

## MPAPP Meeting Minutes – 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023

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In attendance: Fiona Toms (FT), Zara Aitken (ZA), Cllr Craig Palmer (CP), Maureen Smith (MS), Ray Tew (RT)

Apologies: Jim Whittaker (JW), Paul Matcham (PM), Cllr Marcus Kravis (MK), Nicki Maclean (NM), Cllr Andy Hadley (AH)

### 1. Minutes of last meeting/matters arising/action log review

Minutes from last meeting approved. A review of action points from previous meeting undertaken and action log updated.

Action log updates:

Action 2 – FT updated the group on communication with the trash trail organisers. There will be sculptures at East Quay in Watchet, West Somerset Railway, possibly Blenheim Gardens but nothing confirmed, and Blue Anchor. They have the appropriate insurance in place but not been able to obtain any further information.

Action 3 – Action remains open for ZA to add 'Trash Trail' to September agenda

Action 7 – CP and RT had made efforts to discuss Minehead Town Council funding for Project Coordinator role but so far unsuccessful. Brief discussion between CP and ZA at LCN had occurred. RT happy to present to MTC if needed to make the goals, aims and purpose of MCDT clear to MTC. Next MTC (Finance and General Purposes meeting) is 8<sup>th</sup> August. CP advised RT could have a 3 minute presentation slot but can share additional information ahead of the meeting too for councillors to review. RT and CP to discuss and prepare. CP to arrange for an item to be added to the agenda

Action 8 – Action remains open for ZA to research Doughnut Economics models that apply to Minehead

All other actions completed and closed.

### 2. Individual Updates

Each member organisation provided a brief update on organisational activities:

- **Cllr Craig Palmer, Minehead Town Council**
  - Announcement that Quay Street toilets should be re-opening Mon 24<sup>th</sup> July, hopefully.
  - Holding band concerts in Blenheim Gardens in last few weeks. Anti-social behaviour in recent weeks is being investigated.
  - Rewilding – feedback is 50/50 between positive and negative.
- **Maureen Smith, West Somerset Green Forum**
  - Retrofit project - One of their trustees has done training course but couldn't get into exam online so taking it again in a month. Meeting with SCAN and others from Burnham and Weston re this project. Looking to recruit supporters, likely in September.
  - Governance problems – making progress on policies.

- Looking for volunteers for energy project. FT advised that the Rotary Club are running a volunteers recruitment day on 9<sup>th</sup> Sept.

Action: FT to introduce MS to Rotary Lead

- Looking to recruit new board members.
- West Somerset Community Land Trust are calling a meeting in Sept regarding affordable housing. Hoping to form a working group.
- **Ray Tew, Minehead and Coast Development Trust**
  - Minehead Information Centre – were working with BID to employ Ambassadors. May come to an end since BID ballot unsuccessful but looking for funding to keep this going.
  - Discussion ensued regarding a central ‘Visit Minehead’ website and who picks this up now BID is no more. Consensus was to keep this in mind, but no immediate plans to take forward.

### 3. Plan Review

Agenda item was postponed to a future meeting due to absence of several key members at this meeting. FT proposed that during August, in prep for September meeting, members look at who is proposed to lead each project listed within the action plan and feedback to ZA if they feel they have capacity to lead project. If not, confirm reasons for this and consider if there is another organisation they feel is best placed to lead. At the next meeting, plan is to review all projects in the action plan to identify if project is still valid and who the lead organisation would be.

Action: ZA to add original lead for each project in action plan and reshare to all members

### 4. Local Community Networks

ZA gave a brief update on the first LCN meeting in Crowcombe on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July. Approx 50+ in attendance. Seemed to be a general confusion over who is a core member with voting rights. CP thinks voting members are councillors only, while other organisations such as charities are non-voting members, but no decisions yet. FT queried who will represent for MCDT and MPAPP. RT is happy to be rep for MCDT with a deputy for when he is unavailable. FT is happy to attend as MPAPP rep to begin with, to see how it goes and assess over time.

Action: ZA to email Somerset Council to determine whether MPAPP / MCDT are core members and have voting rights

### 5. Funding for PC Role

ZA updated group that MCDT had been awarded £12000 in unrestricted funding from the People’s Postcode Lottery. Application for core running costs has been entered for Steel Charitable Trust. ZA continues to work on National Lottery Community Fund application. No news from HPC Open Grants programme on Expression of Interest submitted in June.

### 6. Shelters

ZA updated the group on budget constraints concerning the shelter foundations which has caused a shortfall of £8000. FT queried whether we can approach business sponsors in Minehead.

Action: RT talk to Mark Bale (CRS Building Supplies)

#### **7. Rural SPF**

Rural SPF scheme announced. Due to time constraints, this agenda item was not discussed in detail.

Action: ZA to share details with group via email.

#### **8. AOB**

- Waste Management at Minehead Bay Festival – ZA queried what waste management solution Minehead Town Council utilise for events. CP advised that MTC may be able to assist if ZA contacts their Operations Manager.
- Future Meetings - FT confirmed there would be no meeting in August. Next meeting will be September.

Action: ZA to send dates for September and October meetings.