

Minutes of the Holmes Chapel Partnership Committee Meeting

held on Wednesday, 26th August, 2020

10.30am in Hazel's Garden

1. **Present:** Hazel Sutcliffe, Anita Armitt, Dorothy Davidson, Richard Garton, Les Gilbert, Pat Macmaster, Teresa McFarquhar, and Peter Whiers
Apologies: Sarah Archibald, Karley Brougham, Michelle Boath

2. **Finance**

Apart from regular outgoings the only movement on the Account is £379.50 which was the money received back from the fund which was going to finance the launch of the Market Towns Trail map.

As stated last month the annual £8,000 grant has now been received.

3. **Supporting Local Businesses**

Peter and Hazel had a Zoom meeting with Marie Bennett who wishes to promote this. Peter had already circulated the summary of that meeting. It is obvious that the whole community needs to get involved. Anita will raise the concerns at the next Parish Council meeting. Dane Sound may also like to be involved. In the meantime businesses can be approached to feature a "Getting to know you" feature in the Partnership Newsletter – maybe up to three per month. Committee to suggest businesses, please.

4. **Allotments**

Peter has put an article of the Website about Allotments. (There are 9 names interested so far). Acquiring land is the first hurdle: Peter has at last received a response from Cheshire East concerning the land they own around CW4. Most immediately suitable seems to be the land adjacent to the Football Pitch. Peter will speak to Cranage Parish Council.

The second hurdle is how such a site will be administered. Peter was impressed by the model adopted by Alsager who have formed a Garden Association and make use of Cheshire East land. He has forwarded some useful documents on this subject to Hazel.

5. **Christmas Market**

Dorothy has written to all stall holders from past years and has 19 positive replies - if we can go ahead with the Market. Before making further plans we need to know if we can obtain a license from CEC for the event. Richard to make enquiries. If we go ahead, Hazel to renew contact with ANSA concerning the hire of stalls.

The same applies to Santa's Sleigh - Peter to apply on-line for the Sleigh license. If we get a license we need to draw up a new Risk Assessment and review how we collect money for charitable causes.

6. **Safe Walking and Cycling to Schools / Active Travel**

Peter has created a page on the website entitled Safe Walking Routes to School. He has placed a screenshot from Google Street View on the page showing a 'School' sign on Macclesfield Road which no longer exists. It would seem more helpful to have the the flashing 20 mph school sign on Macclesfield Road rather than on Hermitage Drive (where it is impossible to go more than 20mph anyway!) to make drivers aware that there is a school nearby. Parents have been asked to share their experiences of walking/cycling to school which many have already done.

Hazel has written an article for the newsletter expressing disappointment that Holmes Chapel has received no Active Travel funds to improve the pedestrian/cycling experience. The Parish Council is also dismayed that Holmes Chapel has once again been left out of a funding round. Hazel has again made her views known to Laura Crane, Portfolio Holder for Highways

7. Updates from Committee Members

Teresa – Jill's Bench. Teresa has been in touch with Palatine Paints yet again. It is now 2 years since the purple faded to pale blue and we need a resolution. It has been stressed that we must wait for the specialized paint to re-paint the bench.

Hazel – Dane Meadow. Despite lots of nettles and thistles the trees are coming along nicely. The wild flower meadow is a bit disappointing.

Newsletter – Dorothy to give Uniformed Organisations another nudge as the deadline for copy approaches. It would be good to have some sort of regular contribution from the Comprehensive to boost their profile in the community.

Les – Connected Communities Les advised that there was a pot of £326,000 to be distributed to support people struggling to afford food and other essentials as a result of Covid 19. Les will forward the details.

Sarah Archibald As Bridge the Gap is unable to restart because of the difficulties of bringing young and old together, they are trying to develop a penpal scheme.

8. AOB

The next meeting is scheduled for 23rd September. It is to be hoped that we can hold it in the Middlewich Hall at the Methodist Church.

Hazel thanked everyone for attending this meeting in her garden - in the pouring rain!