



## TOWN TEAM MEETING

29<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at 5.45 pm

Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Square, Alton

### Minutes

1. Attendees: Cllr Phillips (DPP), Julie McLatch (JM), Tanya Applegath (TA), Bob Booker (RB)  
Apologies: Stephen Lewis, James Gamble

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Phillips. JM apologised for the lateness of circulating the minutes of the last meeting.

2. Comment/approval of the previous meeting's minutes  
TA requested the spelling of her name be corrected, action points at 3 and 4 carried forward.

Actions carried forward:

**JM to double check the town plan and ATC's corporate strategy to set the geographic boundaries**

**JM to contact organisations set out above** [Alton Sports and/or Calliope/ Chris Lewin/ Specsavers/ M&S or Sainsbury's/ TourismSE. At the very least ensure they agree to receive communication from the Town Team group.

Does the Group want a café/restaurant represented?

Should the Mid Hants Railway be part of the Group? SDNP? Ramblers? Possibly Andrew Bateman (tourism officer) from Hampshire County Council, or a representative from the transport team?

Or have them as guest speakers?

With regards representing tourism, JM has temporarily taken over the tourism role for EHDC and so can speak on behalf of or liaise with TourismSE when necessary.

3. Terms of reference  
The Group reviewed the Terms of Reference drafted by JM. The Steering Group terms of reference were amended at 4(b) to provide for four members to constitute a quorum

#### 4. Key projects and funding

JM reminded the Group that the actions for the Group should be achievable and in line with the aims of the Group (as set out in the Terms of Reference)

##### Project 1: Street Scene

RB had contacted BT about their building and the condition of the land abutting Anstey Road. DPP said he would consider writing to BT about Alton Town Council taking over the land – perhaps once it's in the Council's ownership to take the fence away and pave it? RB passed the details of BT Openreach Building Services to JM to assist with enquiries.

**ACTION: JM to contact BT Openreach Building Services**

RB had spoken to Vine Properties about the state of Bakers Alley and his request that they cut back the buddleia – it's in poor condition and needs to be removed. The other side of the alleyway needs to be weeded. RB said that Alton Society could undertake it, but in his opinion it should be a job for Hampshire County Council. RB passed the details of Vine Properties to JM to discuss a solution.

**ACTION: JM to contact Vine Properties and Hampshire County Council**

Signage - RB: Signage at Turk Street is overgrown. Had spoken generally to Cllr Andrew Joy about signage in town. Bollards and railings could do with painting, and those that are no longer upright should be straightened.

TA: signage into town from the train station is poor. JM commented that she had walked with Stephen Lewis into town from the train station to review signage and that she was discussing possible funding streams with the Town Clerk.

RB: The train station scheme has come to a halt. The train station needs to advertise the town better. JM commented that a local resident had organised a meeting at the train station with JM for 30<sup>th</sup> June and it would be discussed at that meeting.

**ACTION: JM to circulate the signage suggestions prepared by Stephen Lewis of ACCI, and to report back on the 30<sup>th</sup> June meeting.**

**ACTION: Schedule the next Town Team meeting as a town walk to assess signage and street scene generally.**

Chawton subway: TA asked what was happening to improve it. RB stated that he and JM are working on a solution and will update the Group on the project, the proposal, and the cost once a site visit had taken place. Most likely to be a mural of some description down one side (not both) and on the opposite side to the lighting.

**ACTION: RB to report back at next meeting**

Butts Bridge: TA asked when the works were proposed (February – April 2018), and asked whether it would be easier to walk from Alton to Chawton when works were completed. Also asked if there could be a crossing installed at The Butts. DPP commented that The Butts would not be paved or electrified, and that the current crossing on Whitedown Lane was sufficient.

## Project 2: the Alton Website

JM stated that this project was underway and the Town Council Officer leading that project would be able to give a full update.

**ACTION: JM to ask for a report (written or verbal) from the Website Officer at the next meeting in the Town Hall**

### 5. AOB

Parking: Alton Society wants to undertake a comprehensive parking survey.

**ACTION: JM to ask EHDC for their parking review document, what it's covering and when it will come out**

Access: In light of the planning applications for more 'later life' residences, DPP was concerned that wheelchair and mobility scooter access should be possible across the town to cater for all residents, including the students at Treloars.

**ACTION: DPP and JM to talk to Treloars about access into shops**

Tourism: RB asked whether it was worth spending money on a tourist consultant to look at the town and its pros/cons and suggestions for the future. He suggested the group look at ACORN Tourist Information website.

**ACTION: JM to consider and to research providers and costs**

### 6. Date of next meeting and venue

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 5.45 at Alton Train Station for a Town Walk

Due to inclement weather this meeting has been adjourned to Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2017.