

**Minutes of the inaugural Annual General Meeting of Upton Town Partnership
held at the Memorial Hall, Upton upon Severn
on Wednesday 21 January 2009 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Simon Yates, Rosemary Webb, Gill Newman, Peter Burford, Malcolm Brown, Sylvia Dawson, Enid Loynes, Andrea Oliver, Graham Savine, Janice Savine, Louise Orr, Andrew Sanders, Grahame Bunn, Jackie Surtees, John Thompson, Roger Sutton, David Walker, Sheena Walsh, Eleanor Grigson, Rob Johnston, Rowan Thomas, Mike Morgan, Paul Thomas, Lavendar Beard, Sydney Harrison, Serena Croad, Andrea Morgan, Diane Bellamy, Simon Smith, Stella Rawlings

Apologies: Sandy Barker

1.09 Introduction

Simon Smith, Economic Development Manager for Malvern Hills District Council, welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a presentation outlining the origins and development of the Upton Town Partnership. Explaining that tonight's meeting aimed to formalise the Partnership and elect the committee's officers. He outlined that the Working Party had been responsible for developing the Terms of Reference being presented for ratification but since 2006 had successfully applied for Better Welcome funding and overseen the completion of projects funded by the Flood Recovery Programme, via Advantage West Midlands.

The Partnership's Remit is to provide a:

- Partnership of key local organisations
- Strategic group for improving the Town
- Regular forum for discussion of local issues
- Accountable body for regeneration and enhancement funding
- To feed into the development of the Malvern Hills Local Strategic Partnership and Statutory plans

Its next steps are to:

- Confirm the link into Malvern Hills Partnership
- Build upon the Town Plan and develop a Town Action Plan
- Lobby for Market Towns Programme and other funding for Upton's projects
- Ensure public engagement, debate and information sharing.

He was asked what area the Partnership covered and explained that it does not exclude the surrounding villages and parishes.

2.09 Adoption of the Constitution

The Terms of Reference were dealt with section by section and the following amendments made:

4.1 Second paragraph will read: "The membership will **initially** consist of named representatives of the following organisation..."

Final paragraph will read "The Partnership shall be open to other individual or representatives of groups...."

4.7 Remove second sentence altogether

4.8 Remove sentence "The Chair will be the Town Mayor or Deputy Town Mayor".

5.6 4.2 should read **4.3**

7. Amendments – Any amendments to the Constitution can only be made by its members and then at a special general meeting or the AGM. The AGM and any amendments are to be published **ONE month** prior to the date of the AGM.

These amendments to the draft document having been agreed, the Constitution was adopted by those present.

3.09 Election of Officers

Chair: Councillor Tim Perry: nominated by Mike Morgan seconded Jackie Surtees
ELECTED

Vice Chair: Simon Wilkinson: nominated by Diane Bellamy seconded Peter Booth
ELECTED

Treasurer: Gordon Williams: nominated by Rosemary Webb seconded Peter Webb
ELECTED

4.09 Date of Meetings

The first committee meeting will be held in the Memorial Hall on **Wednesday 4 February 2009** at 7.30pm

Following meetings will be on the **FIRST** Wednesday of May, August and November at 7.30 pm. Venues will be circulated.

There followed an open discussion about what issues the Partnership should address and the following were suggested:

- The TIC issue
- The Bridge
- Pavements throughout the town (it was suggested that the Town Council obtain quotes for this and the Partnership look for grants)
- Promotion of the Town – advertising especially to coach companies – and to obtain **POSITIVE** media coverage (suggestion that the new flood defences could be used as positive publicity)
- Hanley Road Carpark – could this be free at weekends to encourage shoppers
- Promotion of businesses and encouraging new businesses into town
- Vouchers / loyalty cards / “Totnes” pound for shopping locally
- Charity shops – limiting number and ensuring that empty shops do not become Charity shops.
- Keep Trade Local movement

Meeting closed at 9.40pm.