

Podsmead Big Local Panel Meeting

Held via The Zoom Video platform

10th June 2020

Present:

Sue Cunningham (GLC)
Chris Allen (Local Trust Rep)
Debbie Etheridge
Gary Slatter
Marcus Ridler (Chair)
Penny Ridler
Robyn Hawkins

Gerry Hartin
Lisa Jevins
Nicholine Wirsy (GCH)
Les Jevins
Seb Field (Podsmead Councillor)
Mark Gale (GGT)

Apologies:

Byron Davies

<p>1.</p>	<p>Welcome and Apologies:</p> <p>Marcus opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked how we were managing under the current Covid 19 pandemic.</p> <p>It was noted that although we had not met as a group for some time that Podsmead Big Local had continued to operate and support its community with support for those in need in the area. providing a range of services to those shielding or in financial hardship, such as shopping, dog walking, prescriptions, and food parcels.</p> <p>The Panel thanked les and the team of volunteers for the hard work and commitment they have shown during this crisis.</p>	<p>MR/LJ</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>Minutes of last Meeting:</p> <p>As there was no meeting over the last couple of months, we went through items that were ongoing and these are discussed below in matters arising.</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>Legacy: The re-arranged workshop which was planned for 5th February to be held at the Bowls Club was cancelled due to Covid 19 lockdown.</p>	<p>DE/Lisa J/IJ</p>

	<p>This will be re-arranged again once restrictions on group gatherings have been changed.</p> <p>Café: This was due to re-open at the beginning of April, a lot of preparation had been done but the lockdown prevented this from happening. It is hoped that we can look at partial opening once the lockdown restrictions are eased. Sue suggested that Les consult with Mike Norman the GL Communities health & safety coordinator about steps needed to protect the public and staff/volunteers.</p> <p>Park Area Consultation: Penny had a site meeting with a sales manager from one of the play equipment providers. Other companies that had been approached had yet to respond to Penny's communication. (See attached feedback from Penny's meeting)</p> <p>The outdoor Gym equipment was mentioned, and the discussion was about the longevity of the equipment. the gym items needed to be something that would have long term use. The current equipment such as the ones in Gloucester park don't offer and physical resistance to allow people to build up fitness or stamina. so once you get use to the challenge of the equipment it losses its effectiveness and people stop using them. Les has had an email from a play equipment provider that can install equipment that can be adjusted for increasing fitness and stamina levels allowing prolonged use. Les to share email with panel.</p> <p>It was suggested that we speak with Active Gloucestershire. It is also hoped that this can link into the Blackbridge development and nature cards and walking routes to be promoted in Podsmead.</p> <p>It was mentioned that the lower pathway at Milton Avenue is now accessible for wheelchairs and buggies. Les asked Seb if he could get council permission for work to be carried out to make the upper pathway wheelchair and buggy accessible. PBL has verbal understanding with the Barnwood Trust that it may be able to fund this work.</p> <p>Choir: The choir has a leader, accompanist, and a venue. The group was about to start but was another victim of the lockdown. Once restrictions have been eased it is hoped to start up the Podsmead Choir.</p>	<p>LJ</p> <p>PR</p> <p>SJ/GH</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Finance Update:</p> <p>There were no financial reports offered for discussion at this meeting.</p>	<p>GH/AJ</p>

Grant applications:

The only new grant application is for a Freezer trailer unit to be utilised for the ongoing food projects operated from The Club @ Tuffley Park. The cost of this unit is approximately £12,000.

The Club is currently renting a unit because it is required now, it is hoped that the council will fund this.

Discussion about the use of the unit took place. It is beneficial to those residents in Podsmead who are struggling with food poverty but will also benefit the wider community of Gloucester.

This will play a larger part in ongoing food projects and the benefits to Podsmead will include a legacy, meet currently unmet needs of those in food poverty. The project can provide opportunities for the training/education of Podsmead residents. GEM can get involved

Mark informed the meeting of another grant application made by Gloucestershire Gateway Trust, supported by the council, and is already working with the Club @ Tuffley Park. this has been submitted to DEFRA (Covid Grant Money) for £35,000 and it looks like it will be given.

Mark, Jennie Watkins and Ross Nichols are meeting tomorrow to discuss this further. Mark will speak to Ross and a meeting regarding the PBL grant application it to be arranged.

5.

It was felt that in general the application should be supported however it was suggested that Ross amends the application to include the other benefits about not just the purchase of the freezer but those about its opportunities for the community.

It was noted that this application is from the CIC and any profits made will go back into the CIC.

It is acknowledged that this application is time sensitive and that we need to progress this as soon as we can. Mark to set up a meeting with Ross, Gerry and himself.

Mark mentioned a Podsmead Community Development and Economic plan was required as part of the regeneration process and that GCH had suggested that this needs to be produced by community members. PBL seems to be in a position to put this together. If PBL produce the document, it would be part owned by PBL and could be useful for future use.

GL and GGT would support this and Mark will circulate the power of 3 document which is similar to what is required.

Several panel members expressed an interest in taking part in this project.

Project Champions to complete actions and AJ to check budget and complete Due diligence

MG

<p>6.</p>	<p>Any Other Business:</p> <p>Sue informed the meeting that Brendon O’Donnell, who has visited a previous panel meeting is trying to put together a Podsmead Residents Group. He was previously the chair of the Matson Residents Group but has stepped down because he now lives in Podsmead.</p> <p>The panel was supportive of the development of a Residents Group and see it as a sub-group that would feed into PBL panel meetins.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held via Zoom on Wednesday 8th July at 18:00.</p>	<p>All</p>