

NOTES OF THE SOMPTING BIG LOCAL PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD ON 14TH APRIL 2014

Present:

1. Alun Jones, Resident;
2. Andy Brook, North Lancing Community Association;
3. Anne Godley, Resident;
4. Cllr Chris Servante, Resident/Parish Council;
5. Cllr Gareth Smith, Resident/Parish Council
6. Gill Crowter, Resident;
7. Jim Boot, Big Local Rep.
8. Jonathan Paine, (joint chair) Resident;
9. Mel Shaw, Adur and Worthing Councils/Resident;
10. Nicky Hellard, Resident;
11. Roger Foregard, Federation of Small Businesses;
12. Trevor Crowter (joint chair), Resident;
13. Jacqui Matten, Big Local Co-ordinator
14. Sarah Leeding, Resident/3VA
15. Jan, surname to follow
16. Name to follow
17. Name to follow

Apologies:

1. Adrian Barritt, Adur Voluntary Action/Locally Trusted Organisation;
2. Albert Cuckney, Resident/Sompting Football Club;
3. Cllr Carson Albury, Adur District Council;
4. Kay Vincent, Resident

Minutes and matter arising

1. The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record.
2. POST OFFICE IN THE HUB – Trevor reported that he had contacted the post office who are to generate a profile [to see whether there is scope for a new post office]. Jim suggested contacting a sub-post master from a post office in a nearby area such as Lancing to see whether there it would be possible to have a mobile once a week either inside or outside the Hub ie a van or temporary counter.
3. FINANCE – Roger reported that the Partnership will run out of money at the end of June [see finance report later].
4. MEDIA – There was a small article in last week's Lancing Herald about Sompting Big Local.

Standing items

Partnership

5. The Memorandum of Understanding between the Sompting Big Local Partnership (hereafter called the Partnership) and Local Trust has been signed off by Local Trust – albeit with an extra line inserted by Local Trust regarding training [see attached copy].
6. Local Trust and the Big Lottery have agreed to extend the beneficial area to the civic parish boundary.

Finance

7. Roger reported
 - a. Deficit or expenditure was £8,500
 - b. With assets or unspent £11,500
8. He is meeting with AVA to reinstate the original budget.
9. It was reported that the Partnership would receive £2250¹ from Local Trust towards its costs (in addition to the £20,000 Getting Started Funding and separate from the £1m).
10. Jim said that the Partnership could apply for £18,500 as an advance on the £1m called Pathway funding. Trevor has partially completed an application and will meet with Roger to discuss. Trevor reported that he had also applied for Health Sussex Funding for the Epilepsy Support Group.
11. Anne suggested an evening for residents to find out about what grants are available or an awards evening [to celebrate what groups had achieved]. Chris took exception to this idea seeing it as a criticism of the role of the parish council. Jim asked Chris to moderate his language and behaviour (see Code of Conduct²). Trevor agreed this need to be looked at but maybe in a few months' time.
12. DATA PROTECTION – Alun Jones said that the Partnership did not need to register for DATA Protection purposes as a small group with limited use [of data]. Roger suggested the Partnership would still need to register an exemption.
13. TRAINING – The Big Local Spring Events were mentioned. The 150 areas had been invited to 9 events³ the two nearest being in London in at Kings Cross on 9th May and Waterloo on 17th May. Trevor will be speaking at the latter about Big Local Hubs. All expenses are reimbursed or train fares maybe booked in advance by arrangement with Local Trust.
14. VISION – A small group met the previous week with Jim to discuss the 'strapline' vision, and the emerging priorities, in particular to generate ideas of what the Partnership can do about these themes. They had asked Jim to facilitate a mini-workshop (see separate attached note). After this, Trevor and Jonathan volunteered to work up a first draft of the Vision and Action Plan and bring it back to the next meeting. It was then proposed to hold a community workshop or exhibition and promote widely in the community ie through sending home in school bags and advertising in the Hub, Harriet Johnson and other community settings.

Co-ordinator's update

15. Jacqui reported that the Easter egg hunt planned for Saturday 19th April for Halewick Lane Recreation Ground was all in hand although they could do with some more volunteers – particularly for painting the wooden eggs and staffing the event.
16. She had also attended a Big Local Networking and Learning Event in Eastbourne with the Heritage Lottery Fund, Architectural Heritage Fund and Big Lottery all of which could provide additional funding towards projects in the area.
17. The Epilepsy Action Day at the Hub had been a success raising £25 and a monthly meeting is in the pipeline.
18. A Sompting Big Local Facebook page/group had been set up.

¹ Local Trust guidance Making Big Local Happen, Step 3, Forming the Big Local Partnership p15: 'Your Partnership will have direct access to a central list of organisations or people offering specific services relevant to Big Local that you can use to assist with your activities. This includes for example, training, expertise in Neighbourhood Planning, research and visioning, communications, community development, environmental projects and community engagement as specialist technical support. Local Trust will make available £2250 per annum per area once plan is signed off so that areas can access support from the marketplace.'

² <http://www.localtrust.org.uk/big-local/resources/> Making Big Local Happen: Toolkit

³ <http://www.localtrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Big-Local-spring-events-2014-flyer-v6.pdf>

19. She was visiting local parts (a key emerging priority) and talking to users.
20. PCSO Vanessa Tell's weekly surgeries were continuing at the Hub on Thursday 10-12.30. The Chief Inspector will be there the following week.
21. Eileen Howe from Past-finders had been in touch about using the Hub. The Creature Pet Shop had been confirmed in the run-up to the Adur Festival.
22. She had managed to source a second-hand kitchen for the Hub and Ricardo employees on their Give and Gain Scheme are booked to fit it on Friday 16th May.
23. She had visited the Joyful Whippet who have offered use of the pub for an event/s and activities. She would be starting by organising a floristry club. It was suggested to re-star the Pensioners' Club, also for Knit and Knatter (the Hub was too small). The pub could easily house 40 people between 12-3, Monday to Friday. Mel suggested asking Community Transport to provide a bus service to run people there from south of the A27.
24. It was also suggested to hold an occasional meeting of the Partnership north of the A27.
25. Three new volunteers had started their inductions this week.
26. The Partnership thanked Jacqui for all her hard work.

Credit Union

27. Jonathan proposed that the Partnership needed some quick wins and proposed to work with the West Sussex Credit Union to allow instant loans to residents in need in the local community. In particular this would help with the consolidation of debt.
28. It was pointed out that Credit Unions couldn't benefit everyone as to get a loan, residents would need a minimum income of £120 per week.
29. It was proposed that only those living within the civic parish could benefit – which was accepted – and should be agreed with WSCU. One way would be to use the electoral roll. It was also proposed to use the Hub as an outlet for WSCU.
30. A contribution from Sompting Big Local would allow a slightly cheaper rate of interest than the standard WSCU rate. A comparison was given on a £500 loan with WSCU that would cost £590 to pay back compared to £940 with the Provident.
31. It was suggested to limit the amount agreed with the WSCU for giving out to £20,000. It was asked what would happen when the money ran out. It was pointed out the money should for the most part be re-paid. It was agreed to make the submission to WSCU⁴.

⁴ It should be noted that the Partnership cannot commit to any funding before Local Trust have endorsed their Action Plan.