



**Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at 7pm**

**The Council Community Rooms, Highworth**

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**Meeting chaired by Keith Smith**

**1. Present:**

Keith Smith                  Sandra Rendall                  Peter Hinton                  Shirley Colbeck-Smith  
Jane Hunt                  Rob Gillespie                  Tom Aherne                  Claire Smith          Alison Durrant  
Ann Lewis

**Visitors:**

Sarah Olnier                  Ken Saunders

**Apologies:**

Ian Young                  Paul Newton Smith

**2. Minutes of the previous meeting:**

Minutes of previous meeting signed and filed. Proposed by **SCS** seconded by **TA**

**3. Matters Arising:**

- 5. Stonehouse** – still outstanding. Another date to be booked.
- David Lane – Draft copy of Plan still outstanding

**4. The Plan: JH and KS**

**a) Progress on graphics and printing** – There a few photographs still to be taken. Presently being put together, may even get it down to 60 pages. The Plan is being printed on recycled paper by Highworth Press a local company, who will have an advertisement on the back of the Plan; this has been taken into account in the price to keep the figure low.

300 Bound copies with 100 run on £3,500 total, roughly £10 a copy.

Possible donations from commercial businesses for a copy, money could fund future projects.

We could go to MCTI for more funding

Library to have copies for hire out, also copies of flyer. HTC will also have copies.

Pentylands have a stall on the Podium on June 14<sup>th</sup> we could put flyers out on table

**b) Launch** –This is to be held in the Library from 7-30 to 9-30 (Library closed from 1, volunteers for set up etc). It would be nice to invite Len Turner, Chair of Wiltshire Forum and Wessex Chamber of Commerce who launched Wroughton together with James Hassett, Director MCTI as key speakers.

**KS** will give a talk, there will be Mind Maps, presentation

There will also be a buffet

There will be an earlier preview for local businesses and traders from 5.30-6.30 who are welcome to stay for launch. Regional Managers of Post Office and Banks also to be invited.

All invites to have RSVP for numbers

**c) Proposed launch in August** – To coincide with festival celebrations on 20<sup>th</sup> September. We will have a stall for Community launch of Plan

5. **Discussions with the consultant of the implementation** – We have 7 days consultancy time from Gareth Denning of Hyder Consultancy, Cardiff. Small planning committee met with him and talked about what the Plans impact would be in the first year. 1) Gilberts Alley 2) Strategic Manager, responsible for the Plan with possibility of premises on the High Street, maybe Tourist Information 3) Economic Strategy for Town (Swindon Street etc).

**RG** - We need to get in at SBC Highways to find out what is already in the pipeline so we can agree with their proposals or change before they start. We need to find out what SBC policy is on spending 106 monies in Highworth. As Rob knows the correct jargon he has agreed to draft a letter which KS will send to Gareth Denning for him to pursue SBC on our behalf, if not we will carry it forward. We could apply for Freedom of Information Request, needs to come from HCPG asking questions on future 106 monies.

6. **SBC Core Strategy – our response** **RG** wrote a piece on behalf of HCPG on how Highworth not included in Core Strategy. Highworth and Wroughton have now been named. HCPG are also recognized as an official group in the document. Nothing has been developed for outlying areas of Swindon, must spend more time on what we have to offer and need. If SBC continue with present policy it will result in decline.

7. **Blackworth Business survey results** – **PH** wrote to 29 companies, 13 responses. 6/7 willing to join local Traders Association if we had one, and would like to get involved with festival and community. KS and PH have a meeting with TS Tech this week, they would be pleased to promote bicycle access to Highworth. We need to encourage companies to help us in the future, promote them through HCPG.

8. **Members business** – **AL** had just been to a meeting with the Advertiser with regards to the What's On page, which is now to be on a webpage. Anyone can now report on anything. Local groups need to login each time. Maybe we should nurture a link with a better paper for a What's On.

**Next meeting is the Launch on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July**

**Meet again in September**