

TEAM ABERGAVENNY

BETTER, TOGETHER

Update Report to the Bryn Y Cwm Area Committee on 13 July 2016

Since our last report in April this year we have the following items to update you with:

Communications.

- 1. The Open Talk Session in the Family Church was a little disappointing in terms of numbers turning up. We are now planning our first public Annual Meeting for September when we will invite others to become members and probably some of the Team will stand down to make way for new blood on the Team.*
- 2. Team Abergavenny's 2nd Newsletter is being circulated to members W/E 30th June.*

Development

- 3. We have submitted Business Cases for use of the £30k Seed Money which we were allocated earlier in the year. They are for:
Kitchen equipment for Abergavenny Community Centre £5000
Banners to lead people from the Maes to the Town, jointly with the Town Council £1500
Improved lighting access in the Borough Theatre - £15000
A consultant to get agreement from CADW to erect a tensile fabric canopy over the upper Brewery Yard Area. £2500
A contribution to new lighter weight market stalls in the Market Hall £6000*
- 4. This will exhaust the £30k capital money if approved. Our biggest problem is that as we have no revenue stream we are not able to contribute to a number of small schemes around the area which would enhance it and further our objectives of Food and Tourism developments.*
- 5. Now that the Town Centre redevelopment scheme is nearly complete we would like to record our thanks to Monmouthshire Engineers for their patience and cooperation in the creation of the scheme. We are sure that the outcome will be enhanced by the time taken to discuss proposals with local interest groups.*
- 6. We have been made aware of the outline plans to redevelop the Town Hall as a Hub to include the One Stop Shop and Library as one combined entity, the Borough Theatre and the Town Council. The outline allocation of space indicates some exciting opportunities and we look forward to seeing how this develops. It looks as if the future of this iconic building is secured for Community and Public use for a number of years to come if these plans are completed.*
- 7. Green spaces. Having restarted the proposal to enhance the existing Parks and Open Spaces in Abergavenny, it is being re-checked with the various Friends Groups before making a submission. It will also be necessary to discuss with MCC how the bid can be submitted as the property concerned is owned by MCC and it needs to be clear in the bid how the County Council will be linked with a bid for funds.*

Cooperation

- 8. We are working jointly with the Town and Community Councils in the Bryn y Cwm Area to develop a five year plan to bring together proposals for the improvement of the area. The attached e-mail was sent to Community Clerks recently with a request that they complete a proforma to tell us what is going on in their areas so that if possible we can assist them to meet their objectives. This is in line with the concept of Whole Place and is to encourage greater cooperation locally. Anything that Area Committee members can do to assist this process would be greatly appreciated.*

9. *Eisteddfod. Apart from the bid for banners to lead people from the Maes to the Town, we are seeking to encourage volunteers and local people generally to make the town tidy before the Eisteddfod arrives.*
10. *There is a particular need to work with the Town Council on this as under new Welsh Government Legislation they are obliged to formulate an annual plan. This cooperation is already starting.*

Structure

11. *We look forward to the completion of deliberations about the constitution of the Programme Board. Team Abergavenny has expressed its preference for a Programme Board based on the Bryn y Cwm Area Committee structure as it engages representatives from the whole Bryn y Cwm area, but it would be helpful if the new Programme Board could be put in place so that we know where we fit into the overall structure.*

1 July 2016



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June 2016
Dear Clerk,

Subject: Request for assistance please with the preparation of a vision and plan for North Monmouthshire to 2021 and beyond

You may be aware that a new planning initiative is getting underway to produce a comprehensive and easy-to-read summary of our vision, strategy and action plans for this area, enabling all interested parties to actively “speak with one voice” as far as this is possible. We are drawing of course on the various plans which have been prepared in recent years, and also on a range of new ideas and priorities. The first page of the attachment to this email explains the initiative more fully.

Team Abergavenny is coordinating this planning, and will be working with the Town Council and community groups in the town on those parts of the plan relating to Abergavenny itself.

I am writing to ask also for your support and your assistance please with those parts of the plan relating to your Community. We are also interested to hear of your views on priorities for the Town. The attachment contains a questionnaire, a few guidelines on how to complete it and contact details if you have any queries. We would be very grateful if you could give this some consideration and let us have your response by 16 September. If you do not wish to participate, please let us know - your section would then be included as a blank page.

The draft of the overall plan will be available for review later in the year. It will not be published without Community Council agreement to those sections relating to their responses.

Monmouthshire CC are also going to provide guidance and the initiative will seek to align with legislation from the Welsh Government pertaining to this area. As you might imagine

though, with many different interested parties, our top priority is on making sure the plan works for North Monmouthshire as a whole, supporting well-being and prosperity over the coming years.

With thanks and regards

Alan Michie

Chair – Team Abergavenny (*which covers North Monmouthshire*)

Peter Johns

Secretary – Team Abergavenny