

## COMMUNITY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION SUB-COMMITTEE

Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2008

### Present:

**Councillors:** S. Williams (Chairman), Mrs. A. Bradbury (Vice-Chairman), Mrs. B. Austin, Miss L. Campbell, D. Cozens, K. Hitchcock, Dr S. Hogg, Ms. S. Holman, Mrs. L. Jenkin, P. Williams.

**Officers:** Mr. M. Lewis (Town Clerk)

**Guests:** Mrs W. Davies (Lyme Regis Development Trust), PC R. Winward and PCSO M. Case, Cllr. D. Turner (WDDC)

### 07/89/CP Public Forum

Mr T. Norman raised safety concerns with regard to Sidmouth Road and his disappointment that further action had not been taken to rectify the current deficiencies.

He reported that a SID device had been installed today on Sidmouth Road but questioned how long it would remain there and whether Lyme Regis would be the primary user of the device if it was intended to be shared between various communities in the area?

Mr Norman also raised the lack of pavements. He suggested that a pavement should be installed throughout Sidmouth Road so that residents in Blue Waters Drive could safely walk into town. He also suggested a 20 mile per hour speed restriction be added.

Cllr S. Williams responded on the matters raised and stated that the transport aspects had taken second place whilst the housing project got underway however Sidmouth Road was now a priority for improvement.

Col G.J. Brierley had suggested that the Town Council write to DCC to formally request a safety audit be commissioned for Sidmouth Road.

Cllr S. Williams recommended that the action suggested be taken in order to resolve the problems fully. Cllr A. Bradbury seconded.

### 07/90/CP Apologies

Cllrs: Mrs. M. Ellis, O. Lovell, K. Whetlor.

### 07/91/CP Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2008 having previously been circulated were signed by the Chairman as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr P. Williams, seconded by Cllr Ms S. Holman.

### 07/92/CP Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Miss L. Campbell, as a Council representative for the InSPARation Café, declared a personal interest in *agenda item No. 12(b) InSPARation*.

No other declarations were made.

**07/93/CP Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

(a) Min. No. 07/83/CP(a) PACT meeting

Cllr D. Turner informed members that he felt the PACT committee would enable items to be prioritised and dealt with much quicker. The first item listed was the “*cleanliness of the public conveniences and opening times*”.

Cllr D. Turner stated that he had spoken to the Universal Cleaning operative who said she had 15 minutes to clean the toilets under the contract and that she was electronically tracked and therefore, could not spend longer in any one area even if the state of the conveniences required it.

Cllr S. Williams questioned whether it was known yet if the Town Council would be taking over responsibility for the Marine Parade conveniences?

The Town Clerk responded that the Executive Committee of the District Council would be considering the package of which this formed part on 20<sup>th</sup> May.

Cllr S. Williams asked whether the present cost of operating these particular toilets had been provided by WDDC? The Town Clerk replied that members had already seen this information broken down into relevant headings at the time that this proposal was first discussed.

Cllr S. Williams argued that the toilets needed to be maintained to a much higher standard than they currently are. Cllr D. Turner believed that in order to improve the service provided by Universal Cleaning, more money would need to be spent in future.

Cllr Mrs B. Austin had received complaints by visitors concerning the cleanliness of the toilets on the previous Sunday and felt extremely ashamed of the current state of the public conveniences.

In the mean time however, Cllr S. Williams was concerned that both members and the public were powerless to do anything to improve the cleanliness of the toilets. He suggested writing to the Chairman of WDDC requesting a meeting to discuss the matter. Cllr D. Turner felt it would be advantageous to have a Universal Cleaning representative in attendance also. AGREED.

Cllr Mrs B. Austin concluded by stating that significant action needs to be taken before the main season begins.

**07/94/CP Economy**

(a) Shelters Regeneration Working Group

The Town Clerk informed members that in a series of small meetings with Working Group members all councillors will soon have had the opportunity to examine the

design in detail, to look at how a reduced scheme might be assembled (should full funding not at first be possible), to consider the outline funding plan, and to study the timescales and when decisions will need to be made by the authority.

With councillors thus informed a special meeting has been called for Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May to carry the project forward to the next stage. Details of this will be in the agenda papers as usual.

**07/95/CP Environment**

Candida Blaker and Mark Jenkin gave members an update concerning the Turn Lyme Green project.

Ms. Blaker informed members that the World Wildlife Fund had used West Dorset to highlight various environmental issues and to see what effect the Turn Lyme Green Project had provided at a community level.

She also informed that other local communities such as Ilminster and Charmouth had been asking for advice and guidance to initiate their own projects and had spoken of the positive links being created throughout the local area.

It was reported that currently 30 shops in Lyme Regis have stopped using plastic bags and three or four shops were simply using up current stock. It was hoped that by the end of May Lyme would be plastic bag free.

Ms. Blaker spoke of the need to keep publicising efforts and using the local media. She added that Dorset County Council would be funding a flyer to place in all B+B's, caravan sites and Park & Ride buses to encourage tourists to participate in efforts to keep Lyme "Green".

Cllr D. Cozens questioned whether an advert could be placed in the cinema? Ms. Blaker responded that it was a good idea and Mark Jenkin would be covering that item in his update.

Cllr Miss L. Campbell asked whether the larger stores such as Woolworths had joined in the project? Ms. Blaker replied that it is much more complicated with larger national stores and it is not always possible for them to stop using plastic bags straight away. She felt that even if they could reduce the number of bags they give to customers by a percentage it would be effective.

Mark Jenkin reported that new ideas such as a monthly Farmers' Market had been suggested and plans were afoot for this.

The idea of a short film which was mentioned earlier had already been taken forward and plans were imminent to ask children from St Michael's Primary School to help produce a cartoon which could be featured on a TV screen in the cinema foyer. Plans were currently being discussed to further this project.

Other activities currently included events and stalls for the Regatta & Carnival week in the summer, artwork by a local artist funded by Artsfest to be placed on the main roads into the town, and discussions with WDDC to have more recycling bins on the seafront.

Cllr S. Williams thanked both Ms. Blaker and Mr. Jenkin for their efforts thus far and for updating members.

**07/96/CP Health, Well-Being and Safer Communities**

(a) PACT meeting

PC Winward updated members regarding the PACT committee and its remit.

To avoid confusion he first informed members of the difference between PACT and the Safer Neighbourhoods Team. He described the Safer Neighbourhoods Team as a Government initiative which now operates in every parish as of 1<sup>st</sup> April. The Safer Neighbourhoods team is made up of a Beat Manager (PC Winward) two PCSO's and two part time volunteer Special Constables working in the community.

PACT ("Partners and Communities Together") is a community panel which links various bodies/organisations such as the Fire Service, Magna Housing Association, Town Council etc. Each community body/organisation has a representative who will attend meetings. When items arise through complaints, three are voted as most important and targeted for progress by the following meeting. The other items are listed and it is expected of each member to note related items to be dealt with by their own organisation.

Cllr S. Williams was concerned that all the items on the list should be dealt with rather than being left if not believed to be of high importance. It was felt that it would be helpful to identify which authority would be dealing with each item on the list created at the previous meeting on 26th March 2008. Items in italics refer to who are responsible for dealing with each matter:

- The cleanliness of the public conveniences and opening times  
*WDDC. (The police would deal with damage or drug matters)*
- Anti-social behaviour on Marine Parade and in the seafront gardens on Friday evenings including broken glass and underage drinking  
*THE POLICE & PCSO's*
- Anti-social behaviour in Coombe Street and Monmouth Street in the early hours  
*THE POLICE & PCSO's*
- Traffic calming in Charmouth Road had made Colway Lane a "rat run"  
*DCC HIGHWAYS*
- Pine Ridge coach parking problems  
*POLICE TO ENFORCE ANY RESTRICTIONS.*

*The Town Clerk had received correspondence from DCC suggesting that double yellow lining be installed on both sides of the road at Pine Ridge to prevent coaches parking. DCC requested confirmation that they had the Town Council's approval to initiate works.*

*Cllr D. Cozens PROPOSED that double yellow lining be installed by DCC at Pine Ridge, seconded by Cllr Mrs A. Bradbury.*

- Vehicles speeding in Sidmouth Road  
*DCC HIGHWAYS*
- “Road rage” at pinch points in Charmouth Road  
*DCC HIGHWAYS*
- The roles and powers of PCSOs  
*POLICE*
- Clarification of rules regarding cycling on the seafront  
*LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL.*

*PC Winward clarified that currently there were restrictions for cycling on the Marine Parade but not on the Cart Road. Cllr Miss L. Campbell requested that this matter be investigated further as with the placement of the beach huts being considered, health & safety matters may be raised.*

- Uplyme Road/Clappentail Lane cars cutting across roundabout  
*POLICE.*

*PC Winward informed members that the design of the road was a problem owing to good visibility when approaching the roundabout from Uplyme. He suggested that it encouraged drivers to cut across the roundabout. Anyone caught doing this would be stopped and given safety advice concerning the use of that road.*

- Magna Housing Association slow repairs to door glass  
*MAGNA HOUSING ASSOCIATION*
- Boy/girl late night racers – Silver Street and Charmouth Road car park  
*POLICE.*

*PC Winward suggested that a meeting be planned at InSPARation to offer young drivers safety advice on driving and show scenes of accidents to inform them of the consequences of ignoring that advice.*

- Loud exhausts on cars  
*POLICE*
- Vehicles with dirty numberplates  
*POLICE*
- Magna properties – poor front garden maintenance  
*MAGNA HOUSING ASSOCIATION*
- WDDC roadsweeper too early start at 6.30am  
*WDDC.*

*Cllr D. Turner informed members that the arrangements for the roadsweeper had altered. It was believed that there was not enough time to complete the round if operatives began at 7:30am therefore, operatives were now to begin after 7am.*

- Roman Road litter  
*WDDC*
- Mill Green/Georges Square – lack of litter bins  
*WDDC/LRTC.*

*The Town Clerk informed members of recent complaints that there were no bins in George's Square. The Works Manager had informed him however, that bins had been previously removed owing to the fact that residents abused them by filling them up with domestic waste.*

*The Town Clerk suggested re-instating the bins as a trial to see if they are effective. AGREED.*

- Seafront – lack of bins  
*WDDC*
- Litter around recycling bins  
*WDDC*
- Clarification of Police Station opening hours  
*POLICE.*

*PC Winward clarified that recently they had experimented with the opening times but for June opening hours would now be 9am – 2pm Mon – Fri. Weekend opening hours had been discussed, however funding and staffing arrangements had come into question.*

- Amount of dog faeces around the town  
*LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL*

It was suggested during discussion of these items that as the DCC representative, Col G.J. Brierley be elected to stand on the PACT panel to help deal with the highway issues delegated to DCC.

(b) Update on Police Matters by PC Winward

PC Winward informed members that Inspector Jenkins had returned to the post of Section Commander for Bridport and Lyme and could be contacted at Bridport Police Station.

He advised that the last year had seen many improvements to policing systems and the increased Police and PCSO presence within the town itself had been extremely effective. PCSO Case had re-instated the Radio-Link in the town which had proven useful to catch a thief stealing from a local store. PCSO Case was still hoping to encourage more local stores and public houses to join the scheme.

Cllr S. Williams congratulated PC Winward and the PCSO's on their work over the last year and said that progress with the radio-link had been extremely worthwhile.

**07/97/CP**

**Housing**

(a) Affordable Housing Consultation

Wendy Davies reported that the Housing Consultation Day had been extremely positive and many people had supported the event. She spoke of how grateful she was for the positive press coverage.

The purpose of the consultation day had been to identify land both inside and outside the development boundary which could be used to build affordable/social housing.

She informed that there had been a mix of people in attendance on the day; those who owned land, those who wanted housing and planning officials from both East Devon and West Dorset. Those who raised matters on the day received positive advice from WDDC.

Mrs Davies spoke of areas mentioned at the consultation day which may be possible sites to investigate:

- The field behind Talbot Road
- Woodbury Downs site

Other areas suggested were:

- Relocating the industrial site on Uplyme Road
- Land within the development boundary
- Car parks such as at Monmouth Beach
- Land by the Cadet Hut at the rear of Anning Road

Cllr Ms S. Holman praised Mrs Davies for her efforts on the Consultation Day and for all the in depth work which had been completed and researched. She also asked how housing would be able to remain affordable in the housing market?

Mrs Davies informed that she had taken advice to the effect that if it was public money that was invested in the project then the Right To Buy laws would create a problem as house prices could increase. However, if it was private money invested, then house prices could be maintained as affordable. She added that it would be a community effort to ensure this was the case.

Cllr Miss L. Campbell asked whether a Community Land Trust would ensure rented accommodation would be included in the affordable housing market too?

Mrs Davies responded that it would be possible to include this type of property. She informed members that housing policies from WDDC and Magna had been obtained and copies would be available for councillors to view.

(b) Housing Swops List

Cllr Mrs L. Jenkin had investigated the process of the Housing Swops lists. She had been informed that all tenants in the Park View development had local connections.

She had established that there were two folders in Dorchester; one for local people awaiting housing and the other being tenants from other areas waiting to swap with someone local.

Cllr Mrs L. Jenkin had questioned that fact that there appeared to only be paper copies, that these were generally not kept up to date and were inaccessible to the

public. She was informed that this was a national problem and that nowhere in the country were there publicly available electronic versions of these lists. She advised that as a result she had been given a contact at Whitehall to discuss this matter further.

Cllr D. Turner raised the point that the housing swaps lists had been a minefield for decades and that this wasn't a new problem. He said that currently there are not enough houses in Lyme Regis and owing to the fact that houses come available so infrequently, any which do should remain available to local people rather than for people wishing to move into the area.

Cllr S. Williams questioned whether the Town Council could have any influence over the allocation of housing?

Cllr Mrs L. Jenkin informed that there was a list at WDDC and another at Magna but both have different criteria so in effect there is not a single up-to-date needs list.

Mrs W. Davies stated that she had received two varying opinions on whether the Town Council could have input on the criteria for the assessment of need on the 25% of housing which Magna Housing Association allocates.

Cllr D. Cozens asked how many locals were on the list waiting for allocation? He suggested that perhaps the Club for Young People in Church Street could be used? Wendy Davies responded that 419 people were currently on the waiting list for housing in Lyme Regis. She believed it would be necessary for all those who required housing to add their name to the list to prove to Magna Housing Association and WDDC that more housing is urgently needed.

Cllr Ms S. Holman felt that the whole system was chaotic and it was an issue which needed to be dealt with properly. Miss L. Campbell questioned the situation with those adults who were currently living at home but still required housing. Mrs W. Davies said that there was a section of society who wished to move out of accommodation with parents but often can't. She felt a deadlock had been created as those already in accommodation would not be of high importance on the housing list.

**07/98/CP Sports, Culture & Lifelong Learning**

No items for report.

**07/99/CP Traffic and Transport**

(a) SID Sidmouth Road: Update and funding considerations

The Town Clerk informed members that DCC had allocated the funding to double the number of SIDs available which would provide much better coverage for Lyme.

Cllr P. Williams raised a point mentioned to him concerning large lorries entering Lyme Regis by Charmouth Road/Church Street.

Col. G.J. Brierley had stated elsewhere that the Town Council had not asked for an order to prevent lorries entering Lyme Regis on that road.

Cllr Mrs L. Jenkin raised the point that East Devon District Council was not happy to have large vehicles using the Uplyme route into Lyme Regis either.

It was resolved to ask DCC to apply for an order to prevent large lorries coming into the town via Charmouth Road and Church Street. Cllr Mrs L. Jenkin proposed, Cllr A. Bradbury seconded.

Cllr D. Turner was concerned about the congestion in the Cobb area particularly western Marine Parade caused by deliveries for businesses. He suggested that the site of the demolished properties i.e. 15 and 16 Marine Parade, could be a possible location for delivery vehicles to unload.

Cllr Ms S. Holman had discussed with Nick Browning WDDC's plans for the area and he had stated that it was yet undecided. It had been suggested however to develop it as a public open space.

(b) Harbour Consultation Group

Cllr Ms S. Holman informed members that the first Harbour Consultation group meeting had been positive and she had noted subsequent improvements at the Cobb.

Cllr S. Williams questioned whether there could be a restriction on the number of cars using Victoria Pier to unload diving equipment at the weekend? He asked whether it was possible for them to use trolleys from adjacent car parks instead of taking cars onto the harbour walls?

Cllr S. Holman had noted large vehicles using Cobb Road at the weekend as part of the filming and asked whether the weight limit still applied even though stabilisation and resurfacing had taken place? This was not resolved.

**07/101/CP Young People**

(a) Skatepark: Progress Report

Cllr Miss L. Campbell reported that a noise test had been recently completed in Charmouth Road Car Park from 10am until 4pm but unfortunately it was not over a 24 hour period as previously thought. She said that the results received were inconclusive as no interpretation of data was provided.

Cllr Miss Campbell sought support for the Working Group's recommendation to Policy Committee to have an additional noise test completed but this time over a 24 hour period and detailed interpretation of the results with recommendations and guidance. The cost from the Skatepark budget would be £1,675.

This noise test would be a requirement to accompany a planning application. She also sought support for a Ground Stability Assessment which would also be required at a cost of a further £200.

She paid tribute to Kris Hallett from Dorset Community Action who had been extremely helpful in advising the Working Group. She had offered to Chair both a public meeting and one with the young people to discuss designs and the management of the facility.

Cllr Cozens stated that Mrs.Hallett had suggested that Charmouth Road Car park would be an ideal location for the skatepark.

Cllr Ms S. Holman proposed support for the money to be released for an additional noise test. Cllr S. Hogg seconded.

Cllr D. Cozens felt the Working Group and the Council would need to have their facts correct in order to pre-empt objections which were likely to arise.

Cllr Hitchcock felt the money was an unnecessary expenditure and that the previous skatepark in Lister Gardens had proved problematic.

Cllr S. Williams suggested that the facility would need to be properly managed and supervised perhaps by the PCSO's?

Cllr L. Campbell felt it may be advantageous to invite PC Winward and the PCSO's to a meeting to discuss these matters.

(b) InSPARation

Cllr Miss L. Campbell reported that the Youth Café was closed over Christmas but is now currently open Monday and Friday 7pm-10pm. In the near future it will also be open Wednesdays and Saturday.

Cllr Miss L. Campbell explained that the previous Youth Assistant, had been appointed to the supervisory role and the project would soon be independent of Lyme Regis Development Trust.

She informed members that currently a scheme was running to bolster operational funds for the café and that “buy a brick” was an idea for people to provide support for the café.

(c) Lyme Forward Youth meeting

Cllr Miss L. Campbell informed that there were currently quarterly meetings of the Youth Provision Group.

She felt that the January meeting was positive and although there was only a very small turn out. Cllr Miss L. Campbell asked if the Town Council could help to encourage people to come to the meetings and to get issues put forward?

She said that there appeared to be gaps in the provision for the youth in such areas as:

- Music and bands

- Arts
- Skatepark
- Youth facilities
- Youth shelters
- Sexual health clinics

The Town Clerk advised that Section 106 (planning gain) grant monies were being sought from WDDC for the Anning Road playing field. Part of this bid would provide a combined goalmouth and basketball facility which would also have a youth shelter incorporated.

Cllr Miss L. Campbell also suggested the café could become a late night refuge for young people to wait for lifts or buses if cold or wet? She felt it essential however to have young people involved in these decisions.

Cllr D. Turner queried whether it would be possible to build a new facility for the Club for Young People in the Anning Road Playing Field? He suggested it could possibly save the Club a great deal of money.

Cllr S. Holman felt that the playing fields and the surrounding area was a sensitive site and careful discussions should take place in a confidential setting regarding this.

Cllr Miss L. Campbell asked if the Town Council could write to the local organisations to ask them to attend the Lyme Youth meetings – the next one to be held in July?