COUNCIL - 28th June 2021

UPDATE AND INFORMATION

Councillor updates, conferences and events

Beacon Patients Participation Group

Cllr Rea attended his first meeting of Beacon PPG as Council Representative on Tuesday 18th May. Beacon are aware of some negative comments regarding their telephones. Beacon are in the process of updating the welcome message patients hear when they first contact the centre. Present one lasts about 2.5 minutes – new one will be closer to 1 minute.

There was some discussion of work undertaken in collaboration with ITC to bring about a new medical/health centre – I pointed out that this wasn't recent.

Beacon are trying to promote their new survey – Councillors are encouraged to promote in their own networks.

The Covid vaccination programme is going well.

Cllr Rea also attended the June meeting, minutes attached.

Town Centre Community Information Boards

Cllr Rea attended a meeting of community leaders called by Tim Poate on Tuesday 18th May, to discuss a project aimed at increasing awareness of Ivybridge town centre and the river Erme. Also present were Cllr V Abbott, Shirley Weeks and Cllr Laity.

Information boards could be commissioned and placed at appropriate places in the town – probably concentrated on the town centre/river. They would each take a topic such as the local environment, flora and fauna, heritage, geology/geography. The boards will be visually attractive, pictorial and contain only a limited amount of textual information, but each board will also contain a scannable Quick Response (QR) code which would link to further web-based information. It is hoped that the Town Council website could host the extra content.

There was discussion of securing funding and adopting a standardised format. Attendees left the meeting charged with the task of drafting content in relation to themes they were interested in.

SHDC Regeneration Project

On Tuesday 8th June Cllr Hladkij, Cllr Bowden, Cllr Jago, Cllr Rea and the Town Clerk had a meeting with SHDC regarding progress on the Aldi Regeneration proposals. Minutes provided by SHDC attached.

They were keen to work with the Town Council on communicating progress of the project over the coming months. They are also keen to setup working groups with regular meetings.

SHDC Mayors and Clerks Meeting

On Friday 21st May Cllr Hladkij and Town Clerk attended the SHDC Town Mayors and Clerks Meeting chaired by the Leader of SHDC and attended by all SHDC Towns and other SHDC officers.

There was an update on waste and recycling (quickly superseded by further public updates after the meeting). There was an update on localities activity and how they were making the most of their additional seasonal capacity directed to the coast in good weather and the inland towns in poorer weather.

There was an update on the Freeport plans which were still being developed but the hope was to retain businesses in the South Hams area rather than loose them offshore, the maritime industry was thought to be the biggest winners.

In addition:

Cllr Dredge has attended the following events:
DALC Board Meeting
DALC County Committee Meeting (minutes attached)
DALC Larger Councils Committee Meeting
DALC Urban Renewal Workshop (with Cllrs T Rea and Jago)
SH CVS GDPR lecture
Chaired a meeting of IDALC

If any Councillors wish to update Council on activities that they have undertaken on behalf of the Town Council, then these please submit these in advance.

Forthcoming training/conferences/representation

Cllr Dredge will be attending a DALC Data Protection Update Course

General Information

Ivybridge Street Design Study

The following was received from Graham Wilson:

Following its first issue in March 2020, I am pleased to report that Sustrans has now finalised the Ivybridge Street Design Strategy.

Since residents first gave their views, some significant changes have taken place locally and the coronavirus pandemic has caused significant disruption to people's behaviour. The report shows that tangible progress is already being made.

- a) We have added it to our website
- b) Issue to Ivybridge Town Council and ask that it is publicised to local people
- c) Distribute to all local authorities and councillors and ask that it is adopted
- d) Funding and implementation: We are pleased to report that Sir Gary Streeter and Sustrans are meeting the L.A.'s later this month while we are applying for funds for a professional study for the path to Bittaford.

We thank you for your continuing support and look forward to making the lvybridge area an even more enjoyable place to live by building a truly creative and environmentally friendly transport system

A copy of the document in a manageable size will be published on our website and on social media when available.

Ivybridge Skate Park

The following update has been received:

Since we started the official Facebook group six weeks ago, our membership has grown to over 225 and the number continues to increase daily. In addition, over 670 people have signed our petition. Within the next few weeks our group will be in a position to begin to apply for funding and we will also be going live with a crowdfunding campaign at the same time. Our official website is currently in development in preparation for this. Last week we released a trailer on our YouTube channel introducing the film concept 'Cross the Bridge'. With this platform we aim to document the journey as we go forward whilst also exploring some of the unique challenges the sport of skateboarding faces. This month saw an article about the group appear in the imag; more local media coverage will be following shortly. All this exposure has seen an overwhelmingly positive response from the community in Ivybridge for a properly designed and modern replacement skatepark. Our group has canvassed ICC pupils for their views and we are currently collecting the information through our contacts at the school; we can share this information as it becomes available. With support already in place from Louise Jones and Vic Abbott at SHDC along with Roger Croad at Devon County Council we are continuing to work closely with all stakeholders as we move forward with plans for a new skatepark.

Nick Harris (Bridge Board Riders)

Discussions are still ongoing with SHDC with regard to them replacing the existing skate park as part of the Regeneration Project, and at the meeting on 8th June it was brought up. The thinking behind the £100k offered as part of the project is for a like for like replacement of the current, now unsuitable facility, and therefore any enhanced replacement facility would need to find the additional funding from elsewhere. The Bridge Board Riders are still receiving feedback from the community that a town centre location is a very strong requirement of the replacement park and this has been put to SHDC. It is hoped that soon some viable locations will be identified and agreed.

Jonathan Parsons Town Clerk