

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

Present:

Carol Wild (Promotions Group), David Habershon (Design), Jim Murphy, Christine Sutton, Dan Wild, Christopher Turner (Economic Dev Group), Peter Smith (Design), Michael Martin, Fran Victory, Ray Roberts (MH Conservators), Lee Robson (MHDC), Anthony Collis (MHDC), Jenifer Higgins (GMAT), Graham Myatt, Lynne Jones

Lee began by explaining the current situation with the Town Centre Partnership and their desire to continue. He felt that some of the TCP's barriers to success had been lack of focus, going after big projects without sufficient funding in place, some clash of cultures/perceived priorities. He had seen High St Gt Malvern as a practical alternative – tapping into community involvement, enthusiasm & power – able to access funding that the Council could not. Ray voiced his concerns over the 2 organisations duplicating efforts – need to ensure the 2 work together. Discussion around how to ensure High St 'action orientated' as opposed to 'talking shop'. Graham said he felt High St could be 'the soul of Gt Malvern'.

Christopher thought it vital to get the liaison between TCP & High St right – effective communication in both directions.

Lee offered to circulate the minutes of TCP meetings to High St.

Anthony talked about the 1988 Highbury Initiative in Birmingham, which had many similarities to High St, and was the start of the improvements now evident.

Cllr. Madden reported back that he is meeting a representative from Royal Mail at the Post Office in August.

Peter, Carol & Christopher gave verbal updates on the other group (see individual group minutes)

Jim & Dan outlined the decision taken by the Coordination Group regarding forming a Board, in order to provide more structure & communication. By dissolving and reconfiguring the group to include committee representatives there could be a better flow of information & forward planning, consultation and progress reporting. Skills audit & some form of awareness raising/training for the steering group was also suggested.

Peter suggested bringing in key people from each group operating in Gt Malvern and it was agreed that there would be some form of 'away day', meeting with representatives from the TCP (possibly September).

It was decided that it was too soon to vote in officers as not familiar with each other. A temporary steering group could be set up at a future meeting to agree 'terms of reference', legal entity etc.

It was agreed that the next meeting could be used to map out these future steps.

Next meeting: 17th July @ 7p.m.