

**Minutes of the Wilton Town Team meeting held on Thursday 20th October 2016 at
7.00pm in the Council Chamber**

Present:

Wilts Cllr Peter Edge (Chairman), **PE**

Cllr Phil Matthews (Town Council) **PM**

David Parker (Editor, Valley News), **DP**

Jonathan Greening (Minister Baptist Church) **JGr**

Mark Pountain (Chairman Wilton CLT), **MP**

John Goddard (Old St Mary's Church project) **JG**

Gary Nunn (Community Events), **GN**

Rev'd Mark Wood (Rector, Parish Church) **MW**

Zoe Cupit (Wilton Town Coordinator, minute taker) **ZC**

Apologies: **Andy Kinsey** (Wilton & District Business Chamber),

David Corp (Wilton shopping village) **Sue van Leest** (Our Wilton), **Stephen Harris** (Area Board Community Engagement Manager)

1. **Chairman's Welcome and apologies** - Peter Edge welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies received were noted as above
2. **Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting held in September** these were approved as a correct record.
3. **Matters arising**
 - i. **Rev'd MW** would like to discuss the Old St Mary's Church project.
 - ii. *British Cycling Event* – may be held in Wilton again if funding available.
 - iii. *Wilton Parkway rail station* – Progress as per last meeting. **DP** distributed Friends of TransWilts application forms and asked for support from the CLT. **MP** agreed.
 - iv. *"Wilton Welcomes" initiative* no updates.
4. **Updates**
 - i. *Community Bus* - **DP** reported that he had been waiting for the appointment of **ZC** to continue with this project thinking that it might tie in with the Film Club suggestion which **DP** had asked **ZC** to investigate. Had originally thought that the Youth bus and the Scouts bus could share but although all supportive in theory it is proving difficult due to availability. **DP** and **ZC** to write up a business case.
 - ii. *Town Trail* – **JG** has done extensive work on the Wilton Heritage Town Trail brochure. A copy is available for all who would like to proof read. **JG** and **Rev'd MW** to confer regarding Old St Mary's and St Peter's and any crossover.

JG referenced the Poole Cockle Trail – where the visitor follows the brass plaques in the pavement to take the self- guided trail. The walk last approximately one hour and the leaflet cost 50p. **ZC** to research cost and other implications of brass

plaques. Quotes for notice boards will be considered at the Councils next Finance committee meeting. Town Clerk is gaining new quotes for the Trail notice boards and finger posts and should be sorted before the next meeting Thursday 17th November 2016.

- iii. Town Team Independence – noted.
- iv. Benchmarking - **GN** reported volunteers are needed to continue with this valuable activity. This process provides a comprehensive portrait of the commercial life and footfall in Wilton. Volunteers details should be given to **ZC** or Catherine Purves.
- v. Christmas Tree Lights – Catherine Purves has put in the request for road closures and will also need to contact Salisbury Reds. **GN** has a list of jobs that need to be allocated and **GN** to contact Catherine Purves to arrange a date for a Christmas lights meeting before beginning of November. **Rev'd MW** noted that this would be difficult for him due to other commitments. **PE** has found a new supplier of the lights – Icthus based in Stockbridge. The market square will be closed from 4.00pm, start time will 5.30pm and lights on at 6.30pm. **Rev'd MW** will produce a running order which **DP** kindly offered to print.
- vi. Gateway signs – **PE** to follow up with Andy Rhind-Tutt.

5. Brief Updates from member bodies

a. **PM** (Town Council) obtaining quotes for children play equipment and adults gym equipment.

b. **JG** (Old St Mary's Church project) reported that Old St Marys church is not suitable as an art centre. A committee had been formed and will work on using the building to house historical resources. Rebecca Lyons is planning a history festival and would like to engage with the local children on a history project. Lord Pembroke happy to open the history festival. It is still hoped that a launch date of Easter 2017 is achievable with the festival in September. Some discussions around also using St Mary's museum/tourist information centre.

c. Wilton CLT - **MP** Welcomed **ZC** as new town coordinator. **ZC** to produce a monthly newsletter and will be recruiting volunteers to help keep the community informed and deliver future projects. CLT received an update from Sue van Leest (Our Wilton) at the CLT board meeting. Sue formally thanked **PE** and **DP** for representing the CLT at the signing of the Armed Forces Covenant and was pleased that the Tri-services were represented. This was an excellent networking opportunity and opens up new funding possibilities. **MP** and **ZC** attended the Wiltshire CLT meeting. Wiltshire CLT is now entirely voluntary following the withdrawal of funding from the Tudor Trust, and it sees itself as a facilitator as much as anything; Prof Stephen Walker provided a very useful overview of factors and a formula in undertaking any building project (particularly in the context of Affordable Housing), and has offered his services free of charge to Wiltshire CLT, it was a useful networking event; Chairman Wiltshire CLT and Prof Walker were interested to visit the Erskine Park/Wilton Hill site.

d. **Rev'd MW** (*Parish Church*) suggested a competition for the Christmas windows encouraging local businesses also to be involved. Advent calendar will be opened by the churches taking turns on Sundays. The youth centre has successfully relaunched this September with Jacki Farrell. All are pleased with the increased turnout. The Seeds for Success AGM is 2nd November in Mere.

e. **JGr** (*Baptist Church*) - nothing to report

f. **GN** – nothing to report

g. **ZC** – is working on a newsletter as discussed by **MP**. Also intending to open the office on West Street, Thursday's 10-12. Will advise when this will start.

h. **DP** (*Wilton & District Business Chamber*) – disappointed at the 7 empty shops and at the attendance of local people at the event in the Wilton Shopping Village. **ZC** suggested pop-up shops as a short term solution to the empty premises, possibly a wine shop in the run up to Christmas. Conservative MEP Julie Girling will be speaking at a lunch on 24th March 2017 at the South Wilts Golf Club.

i. **PE** (Cllr and Chairman) - Wiltshire council agreed to a 4 year tie in to the precept funding arrangement with the government. Next year is an election year and campaigning is expected to start after Christmas.

f. **Stephen Harris**, Community Engagement Manager (South West Wiltshire)

Afternote: Apologies from me this evening, there is another meeting I am required to attend.
2 main updates from me:

- 1) The 'Our Community Matters' conference takes place on Wed 16th November, 7pm at the Nadder Centre in Tisbury SP3 6HJ. Doors open at 6.30pm. Full details available here - <http://southwestwilts.ourcommunitymatters.org.uk/news/have-your-say-on-priorities-for-the-mere-tisbury-and-wilton-community-areas/>. Please come if you can (use the appropriate link to sign up) and please pass the invitation onto all of your members, as we want to get as wide a representation as possible.
- 2) Safe Places – Tim Mason and I are due to visit Wilton on 4th November to sign up businesses that want to take part in the scheme. I will provide an update on progress at the next meeting.

6. Any Other Business

JGr commented that despite the recent burglaries there was no police presence at the meeting. **MP** suggested that the teams thoughts be recorded and an email sent to Inspector Pete Sparrow requesting police comments at the next meeting – all agreed.

7. Date of next meeting

Thursday 17th November 2016 at 7.00pm in the Town Council Chamber.