



Villages Together Partnership Meeting
 7pm – 9 pm Thursday 11th July 2019
 Woolavington Village Hall - Lounge

Date	7pm – 9 pm Thursday 11th July 2019
Venue	Woolavington Village Hall - Lounge
Attendance	Lucy Robinson (V), Tracy Chapman (V), Hannah Tanner (V), Liz Cook (V), Simon Bale (V), Peter Beer (WVM), Helen Baker (NVM), Julie Coleman (PVM), Sharon Collard (CPL), Angi Lewis (V), Lee Martin-Scull (V), Susan Gould (PVM), Peter Hardwidge (WVM), Robert Hemms (NVM), Sophie Cowdell (BLR), Alan Sharp (VCH), Vanda Crow (CH)
Apologies	Julie Cooper, Angela Gascoigne

Agenda

1. Introductions and apologies for absence^[SEP]Membership agreement, conflicts of interest
2. Agree minutes of June 12th meeting, matters arising and actions.
3. Sunshine preschool project? – Lucy presenting
4. Brief update from Sharon
5. Brief update from Simon Bale — EDF funding
6. Finance update.
7. Teatime Topic – Small business grant application forms and criteria. What do members want included? Judging Dream scheme logo competition.
8. Community grants — The Hub Woolavington £1000 – Community Lottery
9. Priority area (project) application – Puriton Community Orchard
10. Woolavington Hand bell ringers - £300 maintenance of bells
11. A.O.B
12. Date of next meeting Wednesday –14th August 7pm – 9pm Puriton – Village hall

	Item	Comments and actions
1	Introductions and apologies for absence. Membership agreement, conflicts of interest	LN, PH and PB all declared interest in The Hub funding application. No other interests were declared.
2	Agree minutes of June 12th meeting, matters arising and actions	<p>The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the June meeting A craft business in Puriton has approached VT and wishes to speak with VC. SC will give VC their name.</p> <p>Woolavington Hub Celebration Event: how did VT funding contribute to the success of the weekend? PH to summarise progress.</p> <p>Villages Together to pre-populate a document which states that all grants received are on the understanding that the group adheres to current Safeguarding and DBS legislation. Population of doc done.</p> <p>Logo plaques to be purchased and supplied to groups. Still being dealt with. The plaque is to include the phrase “Supported by”.</p> <p>Discuss ways to link with the YWIES (Yew Wah China) School based at Knowle Hall. Links to Chinese School ongoing.</p> <p>Neil Allen to visit September meeting and look at budgets. Public Health meeting.</p> <p>Responding to health issues as cuts continue to bite. Perhaps schedule this for our October meeting so as to keep the meetings clear for other important things emerging.</p>

		<p>Perhaps as an extra meeting, with food, to look also at review.</p> <p>Orchard in Woolavington No progress</p> <p>Social Media To be the subject of a future Team Time Topic</p>
3		<p>This item was presented at the start of the meeting in order that Lucy would be able to leave before the main business began.</p> <p>Lucy answered many questions regarding the project and the expected use of the VT funds, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many children are from outside of the village? About 6. 2. How is the project publicised? Some word of mouth, a lot of social media and open mornings have all been helpful. There is a lot of isolation amongst young mums in particular and in relation to the new housing. Open mornings can help with this people in. 3. Do children receive statutory funding? When they turn three, but sometimes aged two also. There is often discussion regarding hours and availability. Funding explanations are complex. Therefore September to December is a vulnerable time because children have moved on to school. 4. What are the projects ideas for own fundraising? Always ongoing: Halloween Disco, Bingo, ... Until now, these have always been in house, hosted by and the event held during preschool. (E.g. sponsored bike ride).

		<p>5. Is there a sustainability plan? Somerset CC checks finances and the project has warned parents that they might need to close some days when money is tight. This can lead to loss of children because parents are quick to go somewhere else, and then rarely return. Financial forecasting is well done, but there is always the problem of the Sept/Dec reduction in numbers.</p> <p>6. What is the maximum size/number of children? Maximum possible without recruiting more staff is 21. Currently a busy day is 15. Staffing fluctuates with the demand. Term time only. Holiday event provision is being considered, and the funding proposal addresses this.</p> <p>Other issues raised included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collaboration is key. This is already happening which is good! There is potential for sharing CPD opportunities with other preschools, for example. And not just preschools... 2. VT could help to facilitate the training, linking in with the other VT groups. Would help save £2000, e.g. ... some discussion about training funding. Forget School Funding probably. SafeGuarding £85/person. Forest School is in Bath, and level three.
4	Brief update from Sharon	<p>Activity has included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A variety of training sessions through SHAL, including hate crime

- Sue and Alan Scott have approached with regard to the Puriton Village Hall, There is £10,000 in plan for study of facilities, but more information is needed in connection with more informed decisions about whole area. The partnership needs to discern the function of all community buildings, in particular how their uses overlap with each other, so that we can help to build co-operation and coordinate delivery. Gravity will also be creating amenities, for example. Many requests could be coordinated through Gravity and others together so that there is little doubling of effort. An external consultant might be able to assist with this.

SC to explore this option with VC (CCS may be able to assist).

- Green Bridge: A working group is being set up to develop the ideas for this construction. Time is key. All kinds of discussion need to be coordinated or the opportunity for a strong legacy will be missed.
- Woolavington School review. Netbooks etc.
- Youth Theatre: web site now live. Young people performed in public for the first time at the Community Hub Family Day: well done!
- Rural Housing event: a good turn out and many opportunities for finding out how people are feeling about their homes etc.
- Family Day: SC and SB were present for most of the day and had some very productive conversations with people who attended. Profile

		<p>was raised, and understanding of what VT is for (and what it is not for) were shared.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Puriton Party in the Park: 17th August.
5	Brief update from Simon Bale	<p>Development work continues, with many useful contacts still being generated. SB has attended a variety of community and volunteer events (coffee mornings, fun days, schools, churches, medical centre) and these have produced further opportunities for discussion and publicity.</p> <p>Leaflets are being distributed throughout the villages, and there has been some response to these already, with around 10 people coming forward and asking how they might become more involved in the work of Hello...</p> <p>Survey is now active (visit web site to find out more).</p> <p>Further research is ongoing.</p> <p>EDF funding can be used to provide 'stop and chat' benches. SB to explore this further.</p>
6	Finance update	<p>LMS tabled financial sheets and explained their finer detail.</p> <p>At the time of the meeting, £55,000 of the fund has been committed but not all of it released by Big Local. This means that if all the projects funded by VT were to require their all their funds at the same time there wouldn't be enough to go around.</p> <p>Big Local cannot release anymore until the next quarter and the amount released can be adjusted to ensure there is sufficient available. The next tranche (£115,000) is</p>

		<p>expected in the next few weeks. This will be expected to take budget through to December. Cash flow needs to be monitored closely.</p> <p>New accountant is to attend September meeting.</p> <p>The layout of the tabled sheets could be made clearer, in particular during Q3.</p>
7	Tea Time Topic	<p>Small business grant application forms and criteria. What do members want included?</p> <p>Judging Dream scheme logo competition.</p>
8	<p>Community Grants:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Hub Woolavington £1000 2. Priority area (project) application – Puriton Community Orchard 3. Woolavington Hand bell ringers - £300 maintenance of bells 4. Sunshine 	<p>The Hub Woolavington PH, PB and LN stated their conflict of interest and offered to leave the room, but this was felt to be unnecessary.</p> <p>There was discussion as to any limitation on the funds being used for gambling. Since the Big Local is founded on gambling it was felt unlikely. What matters is that the funds are used to achieve our stated criteria. So long as this can be demonstrated, community grant applications will be successful.</p> <p>The Woolavington Hub has already had £1000 for the consultation which means there is still then there is still £500 left. The general feeling of the meeting was that as long as people feel comfortable that they can explain why and how., then there are comfortable with allocating the funds.</p> <p>LMS will confirm that this is so.</p> <p>Puriton Community Orchard (YMCA) Some discussion as to the purpose of the funding. The application is thought to be made by a Taunton based organisation on behalf of local group. Need clarification</p>

that this is permitted. Is it similar in principle to DreamScheme? Does it need an appendix in future for new proposals so as to not struggle with the form being 'incomplete'? The partnership were satisfied with the application in principle but need further breakdown on particular uses.

SC to request these details be provided and for the proposal to be reviewed at the next meeting

Woolavington Hand bell ringers

This for £300 for maintenance of bells. £900 of community grant, and asked for more because of the shortfall.

SHARON: What was the outcome! Sorry!

Sunshine Pre-School (Puriton)

There were questions:

- about the sustainability of this project, and whether there is sufficient awareness of what the future might bring. Does VT have a role to ensure for their future sustainability? They preschool have a contingency fund for staffing issues, but that is not necessarily what is required.
- is this support for young people or community facility? The preschool enables young parents to get back to work, but is this what VT is being asked to fund?
- It was felt that the whole budget needs to be addressed to test what this is all for. VT do not wish to push them away, and perhaps need to live with a bit of risk since the alternative could be damaging to the preschool and therefore not at all benefiting VT. Given the expected increase in population

		<p>with housing growth etc., it is important that such facilities are supported.</p> <p>SC to contact and push this forward.</p>
9	AOB	<p>Hub fun day review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was felt by some that the play/fair equipment was substandard and the Hub are considering how they might build their own for future activities (this could then be loaned out to other groups). • The Event went well. The organisers learnt a lot, including the dog issue, how social media could be used more effectively and lessons about selling more tickets. <p>Two dates from SC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16th November (Liverpool?) and September 13th/14th, Nottingham. • More details at next meeting.
10	Next meeting	Date of next meeting Wednesday: 14th August 7pm — 9pm, Puriton Village hall