

MARPLE DISTRICT CENTRE PARTNERSHIP

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 10 December 2002 AT 6.00PM AT
RIDGE DANYERS COLLEGE**

Present: Peter Bardsley, Hannah Bowker, Cllr Chris Elwood, PC John Francis, David Hoyle, Cllr Mark Hunter, Diane Jackson, Gregg Jackson, Paula Kelly, Mick McPhee, Janet Milligan, Paul Whatmough, Rob Wilson, Judi Winterson

Guests: Mark Cotterill, Andrew Wolfenden.

Apologies: Cllr Shan Alexander, Cllr David Brailsford, Kay Gould-Martin, Philip Gould-Martin, Mrs Huet, Alan Kennington, Andrea Nyland, Julia Wickett, Elaine Wilkinson

	<u>ACTION</u>
<p>1. Minutes of last meeting. Accepted as a correct record of the meeting.</p> <p>2. Matters arising. <u>Derby Way / Market Street</u> PK gave updates on the progress of the scheme, which is still hoped to begin before the end of the financial year. However, reference was made to the 3 months utilities notification required and also to the current pressures on SDS for similar schemes throughout the borough.</p> <p>RH told the group that the McNair Trust has decided to withdraw their offer of funding unless there's a shortfall. He explained that this was because it was a local authority scheme. The Partnership were concerned about such a view and so RH offered to discuss the issue with the Civic Society and get back to the Partnership.</p> <p><u>Lights at the Memorial Park</u> MH told the group that following a recent meeting with senior police, SMBC have decided to investigate the provision of lighting in the Memorial Park.</p> <p>3. Christmas Lights Press releases covering the switch-on event were circulated and DH thanked all those involved in the organisation of the event, which had been a great success and set the standards for next year!</p> <p>4. Street Cleansing and Maintenance DH invited guests Mark Cotterill and Andrew Wolfenden to make brief presentations.</p> <p><u>Street Cleansing</u> MC talked to the group about his role and remit within Street Cleansing and gave an overview on previous, current and future developments of the service. He explained that the service was brought back 'in-house' at the beginning of this year and that this happened without any increase in labour or funding.</p> <p>In his presentation, MC covered the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improvements to be made to the service. Including 'Zoning'. Zone 1	RH

<p>– high usage to zone 7 country lanes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customer Complaints and the current system for dealing with them. • Education and ENCAMS which was formerly the Tidy Britain group. • Performance Indicators. • Refurbishment programme to public conveniences • Tackling litter hotspots. • Random monitoring <p>MC explained that the service is hoping to introduce zone working with local teams within the next 18 months (pilots are currently taking place in Cheadle and Heath Bank). It means that the public will get to know one or two particular council employees who will be responsible for that particular zone. They hope this will encourage greater civic pride on behalf of the council employee and the public alike. They will also look at links to NVQ Training in Customer Care.</p> <p>MH added that SMBC are taking these issues very seriously and are continually looking at ways the service can be improved.</p> <p>MC then invited questions from the group.</p> <p>RH asked about the location of litter bins. MC explained the thought process that goes behind locating litterbins and attempts to put them in the most appropriate places eg near take-aways, on school routes etc and with the appropriate capacity.</p> <p>RH asked about the chewing gum problem. MC explained about the large cost - £80 - £150k for a one-off clean of all the District Centres.</p> <p>PW added that he welcomes the new plans for the new model of bin as the litter bins that are currently in place have bin bags which have a tendency to turn inside out, spreading litter everywhere. PW went on to raise 2 further points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Since the shrubs and landscaped areas around the service areas have been cut back it has revealed a lot more litter which has been left by Street Cleansing. These areas need to be looked at. ii. When do Street Cleansing sweep up litter instead of just picking it up? <p>MC offered to follow this up. PW added that the flower beds also need looking at daily by Street Cleansing.</p> <p>DH raised 2 points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. He asked about ENCAMS and explained that the Business Forum is interested in the Tidy Town Initiative. He suggested that the BF liaise with MC to talk about this initiative. ii. He also asked about possible 'polluter pays' schemes and whether it formed part of the service' s plan? <p>MC replied that eventually they would like to get to the point where they can start issuing fines.</p> <p>RW picked up on the Tidy Town Initiative discussion and told the Partnership that the Churches Together group would be happy to provide volunteers for any litter picking activity.</p>	<p>MC</p> <p>BF/MC</p> <p>Note</p>
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The Partnership welcomed proposed changes and stressed the importance of monitoring. They also thanked MC for attending the meeting.

This was followed by a presentation on Highway Maintenance by Andrew Wolfenden.

Highway Maintenance

AW went on to tell the group about his role and remit within SMBC. He explained that like MC he works within Streetscene but is responsible for routine highway maintenance in the whole of the Marple Ward. This includes, footways and carriageways (including gully cleaning which generated significant discussion).

His work now includes monthly inspections of these areas to identify areas for routine maintenance, responding to complaints on accidents and trips, flyposting, obstructions e.g. goods on footways and also responsibility for the upkeep of all street furniture on the public highways.

The service also inspects some public conveniences in the borough (about 10%).

As well as this there is also an on-going Structural Maintenance Programme.

DH stated that on-site discussions with Streetscene would be very useful to local people.

AW would be happy to meet anyone on site to discuss maintenance issues.

Note

MH added that AW doesn't have access to a large budget. If items brought to his attention are very large then they need to be taken to Area Committee for funding allocation.

Note

All agreed that people need to continue to work together to report and tackle street cleansing and maintenance issues.

All

To report street cleansing and maintenance issues please telephone the highways hotline on 0800 068 4996, Mark Cotterill (Street cleansing) on 0161 474 5679 or Andrew Wolfenden (Maintenance) on 0161 474 5643.

5. Website

HB gave an update about the progress of the Partnership Website. A discussion followed on the best way to establish an agreement with the group that are producing the site.

It was agreed that the group producing the site should be invited to join the Partnership and develop the site in their capacity as members. This means that the Partnership would ultimately have ownership of the site and any decisions to be made on content or development of the site would be made at Partnership meetings.

All agreed.

HB to contact Mark Whittaker and invite the group to join the Partnership.

HB

6. Priorities Update

Memorial Park

A copy of an initial scheme was circulated.
PK gave an update to the Partnership on the progress of the project. A final draft scheme will be taken to the January Area Committee. Following which a public consultation exercise would take place with a view to reporting back to area committee in February. In principle the improvements were welcomed by the Partnership. Work is scheduled for the coming financial year.

PW told the Partnership about a conversation with Craig Horabin regarding planting in the Memorial Park. He was concerned that any new planting would be a waste of time and money if there is work planned shortly.
PK to look into this.

PK

RW asked whether it was only the Stockport Road entrance to the park that would be looked at, as the other entrances ought to be considered too.

MH explained that since this is the main entrance, then this needs to be worked on as a matter of more urgency than the other entrances.

DH asked if the projects on Derby Way and the Memorial Park are running in parallel with each other.

PK replied that they were both being progressed simultaneously.

RW suggested that if the McNair Trust decide not to fund work on Derby Way then perhaps they would consider funding work elsewhere e.g., other entrances to the Memorial Park?
RH to find out.

RH

JW asked about the retention of some of the trees possibly for use for future Christmas lights.
PK replied that it is hoped that some of the trees would be retained and so this was a possibility.

Police Update

PC John Francis gave his update for the 5 week period between 21.10.02 to 22.11.02.

DH asked JF if there has been a shift of young people back to the precinct in recent weeks.
JF replied that there had.

DH asked if there were plans to improve the facilities for the young people to take them away from the more built up areas such as the precinct.
MH explained that SMBC are planning to put up more teen shelters in the Memorial Park.

CE told the group that Andrea Nyland's youth group at Ridge Danyers currently have around 60 young people attending her centre on a Friday night.

British Waterways

PK feedback about the meeting between Regeneration and British Waterways. Consideration was being given to the feasibility of putting

<p>together a broader study on the tourism potential in the area. PK is meeting with the Tourism Officer in January to explore a way forward.</p> <p><u>Partnership Logo</u> JM told the Partnership that there shouldn't be a problem with copyright issues if the Partnership were to use the Ridge Danyers students' banner design for their logo. HB to follow up.</p> <p>7. AOB No AOB items were raised.</p> <p>8. 'The Way Ahead' Brainstorming Session PK ran a brief brainstorming session to try and establish some priority projects for next year. A number of varied and useful suggestions and leads were put forward.</p> <p>9. Date of Next Meeting Thursday 30th January 2003 Ridge Danyers Conference Room</p>	<p>HB</p>
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BF = Business Forum

AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Date: 30 January 2003

Venue: Ridge Danyers College Conference Room

Time: 6.00pm

1. Notes of last meeting
2. Matters Arising
3. LTP / SEMMMS Update (Sue Stevenson SMBC)
4. Partnership Website
5. Future Projects
6. AOB
7. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 17th March 2003