

MINUTES of a Teignmouth Senior Council committee meeting held on March 9, 2009.

1. Attending: Professor Frank Hartley (chairman), Mary Awcock (secretary), Richard Watkins (treasurer), Paul Fluck (minutes secretary and publicity), Jim Corben (vice chairman), Eileen Brierley, Pamela Martin, John Vaughan and Sue Watkins.

2. Frank reported that Alan Garnett had resigned from the committee. It was decided that a replacement should be found at the annual meeting. Richard said we would need more expertise to fulfil our programme.

3. The committee debated the role of the senior council in view of concern expressed about possible housing development near New Road. Richard felt our role should be to see if development impacted on the services needed by the older community. Sue said there was a remoteness between local senior councils and the Assembly, who seemed to be operating at a different level. She and Richard were attending a meeting of the Assembly the following week and would raise the question about how local councils could campaign.

4. We agreed to be represented on the Teignmouth Housing Strategy Group. Pam agreed to serve, with John willing to attend meetings which did not clash with his other commitments.

5. The minutes of the previous committee meeting were approved and signed.

6. Mary provided new dates for meetings in the Action Plan: Friday March 20 Amanda Trafford, Cluster Manager; Friday April 17 AGM and Inspector Shaw; May 19 Lucie Burnell Care, Direct and Benefits; Friday June 19 Jo Willcocks, Trading Standards, all at the Carlton Theatre at 2pm.

7. Pam reported that David Johnstone, Devon County Council Director for Social Services, had spoken on the radio that morning about concerns about the ageing population. Someone in Teignmouth had produced a book about health. And it had been suggested that parking fees should be levied at hospitals. Questions were drawn up for Amanda's talk.

8. In his report as treasurer, Richard said expenditure to the end of February had been £521. A £170 bill was expected from Teignmouth News arising from the placing of an "advertorial" on behalf

of the council, so the out-turn for the year was expected to be about £800. A sum of £500-£600 for publicity would be included in next year's budget.

9. In her report as secretary, Mary said we now had 37 members. She would be advertising the Annual General Meeting in the Teignmouth News.

10. On transport, Sue said the county-wide Transport Focus Group was not addressing problems outside Exeter. Plans were being made for four or five regional groups, with a proposed budget of £250.

Minutes of a directors' meeting showed that regional groups were being developed regarding care homes and that area-based computer training was planned. It was recognised that groups needed help to boost membership, so it was planned to outsource to a Community Enterprise Unit the work of developing a plan to take this forward, with a proposed budget of £25,000. Sue said the Department of Work and Pensions had also approached SCfD to put on a similar event to that held at Newton Abbot racecourse in 2007. Three regional events would be considered due to the size of the county. A committee would be formed at a total cost of £1,500. Significant work was required on advertising such as developing a corporate image, producing a newsletter, appointing a press officer, publishing press releases, developing the website and developing a partnership with other organisations. Outsourcing might be necessary; a new team was to be formed. Sally had now ordered 15 laptops, 20 display boards, laser printers, projectors and computer equipment.

11. Jim reported that it was unlikely that the Boundary Committee report would be published until October. This meant that it would be 2011 before any changes would come into effect.

12. Paul reported on publicity, including an "advertorial" about the council which would appear in this week's Teignmouth News.

13. Future committee meetings agreed were: April 9 at Frank's home, May 11 at Mary's home (with Jim to preside), June 1 (Sue) and July 13 (Frank).