

Clay Cross Town Centre Group

Minutes of the last meeting held

Thursday 27th of July 2017 at the Batemans Mill Hotel

Attendees

Diana Yates - Posh Fitness & Coffee Bar (DY), Martin Roberts – Group Member and promotion officer (MR), Lee Rowley – MP North East Derbyshire (LR) Andrew King - Lilleker & King (AK), Steve Smart – St Barnabas Centre (SteveS), Barbara Parker – Local resident (BP), Michelle Ball Tesco Store (MB), Louise Manfredi – Smiths Creamland Ices (LM), Wm Armitage – NEDDC Council (Ashover Ward), Rev'd Richard Law – St Barnabas Church (RL), Amanda Holden – Amanda Holden Properties (AH)

Apologies, Jade Hendon – Bateman's Mill Hotel (JH), David Hancock – NEDDC Council (Tupton Ward) (DH), Ross Shipman – Local Resident (RS), Carla Marie Fletcher - Sapphire of the Stars (CMF) , , Rev'd Ann Anderson – Clay X Methodist Church (AA, Jess Maidens – Tesco Community Champion (JM), Stephen Toon (ST) , Kate Toon (KT) – S Toon Hearing Centre, Andy Wilcockson – Bryan James Insurance (AW), G & J Hairstylists, Pru Williams – Local resident, Praveen Damodhar – Clay X Post Office and convenience stores (PD), T Tomlinson – Mountain Gremlin Games

Minutes of the last meeting on 29 June 2017 had been circulated previously by email and were signed by DY as a true record.

Matters Arising There were no matters arising that were not listed on the agenda

2. Welcome to our new local MP Mr Lee Rowley After round the table introductions LR explained his view that we needed to look sufficiently far into the future to move the Clay Cross area forward and suggested focusing on a time horizon of the next 20 years and decide what we want to be and where we want to go. The current scenario of the last bank in the town closing along with the job centre together with the possible hospital closure were noted and It was acknowledged by all that the area had the potential to attract more companies which could provide quality jobs and together with the planned house building would help inject new life into Clay Cross. The existence of the nearby midland mainline railway was noted and the possibility of creating a nearby station to serve the town, it was also noted that there was some concern relating to the proposals for developing local greenfield rather than brownfield sites for housing. Overall LR believed we needed to bang the drum a bit more for North East Derbyshire.

3. Current Issues and Projects – Business Awards workshop AH provided a resume of her attendance at this event which was attended by 5 persons in total which as a small group worked well for finding out more about the award process. Haroldine Lockwood of the Derbyshire Times who attended our last meeting suggested our group should enter for the awards because of what businesses have done for the local community . Just by being shortlisted for an award will obtain positive publicity and AH agreed to look at preparing a written report based on local research of what the group had so far achieved.

Clay Cross on the Beach – BP said the local feedback was that people want this event to happen, the Fire Station are to participate and will have fire engines on display on the station forecourt, traders on the Market Street promenade are aware of the event and will offer food, drink and fish & chips. MR expressed his deep concern over the complexities he had encountered regarding obtaining a licence for the car park closure, that said both DY and AK observed, whilst acknowledging MR's

determined efforts to take the project forward, that there had recently been positive help and guidance for the group provided by both the local parish council as well as NEDDC towards making the event a reality.

Group promotion at Coney Green - MR reported that both he and Andy Wilcockson had promoted this event at the Coney Green business centre on 21 July. Although no new members had joined as yet there was considerable interest shown for the group and its activities. Overall the promotion was considered a success as it raised positive awareness for Clay Cross businesses who had previously not know of our existence. RL commented that the press should be encouraged to report on activities such as this in order to show the positive side of Clay Cross.

Police and Crime Commissioner event – AK reported that both he and MR had attended this event hosted by Tesco in their community room on 14 July. The stalls present included the local police, who noted the dates of our Beach event, and the local fire brigade who reaffirmed their intention to participate in the Beach event. We also spoke with the Police and Crime Commissioner Mr Hardyal Dhindsa and explained about the CCTV reinstatement project.

4. New Members Joining AK advised there were no further new members joining since the last meeting although we are hopeful following the Coney Green event promotion that we will be welcoming more people and organisations to the group..

5. Newsletter, Website update and Facebook The August /September edition of the Newsletter is to be issued shortly AK produced a finalised draft showing for the first time 30 directory subscribing members, which is now with the printers. Steve Smart (SteveS) agreed to write the editorial for the October/November issue which has a copy deadline of 15 September. DY expressed concern over the confusion relating to a Facebook matter concerning our Beach event. SteveS agreed to write a Social Media policy to prevent such misunderstandings in the future.

6. Report on financial position AK produced a draft receipts and payments account for the period 1 April 2017 to 27 July. After taking account of an outstanding Beach leaflet invoice the deficiency indicated by the draft for this period to date amounts to £450. That said we have now paid for 2 of our 4 annual newsletters within the first 4 months of this year hence the negative cash movement at this point is more down to timing. The current position to 27 July shows bank and cash balances of £2,522 of which £295 is specifically allocated to the Clay Cross on the Beach event. There are more donations pledged for the Beach event, LM said she would make a donation from the Ice Cream van takings on the day. There was also a request to members for further tombola prizes such as chocolates to adequately stock our stall, the takings on the day will all go towards group funds

7. Member information exchange – AH reported that she and DY had attended a Parish council meeting on Tuesday of this week and had asked if there could be a co-ordinated turn on of the Xmas lights to coincide with our Christmas celebration event. The request was received positively with the council indicating their wish to co-ordinate their own planned Christmas events with ours. There was a suggestion that we might move our event from Thursday to Friday which would then give a more connected approach to activities taking place in the town over the weekend.

RL reminded us of the cream tea event taking place at St Bartholomew's church on Saturday 12 August at which all were welcome.

9. Date and Time of next Meeting The next meeting will take place on **Thursday** 24 August and will be held at Bateman's Mill Hotel with a 6pm start.