

St Thomas Community Association Annual General Meeting

Minutes and Action Log

Date: Sunday 5th March 2017, 20:00hrs, St Thomas Methodist Church Lounge

Present: Kathy Rufolo (STCA Chair), PCSO Ellen Holah, PCSO Will Malcolm, Simon Lane (Environmental Health and Licensing Manager, Exeter City Council), Hayley Tay, Cllr. Hannah Packham, Mary Ann Jennings (STCA Fundraising Coordinator), Mike Walling (St Thomas Emergency Group), Chloe Pooley (Exeter Community Initiatives), Mic Morgan, Chrissy Allott (Friends of St Thomas Library), Phil Bialyk, Fr Charles Keay (St Thomas Parish Church), Phil Annetts, Dale Hurrell, Rosalind Johnson (STCA Volunteer Coordinator), Karl Zumar.

Notes: RJ

No.	Decision or Action or Message?	Who?	When?	Who needs to be told?	Action completed?
1.	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Maggie Bonfield (STCA Secretary), Rob Turner, Celia Hitchings, Joe Levy (STCA Youth Coordinator), John Taylor, Sue Taylor (Bloom'In St Thomas), Dave Hubbard (St Thomas Emergency Group), Karina Bailey (STCA Treasurer), Laura Robinson.</p> <p>KR initiated introductions from each person, going around the room.</p>				
2.	<p>Accuracy of the Notes of the last meeting – 12/02/17</p> <p>Agreed.</p>				
3.	<p>Action Points from the last meeting</p> <p>KR ran through the actions from the last meeting.</p> <p>KR to consider labelling property belonging to the STCA e.g. litter pickers.</p>	KR + help	ASAP		
4.	<p>Chairperson Report to include Festival matters</p> <p>KR – the St Thomas Festival sub-committee are starting work on planning and booking resources. The expression-of-interest form has gone live and is collecting applications from stall holders and performers.</p>				
5.	<p>Communications Report to include update re. website/social media</p> <p>RJ – ran through communications update as per report attached.</p>				
6.	<p>A-Team Update</p> <p>RJ – 15 new subscribers to the A-Team mailing list in the last two months.</p>				

7.	<p>Treasurer Update Not discussed.</p>				
8.	<p>Fundraising Report to include aimed for target Not discussed.</p>				
9.	<p>Youth Co-ordinator update Not discussed.</p>				
10.	<p>A.O.B</p> <p><u>Guest speaker – Simon Lane, Environmental Health and Licensing Manager at Exeter City Council re. anti-social behaviour in St Thomas</u></p> <p>SL – The role of Environmental Health and Licensing Manager covers many things such as food, taxis, alcohol, gambling, street trading and anti-social behaviour. ECC are very much a part of all communities in Exeter. Anti-social behaviour can be criminal and ECC work with the police to solve issues on a collective basis. The new Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) looks at tackling the individuals and the root causes rather than criminalising those involved. There have been problems with the use of needles in the area and a rise of homelessness. ECC has been doing a lot of work with these people to give them a helping hand.</p> <p>PCSO WM – is aware there are issues. The Exe Bridges Retail Park arches fence has been erected causing some individuals to move to a location behind the Riverside Leisure Centre. These are homeless people with drug and alcohol issues and a minority of them do not want help. Where there are people using drugs, there can also be an increase in theft. It has been agreed that this area behind the Riverside Leisure Centre will also be fenced off. PCSO WM is working with SL to get help for these people. ECC are working to ensure that needles are picked up and disposed of. Disposal points for sharps have been installed in the public toilets. It's been noted there is an Exeter Food Fight stall operating from the St Thomas Precinct on Sunday mornings and people have identified to PCSO WM that various individuals are being attracted to the area by this stall. PCSO WM will not target individuals but the PSPO will make it easier for PCSOs to move people on if there is good reason to do so.</p> <p>SL – The PSPO covers the taking of intoxicating substances in public. Geographically, it covers Cowick Street, the St Thomas Precinct and the Pleasure Ground.</p> <p>Cllr HP – Some residents have raised concerns about whether the area covered is sufficient.</p> <p>DH – Needles have been found discarded on Lawrence Avenue.</p>				

<p>SL – No. There are only 3 in the city. It’s currently being reviewed by politicians to find the best way of dealing with needle disposal. There needs to be a balance between where they will be effective and where they might be abused. The needle disposal boxes have been in place for a year now.</p> <p>Cllr HP – Thank you to SL, PCSO WM and their teams for all the work they do. Exeter is one of 10 worst cities in the country for homelessness. Anti-social behaviour is a separate issue. People worry that needle boxes will attract users.</p> <p>PCSO WM – The drug users tend to concentrate in a particular area and then move on. Please contact PCSO WM if there are any concerns.</p> <p>DH – A lack of lighting is an issue and makes anti-social behaviour worse.</p> <p>Cllr HP – Councillors campaigned against the light switch-off policy. There is concern re. anti-social behaviour in places such as Pinces Gardens.</p> <p>SL – ECC will be continually reviewing the data and what tools there are to solve issues.</p> <p>PCSO WM – A lot of people blame the youth however youth anti-social behaviour has dropped significantly in the last 10 years. Currently, the rate is quite low.</p> <p>SL – Anti-social behaviour tends to be people between the ages of 20s-40s and not school age young people.</p> <p>KR – As a Community Association, what can we do? Joe Levy is our new STCA Youth Coordinator and is working with Chloe Pooley and Laura Robinson.</p> <p>PCSO WM – there are a lot of disadvantaged youths who could be helped with activities such as sport. There is various funding and we are happy to help the Youth Coordinator.</p> <p>KR – We would like to get everyone in touch with one another so that coordinated strategies can be developed. At the next meeting, we shall make the focus on Youth Strategy.</p> <p>CP to talk with St Thomas building owners to find out whether it might be possible to hold various youth events.</p> <p>Fr CK to advise CP when the Parish Hall is available.</p> <p>KR – thank you to SL and PCSOs WM and EH for their input.</p>	<p>CP</p> <p>Fr CK</p>	<p>As required</p> <p>As required</p>		
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	<p><u>Pinces Gardens Tea Party</u> CP reported on behalf of Laura Robinson: Von Fryer is planning the Tea Party for 21st May 2017. A Punch & Judy show has been booked.</p> <p><u>Fundraising Pub Quiz</u> CP – Planning to run a fundraising pub quiz on 31st March. MAJ volunteered to assist. CP and MAJ to confer.</p> <p>Cllr HP – We could do an outreach activity event at Merrivale Youth Centre. There is a good park adjoining the centre. CP to investigate this possibility.</p> <p>KR – Please can everyone continue to bring ideas for smaller events. The STCA has insurance to cover events throughout the year.</p>	<p>CP/MAJ</p> <p>CP</p> <p>ALL</p>	<p>By next meeting</p> <p>By next meeting</p> <p>Ongoing</p>		
11	<p>Date of the next meeting Sunday 2nd April 2017, 20:00hrs, St Thomas Methodist Church Lounge.</p>				