

## ST. MARYCHURCH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

### Minutes of the Meeting Held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>. November 2004

#### PRESENT

Peter Huff	Chairman
Jill Gillon	Secretary
Con. Martin Finnis (Part Time)	Beat Manager – St. Marychurch Ward
Gordon Rickard	St.Marychurch Resident
John Lawrence	Bay Blooms, District Action Group
Jon Dobbie	“ “ “ “ “
Audrey Payne (Part Time)	Maidencombe Resident
Christopher & Eileen Williams	Babbacombe Residents
Kathleen Hawkins	St. Annes Hall
Cllr. Alan Faulkner	Ward Councillor
Paul Hammond	Torbay Neighbourhood Watch
Anne Pollard (Part Time by invitation)	T.C. (Social Services Supporting People Programme)

#### 1) APOLOGIES

John Lawton, Cllr. Andy Westwood, Cllr. Roger Stringer, Chris Howell, P.C. Dan Carter.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES of previous meeting, proposed by Arthur Christian, seconded by John Dobbie.

#### 3) CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman and Secretary or their representatives had been invited to a workshop on 9<sup>th</sup> December, at the English Riviera Centre, open to all Ward Partnerships throughout the Bay. **Chairman to attend.**

At this point the Secretary expressed a wish to stand down from her post, as she was finding the new format difficult to cope with. There were no offers to fill the post.

The Chair had been invited to a meeting on 1st December 2004, to discuss the Budget and Priority Setting Process 2005/6. He was however unsure of his ability to contribute to the debate, as he had no experience of such matters. **Cllr. Alan Faulkner** felt that the Chair should attend and **agreed to join him.**

#### 4) ACTION PLAN REVIEW

The plan was reviewed and items added in accordance with discussions on emerging issues. An updated Action Plan is attached to these minutes.

#### 5) EMERGING ISSUES

The Chair pointed out that there were a number of longstanding problems in his area. Maidencombe Residents Association Committee had asked him to request the Ward Partnership take these up on its behalf and he had put these two items on the agenda for its consideration,

**5) 1 Coaches on A379 Coast Road** A letter had been received from Audrey Payne, a resident on Teignmouth Road, Maidencombe, about the size of the coaches now using this narrow road. The recent upgrade of the Shaldon Bridge enabled coaches and heavy goods vehicles to resume using this route into Torbay after a lapse of over 10 years. In the interim, vehicles had become longer and wider. This had led to difficulties in negotiating tight bends, with vehicles crossing the centre of the road and causing a hazard to oncoming traffic. TC Highways officers had recorded buses providing the regular service between Exeter and Torquay travelling in excess of the speed limit. P.C Finnis commented that there was no easy answer to this,

as there had been no accidents reported concerning coaches. **He would call on Mrs. Payne** (who had left the meeting before his arrival) and listen to her concerns. Speed checks were difficult on this road because there were few straight stretches for monitoring devices. A number of remedial measures were put forward and **Cllr Faulkner agreed** to raise this with **Cllr Doggett**. **P.C. Martin Finnis agreed** to look into possibility of trained civilians doing speed checks.

**5) 2 Loss of Access to Maidencombe Beach** The steps going down to Maidencombe Beach had been washed away in recent storms. The Council had made provision for the old ones to be taken away, but no date had been given to rebuild. **Cllr Faulkner agreed to take this up.**

#### **6) FUNDING WORKSHOP – Report By Arthur Christian**

Alan Denby of the Torbay Development Agency had facilitated the meeting and he invited representatives from three different funding streams.

1. Heritage Lottery Fund, that looks at community based projects and may provide funding up to and £50,000 for them.
2. A Charity Bank who lend money for local charity projects from £5-£500.000, at a very low interest rate.  
They also take money on deposit from, for example, people who have won the lottery and wish to plough money back into the community at a low interest rate.
3. Awards For All that provides up to £5,000 for any non-profit making organisation for specific one-off funding. Provided you can prove that you have the correct criteria, i.e. constitution, cheque account with 2 signatories etc, make a good case and you stand a good chance of getting funding.

The reason for this workshop was that Torbay is underfunded. There are a lot of committees that could qualify and are not applying.

#### **7) DRAFT CONSTITUTION UPDATE**

Following the request for the Ward Partnership's comments on the Draft Constitution the Chair/Secretary had written to Mel Broad with suggestions in time for the 21st September TSP meeting. That letter and Mel Broad's response had been circulated to all St Marychurch Ward Partnership members with the current agenda.

The Chair was disappointed to report that he had heard nothing from the TSP since that time. He had expected to be given a copy of the final document in time for this evening's meeting but this had not materialised so it could not be adopted.

He expressed concern about the lack of communication between the core Committee and the Wards. Whilst the TSP was still at an early stage, he also felt that Torbay Council officers were either unaware of the importance and value of Ward Partnerships as a conduit for raising community issues, or simply didn't see the need for communications with the public. Recently, there had been three major policy developments where feedback from the Wards would have been useful. For example, parking in Torbay – the Way Forward; the Council's Licensing Policy and the Walking Strategy. The first two issues were of particular importance to St Marychurch, with its parking and drink-related problems and our comments could have been quite relevant, had we been consulted.

In agreement, Arthur Christian recalled correspondence he had had with a senior member of the Highways Dept about consultation on traffic schemes, such as in Fore Street and Moor Lane. Local knowledge might have avoided the problems that had occurred. The written response was that whilst the Council would be pleased to answer questions on specific issues, they were unable to commit themselves to any long-term agreement.

John Lawrence was unhappy about the way in which the Community Plan had been presented and pointed out that not everyone, particularly elderly people, had access to the Internet. The housebound were also disadvantaged and might not see notices for meetings etc. posted at the libraries. Conventional methods of communication were still important. (Is a braille copy available?).

The Chair agreed that the situation was less than satisfactory. The communication sent out with Council Tax demands earlier in the year gave the impression that the Council had consulted with residents, produced a Community Plan and that was the end of the process, when in fact it was only just beginning. The importance of the Ward Partnerships in the continuing process and how to contact them had been omitted. A valuable opportunity had been missed.

Paul Hammond was concerned about the lack of representation from Voluntary Groups on the core committee. The Neighbourhood Watch organisation was the largest voluntary organisation in the country and yet was not represented. He reported that the ODPM had now instructed LSP's to address this.

**The Chair, with the agreement of those present, would try and raise these points at the forthcoming workshop.**

#### **8) SUPPORTING PEOPLE PROGRAMME**

Our speaker Anne Pollard explained that the programme was run by a partnership consisting of the local Authority, the Probation Service and the Health Authority. Funding comes from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and it is provisionally a three-year programme from April 2003. The Authority inherited 60 providers offering 90 services. Two new officers have been recently appointed and the department is on course to assess the quality of the service being provided by the end of March 2006.

The extra staff would not enable the department to develop its 5-year strategy and she hoped that extra administration staff could be provided.

**The Chair remarked that no doubt the Councillor present would take note.**

A.P. felt that local providers should be members of the Ward Partnership. At the moment the local provider is a member through the Traders Association, although he had only attended on one occasion. **A.P. agreed to follow this up so that arising problems could be kept to a minimum.**

Anne pointed out that if the Ward Partnership was dreadfully unhappy about any issue it could write to the Commissioning body as there is a complaints procedure in place. There was a fact sheet available that she would send to the Secretary for distribution.

The Chair thanked Anne for coming and commented that the discussion had been most enlightening.

#### **9) DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS**

**MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2005 AND MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2005**  
**VENUE TO BE CONFIRMED**  
**PLEASE NOTIFY THE SECRETARY TWO WEEKS BEFORE**  
**FOR ANY NEW ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA**

**St Marychurch  
Community Partnership  
Community Safety  
Action Plan**  
(Updated November 2004)

Challenge	Solution / Current Position	Responsibility	Target Review Date
<p>1) Reducing anti social behaviour, in St Marychurch Village Centre</p>	<p><b>Install CCTV in Precinct: short term, one CCTV camera to be installed; two in the longer term. Cost £21K ea. inc. 5 year maintenance.</b></p> <p><b>Increase Patrols:</b> Police to be informed by traders of 'repeat offenders of known abode'</p> <p><b><u>Supporting People Programme.</u></b> Anne Pollard to supply Secretary with Fact Sheet.</p> <p><b>Provision for young people.</b> Street Walker to cost £20,000 per year each, no funding available for us, alternative source to be sought. Possibility for Golf Driving Range at the top of George v Playing Field</p> <p><b>Introduce 2-way radio system</b> for Traders/Residents/Licensees. Radios now received, instruction on use to be provided by Police</p>	<p>Torbay Council C.C.T.V. Officer <b>Cllr Stringer</b> to liaise with P.C. Harvey and <b>CH &amp; AC</b></p> <p><b>C.H</b> to advise traders P.C. Harvey.</p> <p><b>Sec/Cllr Stringer/Anne Pollard/Cllr. Loretta McHugh</b></p> <p><b>Cllr. Stringer/Arthur Christian. Steve Cox/Tara Fowler(TC)</b></p> <p><b>A.C and C.H</b> to liaise with <b>Paul Hammond</b></p>	<p>Nov. 04</p>

	<p><b>Widen no drinking areas</b> to reduce street drinking Alcohol Ban Notices to be erected <b>Rigorous enforcement of new laws</b> when introduced Boundaries to be established <b>Liase with licensed premises and other establishments</b> Neighbourhood Support Team to be made aware</p>	<p>Bill Norman &amp; <b>Cllr Westwood</b>  <b>P.C. Martin Finnis</b></p>	Nov. 04
2) A.S.B. relating to beach activity at Petitor	Review designation of Beach P.S.A. (Public Sex Areas) via Police	<b>St Marychurch Ward Councillors/Police</b>	Nov. 04
3) On street parking/obstruction of pavements	<p><b>Regulation of on street parking:</b> Enforcement of breaches: Fore St and Park Rd and school areas are being enforced <b>Education of Road users.</b> <b>Develop clear and consistent policy to prepare for decriminalisation:</b> Questionnaire distributed to all households. Awaiting responses.</p>	<p>Police Media  T.C. Anne Taylor</p>	<p>April 05  April 05</p>
4) Off road motor cycling Easterfield Playing Field and surrounding area	<p><b>Find dedicated site</b> Educate users Restricted access to problem areas Develop strategy for O.R.M. through L.S.P.</p>	<p>Media T.C. Steve Cox/Tara Fowler Ian Williams</p>	Nov. 04
5) Reducing danger from coaches crossing double white lines on bends on A379 coast route from Shaldon Bridge to Brunel Manor/ Speeding vehicles	<p><b>a)</b> Get agreement from local bus Co's to use shorter/smaller vehicles whenever possible <b>b)</b> Introduce warning signs at either end of section "Large vehicles take care on bends" <b>c)</b> Draw attention to problem through Hoteliers hosting coach parties.</p>	<p>) ) ) ) Cllr. Faulkner/Dogget/ ) Teignbridge/Devon ) Highways</p>	

	<p>d) Consult with local bus companies about this and identified speeding problem.</p> <p>e) Investigate trained civilian use of speed cameras through Police Authority/new decriminalised arrangements.</p>	) ) P.C. Martin Finnis	
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**St Marychurch  
Community Partnership  
Economy Action Plan  
(updated November 2004)**

Challenge	Solution/Current Position	Responsibility	Target/Review Date By
Improving facilities at Beaches			
Watcombe Facilities	Future of toilets (now closed) Picnic area improvements Signage to Coastal Paths	D.A.G. Colin Charlwood	
Oddicombe Cliff Railway	Develop Friends of Oddicombe Cliff Railway and invest in improvements £160,000 ring-fenced specifically for railway	<b>AC</b>	Nov. 04
Loss of Steps in Storms at Maidencombe Beach	Date to rebuild sought (in time for next tourist season at the latest)	<b>Torbay Council/ A Faulkner</b>	

