

# HEATHFIELD PARTNERSHIP TRUST LTD

[www.heathfield.net](http://www.heathfield.net)

c/o 73 High Street, Heathfield. East Sussex. TN21 8HU  
Tel No: 01892 610314 E-mail: [coordinator@heathfield.net](mailto:coordinator@heathfield.net)

## Heathfield Partnership Executive

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 15 January 2019 at 6p.m. at The King's Church.

<b><u>Present:</u></b>	Colin Williams	-	Chairman & Trustee
	Cllr Rupert Simmons	-	Trustee
	Tim Williams	-	First Responders
	Margaret Hughes	-	Churches Together
	Paula Gear	-	Director
	Lynne Fraser	-	Heathfield/Waldron P. Council
	Jenny Gunston	-	Brighter Heathfield
	Joanne Aldous	-	Heathfield Partnership Co-ordinator
	Sheran Crichton	-	Minute taker

### 1. Apologies:-

1. Were received from Cllr Dick Angel, Tim Hough, Lyn Plant and Bill Philps

### 2. Minutes of the meeting held on 23 October 2018 :-

1. The minutes were accepted and signed as a true record of the meeting.

### 3. Matters Arising:- (to save duplication, please consult the previous minutes if clarification is needed)

1. There were no matters arising.

### 4. Sport & Leisure:-

#### *(a) Swimming Pool*

1. Richard Karn has been in further contact with Sport England who is still sounding supportive regarding any progress that can be made.
2. Discussions are continuing with the WDC Planning Authority, representation having also been made by the Parish Council, concerning the proposition of additional housing which if successful will have a definite affect on the proposed Swimming Pool project which will benefit the community.
3. At some point there needs to be a planning enquiry to consider any new plan and the Inspector will be a key factor in directing the council how to make plans,
4. Rosemary Mays-Smith has stood down as Director but is anxious that momentum in the project be maintained.

### 5. Financial Report:-

1. The balance as at 10 January 2019 stands at £211,044.85.
2. There are fixed funds allocations but not a great deal of spare cash.

**6. IT Report/Website: -**

1. The next committee takes place on 24 January.

**7. Farmers Market:-**

1. Stall numbers - 21 October, 21 November and 17 December, so far 12 January. Joanne confirmed that there were 192 stalls in 2017 and 214 in 2018.
2. There have been four enquiries since the last meeting with three confirming and one attending the November market.
3. The next Farmers' Market meeting is scheduled for 29 January and the WDC Farmers' Market meeting due to take place on 22 January.

**8. Inward Investment:-**

1. A meeting convened before Christmas with Heathfield Businesses to discuss the rent level from Landlords and the rates. There has been some leeway given over rates but the rents have increased by 23% which makes the retail market difficult.
2. The businesses gave backing for the committee to discuss Agents' percentages.
3. The High Street repairs were also discussed, Rupert had asked Highways Consultants to join a meeting with the businesses. This allowed businesses to direct questions to the Engineers which confirmed the project would end in November, and it was completed two days ahead of schedule.

***(b) Incubator Units:-***

1. Looking for suitable sites is still high on the Agenda. Despite a successful bid of £70,000 this would not be enough to start the project,

**9. Transport:-**

1. There have been no trips arranged.
2. Tim was very impressed with Mayfield's volunteer transport that took relatives to visit their families in Hospital. Age Concern run a car service but has no resources to carry out the same project. Tim will raise this with Bill Philps of Age Concern,

**10. LAT:-**

1. The new Police Inspector, Jon Gross, attended the meeting on 22 October and was very helpful. Another Committee meeting will take place in the spring with Rupert continuing to make representation for increased local policing,

**11. Street Pastors:-**

1. The following report was presented:-

- i) Patrols have been maintained throughout the year
- ii) We have three new SPs - two will begin very soon - courses completed- the third will join eventually but is having a bit of respite at present.
- iii) Halloween: Two teams went out to the Green Lane Estate and in the High Street. They gave out lots of 'bags of hope' (containing sweets and a booklet with Bible leaning). It was a very pleasant and rewarding evening; they met lots of children/parents and were very well received.

**11. Street Pastors (cont'd):-**

- iv) The young people out on the streets are not just from Heathfield, but come from further afield probably because they go to the Community College. So we will try to reach further afield to get volunteers from the churches.
- v) The 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the youth club which the SPs and Churches Together Heathfield (CTH) helped to organise and finance, took place in the summer. The issue is that ESCC has no spare money: so when the youth workers want to develop something outside their usual programme, they need to raise money for it. Ray and George have met with the youth managers at ESCC and the youth leaders and possible donors and Rupert Simmons. They are trying to build up a regular income coming in and to get the young people themselves to help raise money. In response to a question, Ray said that the youth leaders are paid - and they do day jobs as well.
- vi) There are still problems in the town concerning shoplifting, drink and some drugs. (but this is not unusual)
- vii) Courses are being provided in Heathfield (we are the hub for a larger area) for SPs on such things as drug and alcohol awareness, suicide prevention, health and safety and others. These are open to anyone in the community; they are mainly free, usually taking a half day or so and take place in either Kings Church or Union Church. They are Christian leaning, but the content would be useful to others. Some parish council members have come. Ray will send Sue a list of the courses with details and Sue will circulate a poster to CTH & D about these courses.
- viii) George added this experience which took place for the SPs last Friday evening (which was very busy despite the horrible weather). They met a young man who said he was so glad to see them in the streets. "Ten years ago, when I was a wild teenager, just out of prison, the SPs spoke to me and I've turned my life around since then. Thank-you."

**12. Churches Together:-**

1. The following report was made:-

**Recent Events -**

Donations to Street Pastors & Wealden Works.

Distributed Christmas cards round the area with details of Christmas Services.

United Services - An interesting and well attended service at Kings Church in October and a less well attended at Burwash in November.

About 70 people attended the Autumn Social in November at The Bear when Justyn Rees-Larcombe spoke.

Meeting Point - an evening of coffee, quizzes and a speaker - was held at Union Church in October and another is being planned possibly in February. All welcome.

**Future Events -**

**United Services** - at 6.30pm - 20<sup>th</sup> January - Welcome Church

**Lent Reflections** - 6.30pm at Community Centre - each Sunday from 10<sup>th</sup> March to 7<sup>th</sup> April

**Breakfast** - Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February at Heathfield Tavern with Speaker Cost £8.95

**AGM** - 1<sup>st</sup> May 7.30pm Cross in Hand Methodist Church

**Food Bank**

There has been some discussion as to whether Heathfield needs its own food bank. At present people have to go to the one in Hailsham. A number of churches and other organisations collect for food banks and it is either taken to Hailsham or to the Church of England's Family Support Work Charity. Needy people are provided with vouchers for food but have to make their own travel arrangements, and may have difficulty. It was suggested there may not be too many families involved and perhaps helping with transport might be an alternative. Ray Cade is following this up.

**13. Wealden Works:-**

1. The annual achievement awards event was held in December and was a great success. There is a new full cohort who started on 9 January and are coming from different areas.
2. The team leader, Lisa Crozier, has undertaken to work with the Headteacher of Heathfield Community College regarding existing pupils who are at risk of becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training).
3. A pilot scheme was held last year and 3 pupils attended.
4. There has recently been a lot of publicity in the local press and on BBC Sussex Radio on this scheme.
5. The Board are keen for a fee to be paid for every candidate in year 11 and who are 15 years old as the scheme is running again this year.
6. Wealden Works has enough funding for another year and submitting grant applications is on-going.
7. Wealden Works has a value to the whole community, not just those involved.

**14. U3A:-**

1. Tim reported that Lyn Plant does a great job in her role and has agreed to undertake an extra year as Chairman.
2. The talks held once a month, are very good and a successful venture.
3. It was noted that it is an international problem finding volunteers.

**15. Responders' Scheme:-**

1. Tim reported that the Co-Op community fund raised £11,000 over a year for the Responders.
2. There are now 20 defibrillators within 5 miles of Heathfield and it has been agreed to ring fence £1000 to cover maintenance. Also to provide shelving for the equipment stored at the Heathfield Ambulance Station.
3. Tim confirmed that training, in small groups, is provided on how to use the defibrillators. Details were provided to Lynne Fraser as the Parish Council were interested.
4. Tim confirmed that First Responders cannot act as first aiders at local events.

**16. The Community:-**

a) **Heathfield & District Volunteer Centre** - There was no report.

b) **Le Marche**. - There was no report.

c) **Rotary**.

1. The present Chairman is Roger Clarke until July when Trevor Goldsmith takes over.
2. Rotary has planned a classic car rally fun day, for which arrangements are in hand, on Sunday 11 August.

d) **Twinning**.

1. A New Year party is taking place in February and it is hoped members will come with guests.
2. A few items have been arranged over the year.
3. Joanne asked for any publication so it could be placed on HeathfieldAbout, facebook page

**16. The Community:-**

**e) Brighter Heathfield.**

1. Large teams still operate on Tuesday mornings between 8a.m. and 12p.m. Teams on Sundays vary in numbers
2. Local people have donated bulbs some of which have been planted in front Sainsbury's and the bus stop at the Fire Station.
3. Round Wood have donated three Planters, two are situated at Sainsbury's and one outside Waitrose. High viz jackets have been donated by Pomfret.

**17. Age Concern:-**

1. It was reported that the group is running well and demand for the service continues to increase. As a result Age Concern are keen to attract more volunteers, particularly to help with administration of their services, The committee was asked if they were aware of anyone who would like to help.

**18. Chamber of Commerce:-**

1. The Christmas event on 8 December was a success with about 90 youngsters seeing Santa Claus.
2. The next committee meeting is scheduled for 28 January to discuss any feedback from the event and ways forward.

**19. AiRS:-** There was no report.

**20. Christian Aid:-**

1. The vicar from Heathfield Parish did a sponsored run and raised £945. This was matched 17:1 by US Aid so a grand total of over £17000 went to help vulnerable children in Kenya orphaned by AIDS and HIV

**21. Public Relations and Marketing:-**

1. The folder was available for perusal with articles on Wealden Works.

**22. Any other business:-**

1. Colin and Rupert will liaise to discuss the low attendance to the Partnership Executive committee and ways to encourage attendance.
2. Rupert reported that a meeting took place to discuss and explore ways of providing more activities for the youth of the area of all ages. The Parish Council are also interested in seeing how they can help. This item will be discussed at the next Partnership Trust Board meeting to be held on 24 January

**23. Dates of the next meeting:-**

1. The dates for 2019 are on Tuesdays - 30 April, 30 July, 22 October

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.26p.m.