

## MARPLE CENTRE REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP

### NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup> October 2005 AT 6.00PM, MARPLE LIBRARY

#### **Present:**

Chair: David Hoyle (Business Forum),  
Brian Nash (District Centres Regeneration), Councillor Shan Alexander, Paul Whatmough (Business Forum), Peter Bardsley (Marple Local History Society), Faith Yeaman (Marple Civic Society), Peter Clarke (Marple Web Site), PC. John Francis (GMP), James Taberner (GMP), Nigel Hyde (Stockport Rangers), Jim Scotte (Marple Community Council), Mick McPhee (Business Forum),

#### **Apologies:**

Michael Whatmough (Business Forum), Alison Allcard (Marple Locks Heritage Society), Malcolm Allcard (Marple Locks Heritage Society), Kay Gould -Martin (Business Forum), Philip Gould - Martin (Business Forum), Alan Kennington (Business Forum), Patrick O'Herilhy (Business Forum),

#### **1. Introductions**

DH was unavoidably delayed and so BN took the chair for the start of the meeting. It was agreed to alter the agenda order and take the updates before the main item of business. .

Apologies for absence were received.

#### **2. Project Updates**

##### **• Ranger Service**

Nigel Hyde reported that he had not received the minutes of the last meeting. BN to send direct to the library.

NH gave an update on his activities in the centre, the main focus being on litter issues. The new litterbins on the Hollins are being well used, however he did have a problem on a Saturday as the bins were not emptied and so were overflowing. NH had to remove 11 bin bags. No real litter hot spots and no drug paraphernalia at the moment.

NH reported that one of the new seats on Market Street at the junction of Derby Way had been removed and placed near to the Bulls Head Pub.

The window to White butchers had been broken on the Friday night.

Cllr Alexander thanked NH for all his efforts in helping to maintaining the standards Marple expects.

**BN**

- **Police**

PC John Francis introduced James Taberner the Community Beat officer for the area of Marple and High Lane.

JF advised that Inspector Suzanne Keyworth has been re-assigned to the Town Centre and Inspector Dermot Morrissey is now responsible for Stockport East.

Issues noted were the growing use, and abuse, of the new Park play area by youths during the evenings.

The occasional problem had arisen with the Marple Police station being closed. Changes to office organisation was causing a problem, however members were reminded to report any problems to the usual numbers 0161 872 5050: 0161 856 9973 or if an emergency 999.

The recent dramatic robbery at the Jewellers on Market Street was of great concern as it was a traumatic ordeal for those involved. Currently investigations are on going.

The proximity of Halloween and bonfire night has seen the start of the now traditional acts of nuisance and vandalism. A particular instance was reported by Peter Clark involving the phone box on Church Lane, which required the attendance of the fire brigade.

The law restricts the sale of fireworks to 2 weeks before and 1 week after 5<sup>th</sup> November, and a fixed penalty fine of £50 can be imposed for use outside this period.

### **3. Information Updates**

- **Marple Business Forum**

PW reported that the Business Forum were active in 3 areas:

Production of a web site was progressing.

Membership increased by 40.

Production of the handbook is now nearing completion and a contribution to the production cost was made by the Partnership. Anticipated being distributed throughout the Marple area before christmas.

- **Marple Locks Heritage Society**

PC stated that the Risk assessments for task days was now completed and the next activity would be another lock greasing. PC acknowledged that British Waterways were being very supportive of the activities of the Society and would also get involved in completing tasks identified.

- **Friends of Memorial Park.**

PC advised that the new children's play area was well used but as previously mentioned was often the focus of misbehaviour by youths.

<p>Recent projects included the new circular bench around the 'Coronation Tree' and the purchase and erection of bird boxes. A task day is to be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> November.</p> <p>The use of the cottage in the park is still being considered but it is anticipated to cost circa £20K to bring the building back to an acceptable basic standard. The use as a café is still the preferred option and Pure Innovations, who run similar venues at Etherow Park and the Hat Works, are very interested in providing a facility.</p> <p><b>4. Notes of last meeting</b></p> <p>The minutes were accepted as a correct record.</p> <p><b>5. Discussion on the way forward</b></p> <p>DH began by highlighting the good work and numerous improvements that have been achieved by the Partnership. DH recognised that the major investments had improved the physical appearance of Marple and the input into a number of initiatives ensured the involvement of a range of groups, societies, individuals and businesses to ensure the continued success of Marple.</p> <p>However DH pointed out that time was now right to look at the way forward for the Partnership and to reassess the aims and objectives of the Action Plan. In a round table discussion the following items were the main areas of concern and should form the objectives of the Partnership in the near future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protecting the achievements made</li> <li>• Publicity initiatives to educate</li> <li>• Good housekeeping of the environment – street cleansing, litter.</li> <li>• Respect for the Heritage of Marple, conservation area status.</li> <li>• Ever growing problems of Vandalism and anti social behaviour</li> <li>• A Town Centre manager for Marple.</li> <li>• Action on car parks, - signage and pricing policy</li> <li>• Resident Parking schemes.</li> <li>• Involvement and education of young people</li> <li>• Business Improvement District (BID) – to raise funds for future ambitions.</li> <li>• Marple Baths – investment and community use.</li> <li>• Crime Prevention – CCTV</li> <li>• Shop front improvements and prominent areas to the rear of properties</li> <li>• Marple Partnership newsletter/ review</li> <li>• Joint working/event with all the various groups/societies in Marple</li> </ul> <p>DH and BN would incorporate these items into the Action Plan Review document.</p> <p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b> Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2005, 6:00pm Marple Library</p> <p><b>Dates of Future Meetings</b> Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2006, 6:00pm Marple Library.</p>	<p><b>BN/DH</b></p>
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