



## **Beer Community and Tourism Team (BCTT)**

Meeting was held @ Mariners Hall Beer on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021  
@ 7.30pm

### **Minutes**

**(22/09/21)**

**Minutes recorded and reported by; Kayleigh Westlake (BVEC) and CLLR Jessica Boulton**

**Chair ; CLLR Andy Cobbold and CLLR Geoff Pook**

**Present:** CLLR Mandy Graham, CLLR Emma Molony, Pauline Proctor, Graham Hughes (East Devon Crafts), Tracey Chapple, Richard Scott, Hilary Couzen, Jean Wood, Trevor Wood, Ruth Bullock, Wendy Dodd, Bill Grundy, Eric, David Boalch, Theo Boalch, Emma Phillips, Lisa Jennings, Norah Jagers, Henry Jagers (Beer Parish News), Grant Cueto

***Total attendance 24***

**Apologies for absence:** Chris Pickles, Jo Fox, Darren Clinch, Leona Reeves, Di Trewick, Karen Druce, Nigel Druce, Poppy Greig

Last minutes recorded on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 were approved by CLLR Mandy Graham and seconded by CLLR Geoff Pook

#### **4. Assest Transfer**

Geoff Pook explained that the Heads of Terms were with EDDC and that they were going to EDDC Cabinet on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021

There is still to be a vote to be taken place with for and against arguments to be presented

One comment to remember if EDDC want to sell they can and to others of whom could then do anything with the areas, we can say in control

As it stands EDDC set the stand of attractiveness, we need this in our hands



## **5. Hemingway Design Visioning Document**

Geoff summarised the intention of the project using the introduction from the Hemingway Vision Document and followed the site context. It was made clear that there are still plans for more public consultation with impact assessments to be drawn up and collate positive and negative impacts on each idea put forward, both residents and visitors input will be key in every step going forward.

Both Norah and Wendy expressed that the Jubilee and Charlies Yard are in dia need of a tidy/clean/DIY jobs to be done, it all looks tired, unkept and un-inviting. It was clearly highlighted that as we speak these areas are still EDDC to which they are to maintain and pay for any works undertaken at the moment.

Mandy did add that there is to be a revive of Beer Volunteer Group of whom do regularly go around and so these small jobs

Wendy is passionate about the upkeep of the village but worries that all volunteers are getting older and not being refreshed, who will take over? Maybe pay for someone to come in and maintain.

Norah is keen to keep “Wilding” and introduce “Bat Friendly” along with Clinton Devon Estates down into the village with the Beer Village Heritage Group and offered help if needed on this.

### ***Jubilee Gardens P5, P6, P12, P13, P14, P15, P16, P17, P18***

#### ***Tiered landscaping***

Tiered landscaping to create a natural amphitheatre for performances and seating space to enjoy the view, maybe take food and drinks down to enjoy – the consensus on this was very positive.

One question was “what is the capacity of the seating area that has been suggested?”

Emma was keen to keep the “Re-Wilding” part of the grassy Jubilee slope at the top as she feels it’s a great asset and has enjoyed many times there enjoying the wildlife with her child, this was made clear that the suggested tiers were not to go as high as that area mentioned.

#### ***Top gardens/Wooded area***

This space is currently being used by families where children have made rope swings which indicates the area is clearly used and enjoyed. There is opportunity to enhance these areas providing possible picnic areas - the general view is to “press on” and use more of that area but try and keep it natural

and within keep of the surroundings. We were told by Norah that this area has been voted in the past as the “Best picnic area in the country”

### ***Shelters***

Fishermans Shelter - to be opened up to allow views through or replace with modern shelter with architectural merit, the history of this building has been taken into consideration – all ideas were positive and there is motivation to make more use of it.

A few suggestions, maybe that would be a café for take away refreshments, possibly with a self-service machine/vending machine. Was even questioned if this building could be moved to another location, suggested Charlie yard?

Self-Shelter – was suggested this shelter would be re-modelled/adapted/extended - the idea to change/adapt this shelter was not quite as positive, it was suggested that there didn't need to be a lot of change for this shelter but maybe an additional conservatory for more shelter. There was limited support for this to become a café, it was suggested that it was to be user friendly with public throughfare.

It would be nice to have extra undercover area just outside of the shelf shelter with the use of removable sails possibly, something that can be used in the winter under cover.

It was noted that this shelter was used a lot though COVID for people to spend time outside but under cover, it has been seen to be used a lot quite recently.

The idea of the history along the inside wall was suggested here at first for people who possibly couldn't access the beach and visit the heritage hut.

### ***Toilets***

Make more efficient use of this existing space – this didn't amount to any conversation

Geoff added that the 72 sqft that the dated toilet block currently uses, the suggested new toilet block which would use natural/sustainable materials where possible would only use 25 sqft of this space, it was suggested that a retail may use the other 50 sqft space or even the current RNLI Hut.

### ***Childrens Play Area***

Jean Wood expressed that this area is ok and she didn't feel anything needed doing

Lisa Jennings and Emma Phillips both disagreed and suggested that this isn't the case, and with a group of local friends they would rather drive to other areas, Seaton, Branscombe, Lyme Regis and use a better equipped play area alongside of the chance of buying a coffee to sit and enjoy together

Attached in the Hemingway document was the existing plan from local man James Absalom, this plan was elaborate and unfortunately due to underground works was not manageable but they support the design proposals and the theme it follows as it fits with the surrounding areas.

The suggestion of relocating the memorial to the periphery of the play area was objected by no one and questioned the original existence of the memorial and whether it actually had anything to do with the village, caused a giggly conversation about its existence

### ***Surrounding concrete area of the Jubilee***

Suggestions

- Keep the WHOLE area public at all times
- Community area/Cafe
- Letting of a dedicated pitch for coffee hut (this was heavily agreed by most)
- Mobility of café important
- Possibly use the café idea more out of season
- Use any money/time/space to help existing traders/entrepreneurs
- Use local people and give them a chance
- Seating area/Covered shelter area/Open view

Was added that the Jubilee would soon have the outside electric sockets for use along the stone wall so there would easier access to electric

Events to be held here, heavily advertise this area what we have and what it can be used for

Beer is part of the Jurassic Coast Ambassadorship, need to use this and make more of it

### ***Charlies Yard***

Hemingways statement

“Charlies yard currently feels a little unloved and underutilised” this was widely agreed

“is not used regularly by locals or visitors” this was slammed down and not at all agreed with

The memorials need to stay!

Charlies Yard needs to be refreshed and majority would like to see a small change at present

One main point that was raised was the poor disabled access into Charlies yard

Emma Phillips had an amazing idea that most people seemed to agree with, use Charlies yard as a dedicated Fishermans area, it already houses the memorials of loved ones lost at sea which need to be kept and with the possibility of the Fishermans Hut being relocated here and possibly the RNLI Hut it would be a fantastic tribute to the Fisherman of the beach and fit well with the situated Heritage Hut opposite, maybe encourage more outside activities.

Norah expressed the need for roofing was an excellent idea covering the whole of Charlies yard, she thought it wouldn't detract from the view above either looking up or for others looking down

Charlies Yard needs to used more, it's a public space, for tourists and locals

Suggested pop-up food and drink providing a kitchen that could be used by multiple street traders offering a wide diverse range of different foods and drink

This would allow for water/drainage/electric making it easier for concessions to pull up and pop up

We would be able to advertise our areas for use, pitch invitations helping them make money with the idea of us doing the same, concessions would put us on the map and encourage their audience to visit us as a village

Pub – drink ~ Restaurant – Eat ~ income from these would be ploughed back through for expansion of other ideas within the village

It could be used 365 days a year and extend opening hours for the village

### ***Beer Beach***

This piece of land is EDDC and isn't in the Assest Transfer or the Hemingway Document

### ***Other***

- International Tourists want to eat and drink expressed Geoff Pook
- Tourism Survey didn't suggest the need for a café expressed Ricard Scott
- Richard Scott would like to see a consultation with visitors to the village, this was followed up by Geoff advising that this was going to be the case previously but COVID prevented this at the time, there will be a wider consultation day in the village, this in only the first stage, possibly combining the two and holding it at the end of October half term with Hemingways new proposal.

### ***Sea Hill***

Is has been noticed and recorded that the vehicle traffic using sea Hill is very heavy, alongside of pedestrians also using the hill to access the beach. They would like to see two separate accesses to the beach, one vehicle and one pedestrian Recorded by CLLR Emma Molony and Leona Reeves

Tracey Chapple thought there might be existing access from the play area to the beach behind the Fish Houses, it was being hidden by the years of over grown hedges and spoil being dumped there

**Research and find out if this is there and accessible**

Develop possibility to develop already existing positioned path behind the Heritage Hut/Fishermans Houses

### ***Car Parking***

Beer Village holds a BIG PARKING ISSUE

Beach Car Park will remain as a carpark if the assest transfer is completed

Tracey Chapple has monitored the Main Car Park, Central Long Stay Car Park, and noticed that it is constantly full with both visitors and residents, he worries that if we attract more people that there will be nowhere for them to park and get out of their car to enjoy any of the suggested

David Boalch suggested that a mini bus concession from the Top Car Park near the Caravan site would be an idea, Andy Cobbold relayed that there would be an issue with trying to keep traffic off the hill going upto the car park because of cliff falls and heavy use of this road may incur this to happen

Norah Jagers added that Clinton Devon sponsored the Sidmouth Hopper and maybe make a connection with those for future ideas on transporting visitors

Hilary Couzen thought it would be a good idea to also add Traffic/Transport on Fore Street within this consultation, she thinks going back to pedestrian only like the village previously done for COVID measures is a good idea

### ***Feedback***

This will be put back into the next consultation with Hemingway

The skill of design

### **6. Mailing List**

Kayleigh has produced a Beer Community and Tourism Team (BCTT) mailing list request form to which will be sent to the existing mailing list, new shop owners and audience of the Hemingway meets plus any others that show interest in joining the BCTT, please check your e-mails in the next few weeks as the form needs to be replied to – Many Thanks