



# Rugeley Town Council

Minutes of the Community Engagement Committee held in the Council Chamber  
at 7.30pm Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

PRESENT: Councillors: C Barkas A Cooney  
D Gaye C Green  
K Hart (Vice Chair) I Hodgson (Chair)  
P Sparkes

ALSO PRESENT: S Bird – Development Manager  
H Goodreid – Town Clerk  
Cllr N Stanley  
D Podmore

| Min No            | Item  | Action |
|-------------------|---|--------|
| <b>24</b><br>24.1 | <b>Apologies</b><br>Apologies were received from Cllr Lyons   |        |
| <b>25</b><br>25.1 | <b>Declarations of Interest</b><br>Cllrs Cooney, Hodgson, Green and Hart declared an interest in item 33 – Mindfulness Garden   |        |
| <b>26</b><br>26.1 | <b>To receive any requests for dispensation</b><br>None   |        |
| <b>27</b><br>27.1 | <b>Chair to close the meeting for the public session.</b><br>Dave Podmore was in attendance and gave feedback from the Charter Fair which had been part funded by the Town Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £3,000 had been received from Town Council</li> <li>• £500 had been received from Stokes Funfair</li> <li>• £500 had been received from D Podmore for Punch and Judy</li> <li>• £350 had been receive in sweets from Amazon</li> </ul> |        |

Signed:

Community Engagement Committee

Date:

|                        |  |   |
|------------------------|--|---|
| 27.2                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All elements had worked well and been well received with the exception of the dinosaur display which had been disappointing.</li> <li>6 Chairty stalls had been in attendance and did well</li> <li>Clear that people were local to Green Lane and walked as the parking in Hart School was barely used</li> </ul> <p>D Podmore requested that Cllrs consider the following for future Charter Fairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wants to see it back on Hagley Field</li> <li>Wants a budget of at least £5k to be allocated ot the Charter Fair</li> <li>Wants to see a stall for display of memorabilia</li> <li>Wants RTC top pay for a slope onto Hagley Field</li> <li>Wants to see a walking parade</li> </ul> |   |
| 27.3                   | D Podmore was thanked for his work and contribution and the matter would be brought before Cllrs as an agenda item in October 2023   | Item to be brought to October CEC   |
| <b>28</b>              | <b>Chair to reopen meeting.</b>  |   |
| 29<br>29.1             | <p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Community Engagement Committee held on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were approved as a true and accurate record.<br/><i>Proposed: Cllr Green; Seconded: Cllr Hart</i></p> <p><b>It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023 be approved.</b></p>  |   |
| 30<br>30.1             | <p><b>Actions Arising from the Minutes</b></p> <p>Items were on the agenda</p>   |   |
| 31<br>31.1             | <p><b>Income and Expenditure Report</b></p> <p>The Income and Expenditure Report for June 2023 were noted.</p>   |   |
| 32<br>32.1<br><br>32.2 | <p><b>Weekly Rugeley Market / Artisan Market</b></p> <p>Meetings had taken place between staff / Chair of CEC and CCDC to discuss the possible licence covering the town centre and the Thursday weekly market and future artisan markets. A proposal was received which identified Bescot Promotions to take on running both markets at zero cost to the town council.</p> <p>It was proposed that a detailed report on this would go to an Extraordinary Full Council meeting to be held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023.<br/><i>Proposed: Cllr Cooney; Seconded: Cllr Hart</i></p> <p><b>The motion was agreed</b></p>   | Item on markets to go to extraordinary meeting on 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2023. |
| 33<br>33.1             | <p><b>Mindful Garden</b></p> <p>Cllr Cooney proposed that a section of the mindful garden be dedicated for stand up performance inc poetry / busking etc. it was understood from CCDC Licensing that a license was not required for this. An area would be painted to define the space.<br/><i>Proposed; Cllr Cooney; Seconded: Cllr Green</i></p>   | Dev Manager to organise   |

|                                       |  |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 33.2                                  | <p><b>The motion was agreed.</b></p> <p>At present the maintenance of the garden was currently being undertaken by volunteers. It was suggested that a request go out to the community to look for Garden Guardians to clear rubbish up from the space and hoe / weed if possible. Cllr Miller would be approached to see if he would store tools for the gardening work in his shop.</p>  | Dev Manager to speak with Cllr Miller |
| <p><b>34</b><br/>34.1</p>             | <p><b>Local Crime</b></p> <p>Cllrs and staff had received disturbing reports of increased crime including anti social behaviour taking place in the town centre and around the Mindfulness Garden. Issues around monitoring of CCTV was discussed. It was agreed to add a section of the Business Survey (item 35).</p>  |                                       |
| <p><b>35</b><br/>35.1</p> <p>35.2</p> | <p><b>Development Managers Report</b></p> <p>The elements of the report around crime, mindfulness garden and markets had already been discussed. The Development Manager had devised a draft business survey to go to all town centre businesses. Cllrs considered the survey and made the following changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the introduction should be removed.</li> <li>• a section added to ask about willingness to support crime watch activities in the town centre.</li> <li>• Wording to change to suggest a WhatsApp group or similar to save business owners spending time in meetings.</li> <li>• Agreed that local shop owners would help with distribution and collection of surveys</li> </ul> <p>A revised draft would be sent to the Committee in preparation for sending out to businesses next week.</p> |                                       |
| <p><b>36</b><br/>36.1</p>             | <p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>Community Engagement Committee would be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023</p>   |                                       |

The meeting closed at 8.55pm