

## **Clay Cross Town Centre Group**

### **Minutes of the last meeting held**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2017 at the Batemans Mill Hotel**

#### **Attendees**

Jade Hendon – Bateman’s Mill Hotel (JH), Martin Roberts – Group Member and promotion officer (MR) Andrew King - Lilleker & King (AK) Diana Yates - Posh Fitness & Coffee Bar (DY), Rev. Ann Anderson – CX Methodist Church (AA) , (PW), Louise Manfredi – Smiths Creamland Ices (LM) Barbara Parker – Local resident (BP), Andy Watterson East Midlands Chamber of Commerce (AW), David Hancock – Tupton Parish Council and NEDDC Council (DH), Ross Shipman –Local Resident (RS), Kevin Gillott – Derbyshire County Council (KG), Brian Harrison – NEDDC, Revd Richard Law – Vicar of Clay Cross.

**1. Apologies**, Nicole Murtagh – Tesco Community Champion (NM) Vanessa Palmer – Tesco store (VP) Stephen Toon – S Toon Hearing Centre , Pru Williams – Catholic Church Clay X , Suzanne Smith – Elvaston Therapy and Silver Web Centre (SSm), Warren Makinson – CX Rotary (WM), Carla Marie Fletcher, Steve Smart – St Barnabas Centre (SteveS), William Armitage – Ashover Parish Council and NEDDC Council (WA), Julia Coombs – Wilkins Vardy, PC 2948 Walton (PcW).

**Minutes** of the last meeting on 14 February 2017 had been circulated previously by email and were signed by JH as a true record.

**Matters Arising** It was noted by MR that there was no mention of the ability to buy in to usage of the calibrated speed gun which is shared amongst the various adjacent parishes and AK agreed to make contact with Stretton Parish Council to pursue this option further. There were no other matters arising that were not listed on the agenda

**2. Proposed CCTV reinstatement project** MR explained that he had spoken with Grassmoor Parish Council about their CCTV system who had kept their camera’s up to date, typically they have a life of 4/5 years, and together with regular maintenance they had been able to provide a functioning system that was capable of providing images suitable to secure prosecutions and as a consequence the level of anti social behaviour had been considerably reduced. The Grassmoor system stores images for 28 days before overwriting, if an incident occurs the relevant image is stored for evidence purposes. MR went on to say that care has to be taken where the cameras are sited to ensure there are no obstructions such as when trees come out into leaf. The big challenge is raising the funds to pay for the capital expenditure part of the Clay Cross project and KG mentioned the possibility of applying under a PCC small grant scheme for up to £2,500 to assist with this. There is also the possibility of applying to Viridor under the landfill tax grant scheme.

AW then gave us an outline of the existing infrastructure and distributed a town plan showing where the existing 24 cameras are situated. The existing towers all have an electricity supply to them and fibre optic/ co-axial cables which are hard wired back to the Parish Council offices in Market Street. AW advised us that the original project was funded partly with EU money and partly by NEDDC with the Chamber managing the original project. The advancement in camera technology since this original installation in the late 1990s is such that 4 cameras could now cover the town centre area in place of the 8/9 that are in the immediate town centre. Camera’s now are of varying specifications and prices, a 360 degree camera will currently cost around £4,000 whereas a 180

degree camera will be £2,000. Overall we probably need to consider a target funding amount of approximately £30,000 in order to get a basic town centre system running again which would mean installing cameras at the junction of Holmgate Road, the junction of Market St and High St and the junction of Broadleys with Market St. It was pointed out that the contractor who installs the surveillance system will need to be Security Industry Authority (SIA) accredited and it was also agreed that if we as a group are prepared to work towards raising the funds needed for this infrastructure capital expenditure then we will need a commitment from the Parish Council to take on the responsibility relating to the subsequent control and ongoing maintenance of any reinstated system.

AW agreed to advise the cctv subcommittee in their research and AK will circularise some suggested dates to all involved.

**3. New Members Joining** AK advised there had been one further member joining since the last meeting being Estate Agents Wilkins Vardy on High Street. Julia Coombs, who is a director of the firm, has put forward an initiative concerning the promotion of local businesses to new purchasers on completion. The objective would be to encourage new residents to spend their money in Clay Cross rather than going elsewhere by offering them a package of discounts at local businesses. The intention is to publicise this initiative in valuation folders and anyone who is interested should contact Julia on 01246 863084.

**4. Newsletter, Website update and Facebook** – MR has agreed to write the editorial for the next Wings Newsletter which is the April /May edition and AK will assist with co-ordinating the member listings and promotion which are to be published for businesses/organisations who pay the £10 monthly subscription.

The website continues to be updated for new members joining and with minutes, agendas and forthcoming events. Any member who has material suitable for our Facebook page should submit this to DY or JH it is also important to share likes as this increases the coverage of group activities to the rest of the community.

**5. Report on financial position** AK advised that we have just over £2,000 of group funds in hand and that we are in a position to fund the next Wings Newsletter which costs approximately £900 inclusive of 1000 Newsletter run-ons and their distribution.

**6. Future Activities** –Easter egg competition- MR was keen to try and make this competition work and looked for support from the group to assist. RL confirmed that Easter was 4 weeks away and BP agreed to help MR with the necessary organisation. There was concern that the timescale was tight but it was agreed that MR should make contact with the schools to gauge their enthusiasm for the project. MR noted that we hadn't had any particular community event since Xmas and felt it was important to hold the competition so as to keep the group in the public eye.

**7. Member information exchange** - Barbara Parker advised the Job Centre is due to be closed and it was agreed this was not going to help local unemployed people who would now have to go to the Chesterfield centre. BH advised that Fly tipping in the town can be reported via the NEDDC website and MR encouraged the reporting of pot holes to DCC

**8. Date and Time of next Meeting** The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 11 April, being the second Tuesday in the month and will be held at Bateman's Mill Hotel with a 6pm start.