

High Street Great Malvern – Coordination Group/Board meeting 26th June 07

Present:

Paul Squires, Tony Minshull, Mal Downey, Lynn Jones, Christopher Turner, Peter Smith, Ray Roberts, Michael Martin, Graham Myatt, Bridget Orr, David Habershon, Simon Smith, Roger Sutton, Jennifer Higgins, Dan Wild, Jim Murphy, Fran Victory.

Introductions.

Paul Squires reported back on the meeting of the Town Centre Partnership (TCP). Simon Smith reflected the concern that HSUK doesn't duplicate the work of the TCP. Fran asked "what has the TCP done?" Discussion took place about the TCP, its lack of resources and weaknesses, but also its achievements: Library forecourt, signage, Malvern in Bloom.

Ray Roberts showed three previous reports on Great Malvern from 1996 to 1999 on Common Agenda and Draft Strategies, etc. and hoped in 10 years time there wouldn't be another one from HSUK with no tangible results.

Dan Wild asked why HSUK and the TCP could not merge. Discussion ensued. TCP thought of as strategic, HSUK about action. Two groups can run side-by-side with future possibility of merger. Strategies are cheap, actions cost money. HSUK needs to set itself achievable objectives. HSUK has "volunteer energy" and "community spirit". There is no problem with forming a relationship with TCP, just get the liaison going. Simon Smith agreed to act as that liaison.

Proposals for the "steering committee". Agreed the committee should be made up of :

Jim Murphy, Dan Wild, Fran Victory, David Habershon

Elected reps from 3 groups – Peter Smith and Ray Roberts (Design), Roger Sutton/rotating rep (Promotion), Christopher Turner (Economics)

Jennifer Higgins/rotating rep (Malvern Traders)

CT/nef rep

MHDC rep

The purpose of this group is to set the objectives of High Street Great Malvern.

When it needs to enter into legal arrangements, formal officers can be appointed.

Qualities needed by steering group members = passion for where they live and work. If specific skills needed, new members can be co-opted.

Issues raised: need for skills audit, need for Great Malvern-based database of members, clarity on the issue of High Street Great Malvern website (local website as opposed to page on national High St UK website).

Simon Smith to invite TCP to make a presentation to HSUK (as previously agreed)

Reports from groups:

Design – Rosebank Gardens, parking and traffic, "street clutter" (ie. obstructions, signage), street charity collectors.

Promotion – Sunday Arts Fair, Malvern as centre for well-being/spas.

Economics – Shop Local Campaign

Next meeting: Tuesday 21 August, 7p.m.