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Minutes

Meeting of : Annual Parish Meeting
Date : Monday 11 April 2022
Meeting held in : The Guildhall, Salisbury
Commencing at : 6:00pm

Present:

Chair: Cllr Caroline Corbin, The Mayor of the City of Salisbury

Supported by: Administration Group Leaders Cllr Ian Tomes, Cllr Annie Riddle and Cllr Alan Bayliss

Present:

Cllrs J Bolwell, T Corbin, S Hocking, A Hoque, C McGrath, J Nettle, P Sample, C Stanway and M Webb

Cllr Apologies: V Charleston, P Cunningham, J King, M Mewse and E Rimmer

Council Officers: Janine Whitty and Sarah Gregson

Members of the public: 14

Members of the press: 1

1. **Mayor's Welcoming Remarks:**

Councillor Caroline Corbin, The Mayor of the City of Salisbury opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance.

2. **Administration Group Leaders Update on Current Activities:**

Councillor Ian Tomes gave a report on the Council's principal activities during the year 2021/22 and its plans for 2022/23, as follows;

Now Covid restrictions have lifted, the council over the recent months, has got back to activities that they were doing before the start of covid, and he noted the impact covid has had on council staff and activities. He thanked all SCC staff for their hard work and flexibility over this difficult and challenging period.

A major project for the council is the new depot purchase and Idverde contract coming in house, both projects will require a lot of officer time and work but are for the long term benefit of the city.

The Administration Group Leaders have spent time building better relationships with a number of organisations and individuals across the city. Two useful meetings have been with both the Leader of Wiltshire Council and Police Crime Commissioner, discussing the City Hall, Malting development, CCTV funding and a new police station in Salisbury.

The Administration Group Leaders have had two meetings with Neighbouring Parishes to look to share concerns and opportunities, with Cllr C McGrath attending the most recent meeting to speak about the shared issue of flooding within the area.

The council also continues to meet monthly with the BID, has recently met with the Young Gallery to discuss its future and met with Salisbury Transition City. SCC recently met with its current volunteers to celebrate and thank them for their contribution to the work that the City Council does across the city. Volunteers help with CCTV, Shopmobility, parks and open spaces, Your Salisbury Pantry and community development activities.

SCC has sponsored an award at the Business Excellent Awards ceremony for Employer of the Year.

To celebrate the Jubilee the council recently planted Jubilee trees in both Hudson's Field and Victoria Park, and thanked the Queen's representative in Wiltshire the Lord Lieutenant Mrs Sarah Rose Troughton for helping plant the trees with both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. These jubilee trees are part of a much wider tree planting programme around the city.

The Mayor will also be hosting a beacon lighting at Old Sarum on 2 June, with 70 members of the public invited to attend.

The council, with wildlife organisations, plan to have stalls in Hudson's Field during the Jubilee period, giving out wild flower seeds and talking about the environment.

The Guildhall will be opening to host free mini Royal exhibition tours showcasing the council and Guildhalls connections with Royalty throughout the years, with tea and cake also available.

The Experience Salisbury website, which is funded by the city council and partners, will act as a guide on what to do across the city during the Jubilee. The city will also be dressed in red, white and blue bunting and flowers.

The Salisbury Neighbourhood Development Plan is progressing well, with thanks to all those involved including steering group volunteers and planning consultant Andrea Pellegram. Currently public consultations are taking place for the Quarry, Churchfields and Brown Street housing site, with next steps decided once the consultation period has closed. Chairman of SNDP, Cllr Annie Riddle is happy to discuss any comments or questions.

As part of the administration's greater emphasis on green issues, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust has started the process of completing an ecological assessment of all SCC green areas.

Following Wiltshire Council's recent announcement to increase car parking charges, SCC officers are looking at the feasibility of SCC managing and setting its own pricing structure for the two SCC car parks.

The Communities Team have recently opened a new drop in café at the Baptist church every Tuesday morning.

The council is hoping to increase its hard standing pitches at the caravan site at Hudson's Field to help extend the season.

The council look further into achieving green methods of cremation, including resomation funerals.

Finally, the Bunker at Harnham has had a new tenant since last October. Activities at the bunker include the chance to lean about digital media, and the council wishes them well.

3. **Open Forum:**

Cllrs Corbin ask if anyone present would like to ask a question. Cllr Tomes responded:

Question 1 Cllr A Hoque expressed his concern with regards to the future of the Young Gallery.

Answer 1 Cllr I Tomes responded to confirm that the Administration have been liaising with the Young Gallery to help with creating an independent treasury and support its future.

No further questions were forthcoming.

4. **Communities Team Introduction**

Sarah Gregson, Communities Manager provided a presentation on Salisbury City Council's communities work during the last year and coming year.

A copy of this presentation can be found on [here](#) on the Salisbury City Council website.

5. **Partner and Grant Recipients Presentations**

Sarah Gregson introduced partners who provided presentations as followed;

Salisbury Museum, Owen Hughes talked about how the SCC grant helped reignite their work after being closed during covid. The museums activities include Discovery Days, Under Fives Friday, Festival of Archaeology, Tudor Christmas and Spring Fayre. Another big change since reopening is the museum becoming paperless and with that reaching a wider, more diverse audience via social media. The museum also is embarking on a new development at the site called the Past Forward Project creating a new gallery rooms including Devenish Bradshaw Gallery, Medieval Room, Early Modern & Georgian Room, Victorian and Modern Room, Natural History Gallery and Ceramics Gallery.

Wiltshire Creative, Louise Dancy, who are a grant recipient and working on a number of projects with SCC's Communities Team, provided a verbal presentation. Louise presented Shift, its travelling kitchen. Wiltshire Creative are grateful for the grant donated by SCC. The Young Ambassadors manifesto guides the organisations work. The Arts Festival is back this year. Shift puts young people first.

Community Transport, Elizabeth Piner, talked about this serve being in operation since 1996 as a voluntary service transporting people to where the need to go with 6 mini buses, which are available for community groups to use. This transport is provided to help reduce isolation, providing members of the community the means to get to where they need or want to go. Isolation can

create loneliness, loss of independence and reduce self-confidence. The bus creates a community. The funds provided by SCC have help fund the administration of the voluntary car service, with volunteer drivers taking people to appointments and well as activities.

Underground Studios, Andy Munns, one of the three directors, provided a presentation. They took on the Harnham Bunker in October 2021 and since have redecorated, install internet and equipment. The bunker is a safe place for young people to be creative, with activities including music production and radio studio. It is an alternative provision and is also an afterschool club, providing over 600 hours of activities so far. What's next? - to expand creative workshops, youth radio station, Arts Awards and community collaborations.

Rise 61, Simon Reeve, is a grant recipient and works with Bemerton Heath Community Centre. Rise 61 is a youth work charity based in Bemerton Heath that started in 2014. Bike hub was launched in October 2017 which was developed from an afterschool cycling club. In 2019 3 years of funding from SCC was received. Rise 61 has grown during the pandemic, with a new active hubs and a creative hub being built.

Tom Gailey, Salisbury City Council provided a presentation about the work of the two SCC Activity Leaders, Tom and Sean, and the importance of activity. Only 60% of adults and 40% of children get the weekly recommended amount of activity. The Activity Leaders work on sports development, engaging with sports clubs, community sports session such as afterschool clubs and free sports sessions. Sean focuses on activities such as community walking, senior games and disability football programme. Tom supports others created new projects/groups which can then go on to be independent clubs.

Sarah Gregson and Cllr Caroline Corbin thanked all the organisations that provided a presentation at the meeting and the work they have been and will be doing. The Mayor thanked all for attending and for their questions, also encouraging members of the public to contact their ward councillor if they have any further questions in future.

The meeting closed at 7:12pm

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