



Annual General Meeting

On 25 November 2019 at Crediton Library

Present: Rosemary Stephenson (Chair), Martin Ashley (Treasurer), Kate Lock (Vice Chair and notes), Rod Brookes Hocking, Rachel Vowles, Emma Fuell (Mumscycles leader)

Frank Letch (Town Council, MDDC), Andy Wyer (Town Council, MDDC), Jim Cairney, Paul Vincent (Town Council), Liz Brookes Hocking (Town Council), John Ross (Town Council, MDDC)

Apologies: Jo Ward, Paul Tucker, Lorraine Harris

Introductions

Rosemary welcomed everyone, introduced the Town Team and described its origins and aims.

Town Team Projects

Reports were presented on the projects supported or led by the Town Team over the past year (see attached power point presentation):

Mumscycles – Emma Fuell

Previously known as Active Mums, these are led bike rides for mums with toddlers. Emma Fuell has relaunched these rides (after a break with no leader) having done ride leader and first aid training. They are proving very popular and already having a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of mums who take part. Thanks to Create Storage, for free storage of the bikes, and the Bike Shed for servicing. Also thanks to Maureen who helps her with the bike rides. She was warmly thanked by the group.

CredFest 19 – Rachel Vowles

More than 40 events over 3 weeks in June. A huge success despite poor weather. Highlights included some new events – Picnic in the Park and the Big Read - both very successful. But this format is not sustainable, as it involves too much work for too few people. Should CredFest2021 be a shorter, more contained event of, say, 1 week or 1 weekend? How do we fund it?

High Street Flags – Rosemary Stephenson

The 7th Flag Project, made 7 new flags and repaired many of the older flags, suffering from wear + tear. Flags decorated the High St from June to end of August. A huge community effort, with many volunteers helping make and hang the flags. Thanks to the Town Council for funding it and to those traders who contributed £20. Already a waiting list for 2020.

Boniface Heritage Panels – Rod Brookes Hocking

The 8 stained glass panels have been made, the steel frames are currently being made by Connibear's in Crediton and the finished items will be installed by February 2020 by local builder Steve Rowe. The Town Team will organise an event on 5 June, Boniface Feast Day, to celebrate the installation. There was some discussion about what sort of event this should be (ask the schools to have an inset day?) and how we develop this as a special day for Crediton in the future.

Crediton Wellbeing – Rosemary Stephenson

A pilot social prescribing project for Crediton, initiated by the Town Team, led by Involve in partnership with Age Concern Crediton and Westbank, Exeter. Two Wellbeing Coordinators are working with lonely people in the town, referred by their GP, helping them find activities and services to improve their health and wellbeing. The project runs until April 2020 and, if successful, should attract further funding.

Crediton Heart Project – Rosemary Stephenson

This started as a Town Team sub group and is now an independent not-for-profit organisation. It is aiming to keep the heart in Crediton, by focusing on community spaces – promoting existing ones and developing a new multi purpose facility for the town. The group has just completed a stakeholder consultation (more than 30 groups responded) and a public survey (more than 600 replies). Results from these will be published as part of a Feasibility Study and Business Plan, written by a professional consultant. All stakeholder groups will receive a copy. The group is currently working on creating a community website, to promote events, activities and spaces in & around Crediton. Their Community Website project has been chosen as a Co-op local cause.

Trees Project – Sam Shaw

A new project in partnership with Sustainable Crediton, exploring ways of increasing the tree canopy of Crediton. Sam outlined ideas discussed at an initial meeting with SusCred's Woodland group.

Accounts

Martin presented the accountant's report, showing that our accounts have been satisfactorily reviewed. He showed the meeting the key income and expenditure figures. These were significantly higher than in previous years due to the large number of projects, especially CredFest and Boniface Trail. The full accounts will be available on the Town Team website www.creditownteam.org.uk

Election of Officers

All existing officers were duly re-elected by unanimous vote.

- Chair: Rosemary Stephenson
- Treasurer: Martin Ashley
- Vice chair: Kate Lock
- Secretary: Paul Tucker

Rosemary closed the meeting and thanked everyone.