

Grosmont Futures – Minutes of Meeting 18 May 2021, 6.00pm, via Zoom

Present

Jan Chatfield (**JC**), Witek Mintowt Czyz (**WMC**), Jane Moggridge (**JM**), Deb Nevill (**DN**), Lynne Potter (**LP**), Jo Whitaker (**JW**), Mark Whitaker (**MW**) (Chair), Peter Willis (**PW**).

Apologies

Oliver Huntsman, Alex Minford,

Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th May 2012

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

Action Points from the Last Meeting

2.5 The Linolt link is still not working. WMC will persevere with this as there have been four requests from members of the community would like to use it.

Action: WMC to sort out a new link

5.0 Community Fibre Partnership BT Openreach - WMC reported that Peter Clarke is interested in this project, in his opinion the main issue is “Marketing” the idea. There will be a certain constituency who are not going to engage so it will be important for GF members to act as ambassadors for the scheme. **JC** had forwarded the draft Grosmont Business Directory to **WMC** which will be a useful source of those businesses who would benefit from improved Broadband.

PW has contacted Alan Greenwood (Digital Officer for Monmouthshire) and scheduled a meeting next week to discuss the project. **PW** noted that there are people out there who could give help and advice or who have been involved in similar projects. **MW** suggested that David May from Penalt would be a useful contact as he had been through a similar process there.

It was noted that all other **Action Points** were on the main agenda and it was agreed to discuss them as they arise.

Matters Arising not included on the Agenda

None

Correspondence

None

Agenda

1. Finances

OH, had circulated an email prior to the meeting. The current balance in the account is £436.79, with no payments being made since the last meeting. The spreadsheet showing transactions and balance relating to the account is saved in Dropbox, together with the current bank statement.

2. Review of Progress Against GCH Project Timeline

JC reported that she had updated progress following the last meeting. The Timeline is held in the Project Management folder in Dropbox. There is much to do in May, but everything is dependent on the Project Plan. **PW** noted that we have done a lot of work so far and are probably more advanced in some areas than originally intended, any slippage in the timeline might be caught up going forward.

It was agreed that it is time to prepare a brief for submission to an Architect(s), as until we have more clarity on the potential costs and feasibility of the proposed changes to the structure we cannot proceed. It is also time to consult further with the Heritage Officer at MCC.

PW noted that once we have a better handle on the costs it may be necessary to consider applying for a different source of funding, such as the General Lottery Fund which could be up to £0.5 Million but would not be ring fenced.

If the project goes over budget due to the cost of the repairs such as the damp and woodworm in the roof space, it was felt reasonable to approach GCC for funding to address this. But it should be noted that GCC had not received the last report from the Joint Committee in a positive way, in particular the need for a Bat Survey and the associated costs.

Action: WMC to Prepare an Architect's Brief and contact Heritage Officer

3. Bat Survey

The report from the preliminary Bat Survey has been received and is stored in Drobox. The report did not find any evidence of bats roosting in the roof or Undercroft but recommended at least two additional surveys one at dawn and one at dusk.

WMC proposed that we should arrange the dawn and dusk surveys and review the need for any additional survey's once they are completed. **LP** offered to be the link with Sue Price who carried out the survey.

JC stated that an invoice for £298.50 in respect of the survey has been forwarded to Clare Preece at GFCC for payment.

Action: LP to arrange D&D Surveys

4. Project Plan Development

PW thanked everyone on the sub-committee for the hard work that had been done over the course the meetings held so far, the notes of which are saved in Dropbox. A further meeting is planned for Thursday 20th May where the intention is to review the Capital Development Grant application form.

PW has been in touch with "Social Distance Wales" who provide business planning support as a business plan will be required as part of the application.

WMC informed the committee that the Angel Inn are installing three phase electricity at a cost of approximately £3,000. If the same is fitted in the Town Hall as part of the Community Hub Project, the installation cost will be shared, and they will be eligible for a rebate. Having three Phase Electricity will allow a high-speed car charge point to be installed in the Undercroft which is a potential income generator.

Action: Sub-Committee JC, PW, AM, LP, WMC, DN to meet

5. Visits to other Community Hubs

DN has emailed other local Community Hubs/Village Halls including Peterchurch, Garway, Ewyas Harold, Dorstone and Skenfrith to find out how they are managed. **DN** has arranged a fact-finding visit to Peterchurch on 1.00pm on Wednesday 26th for **MW, JC, LP & DN**. **WMC** suggested that Sonia at the Post Office/Community Shop in Pontrilas would be a good source of information. **LP** suggested the Abergavenny Hub would also be worth a visit. **MW** noted that most of the hubs above are in England and asked if there were any significant differences in funding between England and Wales. **PW** agreed to look for a suitable Hub in Wales that could be visited and noted that any such visits might be eligible for a micro grant to help with the cost as long as receipts are kept – he will investigate this and report back. **WMC** stated that the focus of the visits should focus on how activities are managed and funded.

**Action: PW to investigate funding for visits
DN, JC, LP & MW To visit Peterchurch**

6. Community Green Energy Fund

WMC has been in touch with Richard Brown and Andrew Harter, preliminary feedback indicates that £15,000 would easily cover an AV system including black out curtains and a projector system. GFCC has also agreed that a system could be installed if the funding is available. **PW** noted that it would be important to ensure the correct quality of equipment be installed and that the installation is likely to be a significant part of the budget.

7. Presentation of Prizes for the Children's Competition

The presentation is planned for 22nd May at 2.00 pm in the Angel back garden. Miriam Vincent has agreed to give out the prizes and Chloe has all the necessary COVID precautions in place. There are four families who will each be allocated a separate table. Prizes include Bird boxes, insect hotels, a ladybird hotel and each child will be given a bee bomb! Patrick Boyd is compiling all the entries into a large collage to display in the Community Hub. **LP** will say a few words and **DN, JC & JM** will be on hand to assist. **JM** noted that if any pictures are taken then parental consent will need to be confirmed in writing and parents made aware that any photos could be used for publicity purposes or be included in the funding application.

Action: DN to send out a reminder to GFCC and Committee members

8. Summer Event - Draw

DN & JC had met with Chloe at the Angel Inn, the suggestion was for a Street Party/village picnic outside the Angel using their seating and the village bank. The Angel are happy to be involved and will provide food if required (BBQ or similar). The preference was for a Saturday in July before the schools break up, possibly the 17th.

9. Display

Once the project plan is finalised then the display can be updated. It is one way of updating the village on the progress being made.

Action: JC and LP

10. Banner

JC has been in touch with Phoenix Printers in Hereford. They can supply a PVC waterproof banner 12ft x 2 ft for £60. The banner will be in two main colours and include the Rural Futures and Community Lottery Fund Logo as well as the Grosmont Futures Logo. **LP** has been working on the Grosmont Futures logo and has come up with a design incorporating the existing Grosmont Logo within a wheel, but this is still work in progress.

Action: JC & LP to work on design of Logo & Banner

11. AOB

11.1 **LP** suggested that we should buy a card and a bottle for Richard Brown to thank him for the loan of his tower for the bat survey. This was agreed and **JC** offered to speak to Alison to find out what he would like.

Action: JC to speak to Alison

11.2 **PW** will be on leave from 29th May for a week

Date of Next meeting

Date of next GF Meeting: Tuesday 1st June at 6.00pm via Zoom

Date of Project Plan Sub-Committee: Thursday 20th May at 10.00am via Microsoft Teams

Date of Joint Committee Meeting: Tuesday 25th May at 5.00pm Via Zoom

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.25 pm