

Dereham Town Plan Working Group



a joint working group of Dereham Town Council and the aboutDereham Partnership

Notes of meeting held 26 January 2022

Present: Cllr Stuart Green, Chair; Mike Webb, Chairman of aboutDereham, Carolyn Coleman, Cllr Phillip Duigan

1	Apologies / absence	
	Peter Wade Martins, Rev Paul Cubitt	
2	Dereham's Town Delivery Plan (DTDP) (Final draft)	
	Mike had requested an update from Breckland but received no response. It has been said previously that we must wait for the five towns' plans to be completed. This delay means the advantage that was sold to us by We Made That, of being the first town, is entirely lost and has become a disadvantage.	Mike
3	NCC Rural Economy Strategy	
	There is no further update about the NCC Rural Economy Strategy - (see https://bit.ly/32ylHQE) The strategy supports the formation of Market Towns Working Groups "to explore the key challenges and opportunities for our Market Towns, and what we can do collectively". (p.17) This strategy will go to NCC Cabinet and it is expected they will take into account the plans developed by We Made That.	Cllr Duigan
4	Short term projects - updates	
	Queen's Jubilee - aboutDereham had organised a meeting to discuss this in December. While people are enthusiastic about the idea of Jubilee celebrations, no group has yet firmed up their plans. The meeting recommended that aboutDereham aim to co-ordinate events so as to avoid conflicts and clashes. Mike to organise next meeting of the Jubilee planning group in February.	Mike
	aD has produced a summary of grants available to support events and awaits information from Dereham Town Council and Breckland Council if they will grant fund local events. Stuart to raise this.	Stuart
	Norfolk Lieutenancy will announce their plans for Norfolk on 5 February: this will include their aim to have 70 beacons. Dereham Town Council to consider if they wish to do this on Fleece Meadow.	Cllrs
	Community Toilet Scheme - has been approved. DTC will meet to determine its priorities on 16 February.	Cllrs
	Event Manager - This was a recommendation in the draft town delivery plan and is supported by aD. Stuart will contact the Mayor of Wymondham to find out about their plans for a new role. The group felt that a part-time role could be sufficient, but there is definitely a job to do in co-ordinating other organisations' events, organising DTC events and ensuring planned coverage of the town venues.	Stuart

Queen Mother's Garden - DTC has been asked by Breckland to consider contributing to the costs of a scheme to improve the QMG. The council is to ask Breckland for more information about the proposed schemes. It had been hoped the work might be completed by September and that it would improve access into the garden. Mike has received a request from Breckland officer James Watkins to propose a programme of events to support a funding application by demonstrating potential increased usage of he QMG. Wayfinding phase 2: suggestions received include for a panel at Crisp Maltings (under new ownership) and at the St Nicholas (Gidney) works. In addition, there is a proposal to replace the old wooden noticeboard outside the Post Office (the smaller one) with a new glazed panel which could be managed by Friends of Dereham Memorial Hall and used to promote the programme of events at the Memorial Hall and used to promote the programme of events at the Memorial Hall and used to promote the programme of events at the Memorial Hall and used to promote the programme of events at the Memorial Hall and used to promote the programme of events at the Memorial Hall and used to bring proposals to the next meeting. It was suggested he might seek advice/information from a local expert. Brown Tourist signs - Mike has identified locations on the A47 where brown tourist signs are needed and is also recording the brown signs within the town. He aims to bring proposals to the next meeting. It was suggested he might seek advice/information from a local expert. Town centre seating - any proposal would come to the Heritage and Open Spaces committee of the town council. One location requested by a member of public was for seating at the Washbridge - Carolyn to contact Scarning PC regarding this and the walk round the water meadows. We also agreed that seats on walking routes into town would help promote walking in the town. We agreed to ask Walkers are Welcome if they would take this on as they have most knowledge of the routes people u			
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