch Food Festival programme.

4.3 Photographs. Malcolm suggested that photographs of the event would be an important record. Helen said that there was to be a photographic competition which would meet this aspect.

5. Proposal for 20mph Limit

5.1 Malcolm reported that he had received a letter from DCC acknowledging the receipt of the petition which CBC had passed on to the County Council. The proposal for a reduction in the speed limit in the Lymington Road between the junction with Wharncliffe Road and Sea Corner would be considered by the Regulatory Committee at their meeting on 11th June; he may be asked to present the case.

5.2 Jane said that the reduction in the speed limit between the Milestone Roundabout and Mill Lane had been discussed at a recent meeting of HRACIC; this included stretch where the limit was 40mph. John said that attempts had been made to introduce a pedestrian crossing but the proposal was not supported by the survey data (vehicle and pedestrian movements). It was noted the stretch was outside of HCP's current remit.

6. Village Gateway Sign

6.1 Visibility The visibility of the sign varied with lighting. Ian remarked that the design had looked alright on paper but all agreed that the lettering should be improved. Malcolm had contacted the manufacturer and they had agreed to suggest a possible improvement; he would report their proposals to HCP in due course.

ACTION: Malcolm

6.2 Landscaping. Helen outlined some plans to enhance the setting of the signs. She agreed to draw up the proposals and provide them to Lesley. At this time the source of funding had not been identified.

ACTION: Helen

7. Finger Posts

7.1 Sea Corner Post. Malcolm had received an update from County Councillor Colin Jamieson confirming that the project was progressing.

7.2 Milestone Roundabout Post. Colin had stated that this post would be renovated in the forthcoming financial year

HIGHCLIFFE CENTRE PARTNERSHIP

7.3 Other Posts. Malcolm said that it had been proposed to renovate the other two Highcliffe posts, which were in Lesley's division; he would contact her to see if renovation could be progressed.

ACTION: Malcolm

8. Wortley Road Car Park.

8.1 Jane had conveyed Members' feelings about the poor image of the recycling banks to Lindsay Cass and was awaiting a response

ACTION: Jane

8.2 Malcolm emphasised the general poor state of the car park and its borders; he pointed out that town centre car parks were being maintained to a better standard. John said that DWP were responsible for the upkeep and agreed to contact the appropriate officers.

ACTION: John

9. Street-care

9.1 Helen set out a number of initiatives which HELP had been progressing in the past few weeks and future plans:

- Bollards. It was proposed to paint the tops silver before the festival; afterwards following the results of the competition the new paint schemes would be introduced;
- Flower Beds. Work on the Sue Ryder bed was progressing and improvements to the Pettengells' beds were planned;
- Benches. The Coop and Tesco were being approached about the poor state of their benches;
- Litter Bins. Following cleaning of the waste bins it was proposed to affix to them the Highcliffe Village Logo;
- Adverts. Some adverts on the side of buildings along the High Street were in a poor condition and had graffiti. The owners would be approached to remove them.

9.2 John reported that a resident had complained about the state of the paling fence bordering the cemetery; he believed that this was the property of the church and he would raise the issue with the vicar.

9.3 Members expressed their appreciation of all that HELP was doing to improve the appearance of the High Street

10. Notice Boards. Helen said that whilst these might not be replaced yet with new ones some improvements were planned

11. Annual Report.

11.1 Draft. Malcolm asked for comments on the draft which had been circulated previously; not all members had had the opportunity to go through it in any detail. Ian proposed a number of textual alterations which Malcolm would implement. In respect to the Festival, Mary had suggested that Lesley's contribution from her DCC Community Budget should be recognised and her support for the road closure to the funds. Malcolm suggested that Claire's support for CBC funds to be provided from the Christchurch Festival grant should likewise be recognised. Malcolm agreed to introduce these changes into a second draft version.

ACTION; Malcolm

HIGHCLIFFE CENTRE PARTNERSHIP

11.2 Future of HCP and its Programme. It was considered that HCP fulfilled a useful function. Malcolm highlighted a number of actions which were outstanding and improvements which residents had proposed in their responses which could be progressed. He suggested that as there were significant proposals for re-development of sections of the shopping centre HCP should play a part in commenting and influencing them. John supported this proposal as did the other members. It was agreed to set out the future programme for discussion at the next meeting.

ACTION: Malcolm

11.3 Extension of Remit. The possibility of HCP having a wider remit had been touched before with the suggestion that the role should cover all of Highcliffe and Walkford and in effect become Highcliffe Partnership. Members decided to consider this proposal taking into account the role of the HRACIC and discuss it at the next meeting.

ACTION: All Members

12. Planning Applications.

12.1 Malcolm introduced two planning applications, which had been submitted to CBC for consideration:

- 344-346 Lymington Road (8/15/0090) This involved the movement of Lloyds Pharmacy to from its current site. Members considered that the proposal should be approved; it would bring the pharmacy to a more central location which was in line with the wishes of residents expressed in their responses in the Residents' Survey. The design of the front shop combining the two existing premises seemed to be reasonable and in keeping with the High Street.
- 411 Lymington Road (8/15/0067) This application involved changes in use as the premises had housed the mobility scooter shop (A1). The proposal was for a Healthy Living Studio (D1) for Yoga, Pilates and fitness classes together with a "Nutri-bar" (A3) at the front of the premises. The premises were in the secondary shopping core where the use does not have to be A1. Members thought that the concept, which would involve other traders and B&Bs, would be welcome. It could also increase footfall in the shopping centre. Questions were raised about car parking which Malcolm agreed to follow up.

Action: Malcolm

13. AOB

13.1 Membership

- Myra would cease to be a councillor in May. John proposed and members agreed that their thanks and appreciation of her contribution to the Partnership should be recorded.
- It was agreed that the successful candidates in the council election for the Highcliffe Ward should be invited to be partners of HCP.

13.2 Article for The Courier . Malcolm reported that the next issue of the Courier would be published on 20th May and contributions had to be with CBC by 20th April. It was agreed that the article should be based on the achievements of the past year and future plans expressed in the Annual Report.

13.3 Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 12th May