



## Annual General Meeting

4th June 2008

6:30, The Cider House, Kilver Street, Shepton Mallet  
Minutes

**Present:** Zena Pollard, Lorraine Pratten, Rob Gilderthorp, Jo Christoforides, Sonia Pike, Alan Stone, Chris Inchley, Margaret Robinson, Guy Braga (MDC), Carol Dauncey, Paul Hooper, Dave Brown, Kevin Newton, Andrew Hambly-Smith, Anne Martin, Michael Perry, Rob Reed, Andrea Kent, Simon Davies

**1. Welcome: Zena Pollard, Chair**

Zena gave a warm welcome to everyone attending Shepton 21's first annual general meeting and a big thank you to Kevin Newton, Coxley Developments and to Andrew Hambly-Smith, The Academy, tonight's guest speakers.

**2. Apologies:** Graham Knight, Rowena Kinsman, Viv Bronson, Janet Kinison, Ian Jarman, Bob Champion, Dick Masters, Jane Abrahall, John Parham, Jeanette Marsh, Nigel Hewett-Cooper, Andrea White

**3. Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of Shepton 21 Regeneration Partnership, 26<sup>th</sup> March 2007, The Shrubbery Hotel, Shepton Mallet**  
Agreed

**4. Matters Arising**

None

**5. Task Group Reports**

**CATEC, Community, Advice, Training & Education Centre:** Sonia Pike, Chair

Sonia Pike reported the feasibility study was well underway with an addition to the original remit of the Town Council Civic Centre. She explained, although it had been a long and bureaucratic process, once the green light was given from the Regional Development Agency (RDA) for funding, consultants were appointed to carry out a business plan and feasibility study. Shepton Mallet Town Council, Sh21 and MDC are all signed up and we hope to know in 2-3 months whether the project is economically viable. Sonia paid a warm tribute to Guy Braga and thanked him for his unending support throughout the year. There was a round of applause.

**Links:** Guy Braga, Area Regeneration Officer, MDC

Links was born out of the idea of creating sustainable links with our neighbours in the surrounding villages and towns and GB explained that several projects that Shepton 21 has embraced fall into this category. These projects are long term and involve many other organisations and if successful will have enormous upside for Shepton. MUPS, the Multi User Paths involves extending the Strawberry line from Shepton to Wells. Sustrans became involved and since then the project has gone from strength to strength. Shepton 21 is also working with East Somerset Railway, (ESR) to try to get the railway up and running and with a goal to build a new station.

**Town Centre Task Group:** Jo Christoforides, Chair

One of the roles of the task group JC explained is to enhance the image of the town. JC emphasised in order to market the town, to potential businesses and shoppers, initial improvements were necessary to lift the town's appearance. There are three projects currently underway.

- The Town Centre Facelift Project

***A Partnership Project with MDC***

In February with the help of MDC Officers Guy Braga and Paul Tomlinson, Shepton 21 secured £50,000 of 106 monies from the CMCP to help develop, launch and administrate the Town Centre Face Lift. The project, a redecorating scheme for the High Street, includes shop fronts and other properties within the 106 designated boundaries. The project will run for one year and is based on a first come, first served basis. The committee overseeing the project will include Shepton 21, MDC and The Town Council. We are pleased to report that the project was launched on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and will run parallel with the Heritage Initiative Scheme.

- The Market Regeneration Project:

***A Partnership Project with MDC***

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> May, an enhanced market took place in the market square. In addition to the regular stallholders, local producers added to the day along with music from the Somerset Levellers. The market was a huge success and Sh21 and MDC are in negotiations about the best way forward for the market.

- Interactive Town Website: Sh21 is creating an interactive website for the town and is working with Michael Perry, Goldenhart Ltd. The idea is to create one good website for the town with links to the COC, Town Council and the Tourist Information Centre.

**Events:** Alan Stone, PR

- The Food Crawl, Senior Citizens Day and Better Businesses in Shepton

Alan Stone reported the TCTG held several successful micro projects over the last year in an effort to bring the community and businesses together: The Food Crawl, The Senior Citizens Day and the Better Businesses in Shepton, (*a partnership project with the COC*). Shepton 21 and the COC hope to have another Better Businesses for Shepton in the autumn and another Food Crawl is on the agenda.

- Collett Park Concerts 2008

***A Partnership Project with the COC and the Town Council***

For the second time, Collett Park will host a series of concerts every Sunday in July. This year the COC and Sh21 have worked together on the project and we are pleased to announce that sponsorship has also come from the business community. It is a series of concerts with a difference this year. Brass Bands will entertain the community the first three Sundays, but the fourth concert will host 2 Youth Bands.

6. **Financial Report:** Rob Gilderthorp, Treasurer

Rob Gilderthorp explained Shepton 21's year-end was 31<sup>st</sup> March. After reporting on the accounts he asked for questions.

Website: Paul Hooper asked about the website expenditure. RG explained that the website costs fall into two categories. One is administration, which includes the cost of the original website (created by Andy Towner), Internet connections, software & yearly maintenance fees. The second category of costs is for the new interactive website, which Jo Christoforides talked about earlier.

Digital Arts Festival: Anne Martin asked what a Digital Arts Festival was and ZP explained.

7. **Chairman's Report**

Zena thanked everyone who supported Sh21 over the last year and reported on the accomplishments and inroads Shepton 21 was making in the community and with partnership organisations like MDC and the COC. She hoped that relations could improve between Shepton 21 and the Town Council. She acknowledged that Shepton 21 needed more members and added, it is hoped that an announcement

will be made in the near future that will hopefully forge a closer relationship between the Bath & West and Shepton 21. Zena went on to thank Carol Dauncey, Guy Braga, SMTC, MDC and all other partnership organisations and particularly the COC.

## **8. ELECTION OF SHEPTON 21 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

### Honorary Appointments

Zena Pollard nominated Chair by Lorraine Pratten & seconded by Jo Christoforides  
Lorraine Pratten nominated Vice Chair by Zena Pollard & seconded by Alan Stone  
Rob Gilderthorp nominated Treasurer by Zena Pollard & seconded by Chris Inchley

### Management Committee Appointments

Alan Stone nominated by Zena Pollard & seconded by Margaret Robinson  
Chris Inchley nominated by Zena Pollard & seconded by Paul Hooper  
Jo Christoforides nominated by Lorraine Pratten & seconded by Zena Pollard  
Margaret Robinson nominated by Jo Christoforides & seconded by Lorraine Pratten  
Sonia Pike nominated by Zena Pollard & seconded by Alan Stone  
Dave Brown nominated by Alan Stone & seconded by Rob Gilderthorp  
A representative of the Bath & West nominated by Zena Pollard & seconded by Sonia Pike  
A representative of the Chamber of Commerce nominated by Zena Pollard & seconded by Alan Stone.  
Shepton Mallet TC have advised that their representative is John Parham.

## **9. Guest Speakers**

### Kevin Newton, Coxley Developments & Andrew Hambly-Smith, The Academy

Kevin Newton reported developing a leisure centre is a key part of the Coxley Developments plans for the town. Daunted but not defeated, after a bruising round with MDC, Mr Newton reported he is looking at alternative sites, as the old Tesco site could become a Dobbies Garden Centre. The work above Boots is now complete giving a much-needed boost to the market square. The next step is The Academy's' much needed front door and the three-storey glass atrium may be abandoned for a less expensive frontage. Andrew Hambly-Smith reported the year-end show *Just So* was just around the corner. A Friends of The Academy Scheme is to be launched and they hoped to hear by March 2009 whether The Academy would receive university status.

## **10. Closing**

Our Chairman, Zena, before formally closing the meeting, said how positive she felt about what had been achieved this year and asked all to help make the coming year even better. She then added particular thanks to our special guests Kevin Newton, Andrew Hambly-Smith for their updates.

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\* Attachments: 2007-2008 Year End Financial Report

**Shepton 21 Regeneration Partnership**  
**Income & Payments Account**  
**26 March 2007 – 31 March 2008**

**Income**

Initial Funds held by MDC	30341.89	
Claims recovered from SWRDA	18631.50	
SMTC Administration Grant	9000.00	
Bank Interest	330.04	
VAT recovered	<u>1574.97</u>	
		59878.40

**Payments**

**Administration**

Administration Contract Fees	9489.38	
Postage, Stationery, Printing	795.44	
Telephone	829.91	
Rent	2000.00	
Website development & broadband	1335.13	
Insurance	434.75	
Sundry Expense	196.53	
Advertising	<u>352.50</u>	
		15433.64

**Projects**

Project Development Worker	5204.00	
Events Co-ordinator Fees	1585.00	
ESR Feasibility Study	4435.62	
Mendip Food & Drink Festival	150.00	
Better Shops & Businesses Event	1000.00	
Digital Arts Festival Feasibility Study	2175.00	
Collett Park Day	235.00	
Food Crawl	415.38	
Christmas and Senior Citizens Event	266.36	
Interactive Website for Town	<u>1250.00</u>	
		16716.36

<b><u>Depreciation of Assets</u></b>	<u>658.50</u>	32808.50
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<b><u>Excess of Income over Payments</u></b>		27069.90
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RS Gilderthorp

Treasurer  
April 2008

**Shepton 21 Regeneration Partnership**  
**Balance Sheet as of**  
**31 March 2008**

**Fixed Assets**

I T Equipment	1578.72	
Software	102.23	
Telephone Equipment	96.67	
Display Items	<u>856.58</u>	
	2634.50	
Less Depreciation	658.50	
		1976.00

**Current Assets**

Sundry Debtors	182.10	
Cash Barclays Tracker Account	15330.04	
Cash Barclays Current Account	10578.30	
Cash in Hand	12.85	
		28079.29

**Less Liabilities**

Current Liabilities		
Creditors		<u>9.39</u>
		28069.90

**Represented By**

Railway Station Dismantling Fund	1000.00
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**Accumulation Fund**

Excess of Income over Payments	27069.90
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**28069.90**

R S Gilderthorp

Treasurer  
April 2008