

SEAFORD REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of Steering Group Meeting 10 held at St James' Club (Seaford Volunteers) 5th September 2001

Present:

Cllr David Schueler
Nigel Pargiter
Joan Pearce
Tony Rowswell

Cllr Michael Murphy
Maggie Simons
Inspector Ron Preddy
Owen Clifford

Mary Crutch
Peter Sinclair
Ted Cowdrey
Brian Shore

1. **Introductions and Apologies**

Cllr Michael Murphy was introduced as the new ESCC nominated representative. It was noted that following the earlier resignation of Liz Riley there is a vacancy for a representative from Seaford Wide and this might well be filled by Jon Freeman in order that he could continue with the work which he has so far carried out for the SCP in connection with the One-Stop Shop etc. David Schueler would make enquiries about this.

Brian Shove had also been invited to attend the meeting as an observer, since he is a retired surveyor who might be able to help some of the task groups.

Apologies received from Cllr Laurie Holland, Colin Brown, Paul Rideout, Chris Hart

2. **Minutes of Meeting No. 9 -1st August**

Agreed

2.1 **Matters arising**

Paul Rideout had made contact about the possibilities of developing a small cinema project, similar to the Peacehaven and Telscombe one held at the Meridian Centre. Paul has contacted John Shepard (Peacehaven town clerk) who advised that they use a company called Cinema Mobile to bring in the film, equipment and posters. The contact is Ken Ormond Tel 01273 694578. John also said it is advisable to book a run of 4 to 5 films at a time. Peacehaven show their films on Saturdays - Children's film at 3pm and adults 7:30 pm. Peacehaven have been running their cinema for one year now and are putting together a Community Fund application for purchasing equipment and seating. This was felt to be worthwhile following up, noting that Stephen Newberry also runs a film club in Seaford at the Barn Theatre.

David Schueler will follow up.

1. **Reports from the Thematic Task Groups**

Nigel Pargiter handed over a sample project pro-forma showing the detail and information which should be produced as the basis for bids for funding.

3.1 **Seaford Improvement and Tourism (David Schueler)**

Pro-formas were tabled breaking this theme into a number of related and realisable projects. These comprise:

- Seafront Facilities for residents and visitors and the encouragement of tourism for the benefit of the town's businesses
- Improvement of the Seafront Marine Sports Facilities
- Provision of Outdoor Music/arts Centre at the Salts together with the improvements to the catering facilities
- Refurbishment of the Salts Playground Recreational Area

With regard to the lifeguard facilities it was felt that because of the nature of the beach, the improvement of safety provisions should include safety signs relating to bathing. A survey and report on the safety of sea bathing facilities should be included in the project.

It was also suggested that catering facilities at Splash Point, with a tourist information facility could be attractive to visitors.

A meeting of all interested parties will be convened to discuss and work up detailed proposals with costings.

3.2 Local Transport (Ted Cowdrey) -

Pro-formas were tabled as follows:

- Safe routes to school
This gives details of a number of points where safe cycling routes together with associated crossing points, traffic calming measures etc have been identified. Signage and/or cycling/pedestrian tracks could be included.
- National Cycling Network
Development of this would provide a safe environment for cyclists, reduce dependency on cars, reduce pollution and encourage tourism including overseas visitors.
- Seaford Local Transport Study
The purpose of this is to improve public transport provisions and reduce dependency on private cars, where appropriate. Discussions should be set up with bus operators and local taxi drivers to obtain their views.
- Seaford Railway Station Project.
This project would regenerate the town centre, reduce traffic congestion, provide a site for a full 'first stop shop' and possibly the site for a new library and provide the opportunity for new commercial development at the station.

Forms are going out again to the press and other distribution sources asking for public preferences for bus routes and other transport facilities.

ESCC and LDC have already expressed interest in the station plan and should now be approached to set up a meeting with GOVIA/Railtrack to discuss these plans on a formal basis.

It was agreed that a presentation to ESCC/ LDC/STC on all of these transport issues would be desirable, followed by a public Transport for Leisure Roadshow.

3.3 Community Centre and First Stop Shop (Jon Freeman/Mary Crutch)

A meeting is being convened to discuss the ideas brought up at the previous meeting for proposals for the Community Centre to be based on a short term basis at the Old Town Hall, South Street.

The Seaford Volunteers have had two 5-year leases and have found that the visitors are often seeking information of the sort envisaged for a 'first stop' shop. It would be possible for the information drop-in aspect to be covered at one end and the volunteers would continue with the café facilities at the other.

Seaford Town Council should be consulted on this regarding the renewal of the lease to Seaford Volunteers.

3.4 Cradle Hill Industrial Estate and Business Park (Peter Sinclair)

A proforma was re-tabled giving details of the proposals for an Enterprise Centre, infrastructure improvements, landscaping and cost effective security measures , encouraging local businesses to carry out environmental audits and waste minimisation, reduction of traffic impact and improvements to household recycling rates.

A meeting had been held on 16th August between John Crawford, the Chief Executive of LDC, (accompanied by Peter Buck-Bouchard and Sue Moffatt) and representatives of the traders - with Peter Sinclair and Ted Cowdrey. It was agreed that:

- A service improvement plan for the way LDC manage the Industrial Estate would be produced for tenants
- LDC would investigate the possibility of having a road traffic engineer look at the traffic arrangements at Cradle Hill Industrial Estate to see what improvements can be made
- LDC will look at the leases to establish who is responsible for any aspects of road repairs
- The planning context will be looked at for the land to the west and north of the civic amenity site and see what issues arise in respect of the proposals in the Local Plan. LDC will take into account the suggestion that a second access road might be created on Alfriston Road and test the planning and traffic implications.
- LDC will receive and consider any applications for the subdivision of units on the Industrial estate and deal with each application on its merits with the general objective of creating the small units that may help starter businesses.
- LDC will consider any applications for extensions to leases that traders require to improve their business position.
- LDC will look at the arrangements for the civic amenity site as discussions progress with the two contractors now in negotiation with ESCC. It is accepted that the civic amenity site needs to be upgraded and made to look as though it belongs as part of a 21st Century solution to recycling.
- The Chief Executive is interested in the Seaford Partnership's emerging vision for Seaford and appreciates that although some of these may involve medium to long term projects, some, such as the improvement of a number of Cradle Hill Industrial Estate matters can be dealt with in the short term.

The Steering Group members congratulated Peter Sinclair and Ted Cowdrey on their 'enabling' role which has brokered collaboration between the business representatives and LDC leading to a better understanding and willingness to address the problems on the estate.

3.5 Town Centre Regeneration

A new group is still required to develop ideas for this. Paul Rideout has offered to provide advice on the setting up of Farmers Markets, based on his wife's experience with the successful markets now in existence at Lewes. Sutton Road Bakery was suggested as a possible site.

4. Seahaven Healthy Living Centre Bid.

Colin Brown had reported that the bid now covers a period of 4 years and is due on 17th September. All seems to be falling into place with Seaford Volunteers Association as a key player in Seaford.

5. Coastal Renaissance Partnership (CRP) Strategy Document

5.1 The first draft is now expected to be circulated in the 2nd week of September. The next full CRP meeting is scheduled for 10th October.

5.2 Report on Skills Demand and Education/ Training

A Skills for Change workshop had been arranged for 12th September at Denton Island by East Sussex Learning Partnership.

Chris Hart has proposed a special meeting, sponsored by the Seaford Community Partnership, for businesses and other interested parties. This would take the form of workshops/discussion groups on University for Industry and Learn Direct projects to address the questions of skills demand and education for work.

Dates and venue to be considered (possibly St James Club). A flyer on this subject was distributed.

6. Partnership Constitution

ESCC have given the go-ahead for two workshops each comprising a 2-hour session, for all partnership members. These to be held on two evenings in mid/end November.

- Workshop1 Vision revisited
Review of Community sign-up
Analyse roles and responsibilities within the partnership
Review of fundraising/achievements so far
- Workshop 2 Business Planning
Establishing the constitutional framework
Identifying capacity needs to move forward

Dates and venue will be advised.

7. South Downs CVS proposals for a Seminar on Funding

Details are awaited for the proposed seminar and workshop for funding.

8. Public Relations

Both the Seaford Gazette and Sussex Express had recently published reviews of the work of the partnership, with some details of the vision. This was based on a report given by David Schueler to the Seaford Town Council Regeneration and Partnership committee.

9. AOB

9.1 Early Years Development & Child Care Partnership, together with LDC Community Leisure are holding a Family Festival at the Downs Leisure Centre on Tuesday 30th October from 10am to 1pm. The SCP are invited to take a table (free of charge) and this was agreed. It is suggested that a display relating to cycling and transport issues should be set up together with leaflets on the other visions of the partnership. This is an ideal opportunity for consultation with the public.

9.2 The Town Council has suggested that consideration should be given to starting a swimming pool fund next year to celebrate the Queen's 50th Jubilee. The partnership would support this as an idea.

9.3 LDC has organised a Local Strategic Partnership Open Day on Tuesday 25th September at

Dean's Place Hotel, Alfriston from 9.30 am to 1pm. The purpose is to introduce the concept of the LSP and to obtain a wide range of views on how it should involve all parts of communities within the Lewes District Council.

Mary Crutch, Joan Pearce, Peter Sinclair, Maggie Simons and David Schueler expressed interest in attending.

Date of Next Meeting Wednesday rd October 2001 at 5.00pm at St James' Hall, Blatchington Road.

DS/1/10/2001

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