

Bude Partnership Minutes



Meeting Held on 22nd February 2008
At the Falcon Hotel, Bude

Present: Nicky Chopak (Chair), Alison Rowe (Community Coordinator), Brian Dixon, Nigel Pearce (NCDC), Dan Rogerson MP for North Cornwall, Phil Coop (Police), Lucille Opie (Bude Forum), Bryan Stamp (Bude Forum and Atlantic Highway), Vicki Morrison (Youth), Simon Swale (MCTA) (ex-officio), Heather Bolitho, Jaqi Heard, , David Barton (Budehaven Community School), David Chadwick (NCDC) (Ex officio) , Birgit Dell (BATB) John Gimson (Potential Film Club), Anne Longley, Val Newman (Member NCDC), Andrea Vaillancourt-Alder (Bude Canal regeneration Project)

1 Apologies had been received from:

Nicky Newberry, Peter La Broy (Mayor in personal capacity), Barbara Simpson (Bude Concert Orchestra), Christine Bilsland (Bude Forum), Ian Rigby, Kevin Harris (BSTC), Neil Tibbitts (Bazeley Partnership), Mandy Jefferies (Bude Childrens' Centre), Jane Greatbatch, Daryl: Fire Officer, Sally Lewis (NCDC ex-officio), Lindsey Pooley (BARC), Dr Angus Macdonald GP, Ada McCormick (Learning Shop – Cornwall College), Sian Flynn.

2 **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting on 15th December 2007 were considered and agreed. It was noted that the Workshop to determine and agree Strategies had also been held on 22nd January 2008. The notes of this workshop were circulated as a draft Strategic Plan.

Matters arising and up-date reports were as follows:

2.1 **Town signage:** Nicky reported that the Town Council, had decided to design this themselves. The new sign will incorporate the Bude Coat of Arms and not the new logo. This may be up by Easter.

It may be possible to put a sign with the logo onto Lloyds Bank **Action: Nicky**

2.2 **MP:** Dan Rogerson MP was welcomed to the meeting.

2.3 **NCDC:** It was reported that Sally Lewis has now starting working part time for One Cornwall (the proposed new unitary authority) and is only available part time to assist the Bude Partnership.

Ali reported that she had met with Sian Flynn, Potential Parliamentary Candidate as requested.

2.4 **Crooklets:** It has been reported at the last meeting that Crooklets beach is to be improved, as money was previously ear-marked (NCDC). The Crooklets Beach Sub-Committee (Lee, Nigel, Lucille and Peter (in personal capacity)) had met on 17th December and Lucille reported . A landscape architect had been engaged by Charlie at the council, in fulfilment of the results of consultation some years ago, the design will incorporate the views of local people and there is to be a meeting on 7th March to agree a concept for the design. The site is complex and the design phase will run through the summer so implementation will only take place in September. Various planning etc consents will be required. Discussions are also taking place with the owner of the privately owned part of the seafront, hoping that this can be tied into the wider development. People were asked to pass ideas etc to Jolion Sharpe responsible for

Beach Development and Ali was asked to add him to the circulation list for Bude Partnership. **Action: Ali**

It was proposed that the grass play area near the café should be developed with play equipment and a sand pit. Nigel agreed to investigate such equipment that is made in Newquay. **Action: Nigel**

It was noted that the RNLI and the Bude Surf Life Saving Club are also seeking funding for considerable improvements at Crooklets and will incorporate a surf life saving school.

- 2.5 Headland:** It was noted that the application to develop the old night club on the headland had been refused.
- 2.6 Strand Hotel:** It was noted that the Strand Hotel now had SOLD signs up and there is activity around the site. It was agreed that Ali should investigate what progress had been made etc. **Action: Ali**
- 2.7 MCTA: Nicky explained that the MCTA is being dissolved by the RDA on 31st March 2008.**

Simon reported that:

- (a) The contract with Bude Partnership was being extended to 30th June. It was **agreed** that Nicky should sign this. The contract was for a completed Strategic Plan, a list of activities and projects that would be pursued by the Bude Partnership and details of a mechanism by which these projects will be achieved: June 30th is now the final date.
- (b) His role (post) has been extended until 30th June so that he would be available to assist Bude through the process of development and launch of the Strategic Plan
- (c) Simon reported that MCTA had money available for additional consultancy and it was **agreed** that Ali and Nicky should draw up terms of reference for some consultancy help to assist with locating available funding. This money could only be used to buy the services of a consultancy that is on the MCTA panel. **Action: Nicky and Ali**

- 2.8 Community Coordinator Contract (Ali Rowe):** The money available from MCTA will allow the contract with Ali (due to end on 31st March) to be extended to 30th June, and Nicky is investigating the availability of funds to enable Ali's contract to be extended further. Unfortunately her application to NCDC had been rejected. She reported that Launceston Forum are in a similar situation (although they are ahead of Bude in terms of their MCTi Strategic Plan) and it was agreed that Bude Partnership should work closely with the Launceston Forum in terms of finding funds to enable the continued work on regeneration of the two towns. **Action: Nicky**

- 2.9 Bude and District Forum: Parish Plans** It was reported that the Forum will be dissolving itself at a meeting planned for June. It was **agreed** that it is crucial that the work already carried out to develop Parish Plans should not be lost. Sally Lewis (who has held the reins from NCDC) has already moved some of her time to One Cornwall, so there is a real risk of this work slipping. After discussions with Ali, Nicky reported that she had indicated to NCDC that the Bude Partnership and Community Coordinator would pick up this work, there is some money available to cover this work. It was **agreed** that the Parish Plans must be seen as an integral part of the Bude Strategic Plan. Nicky and Ali will discuss this with Sally Lewis. **Action: Nicky and Ali** It was **agreed** that the Bude Partnership must not be Bude-centric and the parishes must not be left out.

2.10 Road Surfacing:

It was reported that the road surfaces in Bude town centre were being re tarmacked. Queen Street had been surfaced wrongly previously and it was agreed that since it is not to be re-surfaced at this time, this would be an ideal moment to approach Highways Department about Pedestrianisation. It was **agreed** that in our consultation, a large number of people had called for Pedestrianisation (none had argued against) and that Ali and Nicky should write along these lines to the Highways department. Pedestrians should have priority, with the road done in such a way as to allow deliveries to businesses. **Action: Nicky and Ali**

It was agreed that the names of the parishes should be shown in the summary plan and Ali agreed to add a parish map.

Nicky mentioned that the Bude Chamber of Commerce is also discussing its future

3 Draft Summary Strategic Plan (tabled)

Ali presented a first draft of the summary plan. She explained that there will also be a much longer and more detailed version of the plan, for the members of the Bude Partnership and for all our partners. This draft, as presented is for the general public and will be designed to demonstrate to the local population that their views have been received and heard and incorporated into the plan. There will need to be a major launch of the plan, when finalised and published, to ensure that the community own and can participate in the implementation phase. Nicky asked members present for their first thoughts on the draft before them.

A discussion took place around the need to emphasise the Cornish identity of Bude and it was **agreed** that this would be added to the next draft. The cover needs to make reference to Cornwall (**Kernow**). The draft referred to Bude culture and the need to add 'Cornish culture' was **agreed**. It was suggested that 'if the plan is the broadcloth, Cornishness and Cornish culture should be woven through it'. Dan Rogerson was pleased to see references to the need for signs to be in Cornish (**Kernewek**) as well as English; he reported that there is a general move to use written Cornish more. He suggested that some words of **Kernewek** should be added to the summary plan.

There was a brief discussion about the CUC and about **Convergence**, both of which are referred to in the summary plan and it was **agreed** that a close eye should be kept on both of these to ensure that they would both arrive in Bude. It was agreed that the increase in **employment land** was crucial to the improvement of peoples' lives and incomes in the Bude area. Dan Rogerson was pleased to see references to **allotments** and reported that councils were required to provide these where there is a stated need. He also advised that care should be taken to ensure that peoples' expectations were not raised too high.

It was noted that both Stratton and Poughill have lost their shops/Post Offices and this was a matter of regret that should be reflected in the plan.

It was noted that there is a need to add statistics into the main report.

It was agreed that 'The Future of the Bude Area' needed revising. This title and potential strap lines were discussed, as well as the 'Long Term Vision'. It was

agreed that people would consider these issues and send their thoughts to Ali with their other comments by 29th Feb (as below).

Comments and amendments: It was **agreed** that Ali should circulate a text only version of this first draft **and** that that members should send their comments and suggested amendments to Ali by Friday 29th February to enable her to put together into a second draft ready for the next meeting. Ali agreed to set the text only version to 'Track Changes' so that as people made suggested changes, these would be shown, and would be easy for her to pick up.

It was suggested that there should also be a table of proposed projects and actions and a record of successes to date.

4 Governance

Simon explained that it is important for the Bude Partnership to develop a mechanism for putting all our plans into place and ensure that the unitary authority is aware of everything that we are doing, when they are considering setting up Community Area Networks.

4.1 Bude Stratton Town Council

It was noted that once again there was no representative present from the Town Council. Obviously it is important that the Town Council should be involved in all the meetings as it is such a crucial part of all the work that the Partnership is doing. It was agreed that Nicky should request a slot at which she and Ali could present our draft plan to the Town Council at their next meeting and should ask if we still have a representative from the council **Action: Nicky and Ali.**

Ali was asked to contact each member of the Town Council individually. Their addresses are available on the website. **Action: Ali**

4.2 Other Governance Issues

It was noted that Sally Lewis is now ideally placed to assist us with communications into One Cornwall, as well as her old role in NCDC.

Dan Rogerson stated that he wished to be involved and to help wherever he can. If there are agencies (especially where these are outside the immediate area) that he might be able to contact on our behalf, we only have to let him know.

5 Theme Group Reports

Town Centre: Nigel reported that he had done some research and that it had become clear from looking at Google Earth that there was only a short distance from the existing parking spaces at Summerleaze and the Town Centre, if a new right of way was created past Adventure International. He had calculated that it was 250 paces to Belle Vue. It was **agreed** that this idea should be pursued as part of the Bude Partnership commitment to address the parking situation in Bude.

6 Any Other Business

- It was noted that the town is running out of burial space and Poughill will have no more in the next 12 months.

- It was noted that the website needs to be amended – when minutes are opened they are not in a new window and so when they are closed, the whole website is closed. It was agreed that Ali should approach Mark, who kindly runs the website for us free of charge, to ask if this can be changed. **Action: Ali**
- **Canal Regeneration:** Andrea reported that there had been a road test of the cobble surfaces associated with the Canal Regeneration. The review of this test will take place on March 4th at the Brasserie to which all would be welcome.
- Bryan drew attention to the AGM of the Bude Canal & Harbour Society on 24th Feb to which all would be welcome. The speaker will be Neil Burden. It was agreed that Ali should make contact with the Society in a formal way to ensure the two organisations can work closely together. **Action: Ali**

7 Date of Next Meeting

Main meeting: Publication Sub-Committee: Friday 14th March: 9.30 at the Falcon to discuss details of publication of the summary (and full) Strategic Plan. Also to agree timetable for publication and launch.

(Meeting for all who want to be involved in this)

Ali to contact 'Perfect Moment' (Kevin Brownridge) to see if they might be available to attend this meeting, with a view to carrying out some consultancy work for the Bude Partnership (as in 2.7 (c) above) **Action: Ali**