



Soham Town Forum, P.O. Box 21, The Pavilion,
Fountain Lane, Soham, Cambridgeshire, CB7 5PL

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Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 29th June 2006

Present

Robert Peacock (Soham Town Forum Chairman)	Shirley Blake (East Cambs District Council)
John Powley (Cambridgeshire County Councillor)	Colin Fordham (East Cambs District Council)
John Palmer (East Cambs District Council)	Peggy Gibbon (Soham Town Council)
Anne Tuite (Soham Town Council / Ely Soham Dial A Ride)	John Kirkham (Soham Town Council)
Geoff Griggs (Soham Staploe Rotary Club)	Pat Dutton (Health for Life)
Androulla French (East Fens Directory/Markets)	Colin Palmer (Resident)
Maureen Hardingham (Resident)	Sylvia Riley (Resident)
Louise Sarll (Soham Village College Youth Development)	

Apologies

Alison Callaby (East Cambs District Council)	Fiona Ross (Soham Town Council Chairman)
Rosemary Aitchison (Soham Town Council)	Peter Beer (Soham Town Council)
Chris Scurrah (Soham On-Line)	Donna Martin (Soham Museum Project)
Dan Schumann (Viva Youth Theatre)	Robert Barnes (SACT)
Linda Homan (Soham Village College Youth Development)	Lawrie Budd (Soham Life)
Sheila Rayner (Resident)	Lesley Bassenger (Resident)

1.0 Notes of the Last Meeting

- 1.1 Para 1.2 of notes of last meeting were noted to read as Ten Bell Lane (word not figure).
- 1.2 Otherwise they were agreed as a correct record.
- 1.3 There were no matters arising.

2.0 Soham Interpretative Art

- 2.1 No report available.
Post meeting note - Soham Community History Museum are holding a presentation on the proposed Interpretative Art at Soham Methodist Church, Berrycroft on Wednesday 12th July at 7.30 pm. - Forum Members welcome

3.0 Community Hall

- 3.1 Mrs Peggy Gibbon had no additional information about the sale. However it was agreed that Mrs Gibbon will contact previous members of her steering group to see if they wish to progress the project.

4.0 Market Proposals

- 4.1 Mrs Androulla French updated the meeting on progress. The plan is for a weekly

Friday Market on the Market Square.

- 4.2 Discussion took place on alternative locations for the market i.e. Cay Street car park, Budgens car park. However it was agreed that Market Street offered the most advantages.
- 4.3 Mrs French has canvassed a number of market traders, focusing on those selling items for which there is no retail outlet in the town. She is keen to have views about the type of stalls people wish to see on the market (Action - All, Androulla can be contacted on Tel: 01638 742400).
- 4.4 Advertising and promotion of the market will be essential if the market is to succeed.
- 4.5 The Viva Centre have indicated that they would be happy to help with any organisational arrangements such as collecting pitch charges.

5.0 Project/ Group Updates

- 5.1 **Festival** - It is understood that Mr Peter Beer is planning some event some events during the year and also to run another festival next year.
- 5.2 **Community Transport** - The scheme is seeking to win some County Council contracts. Also still working up their Lottery bid. The Chair advised that good reports had been heard about the scheme. Mr John Powley advised on a "rural excellence" mentoring meeting held earlier that day with East Cambridgeshire District Council, DEFRA and others where community transport had been a topic with ESDAR featured in the discussions. He also reported County Council efforts in respect of concessionary fares.
- 5.3 **Soham On Line** - deferred.
- 5.4 **Community History Museum** - Mrs Peggy Gibbon reported that there are significant projects in the pipeline. A ploughing match is also planned.
- 5.5 **SACT** - plans for a business breakfast club are progressing in partnership with Viva. Potential to extend this to Ely businesses.
- 5.6 **Viva Arts & Community Group** - a stakeholders day had been held on 21st June 2006, involving representatives from business, voluntary and statutory sectors. Awards evening has also been held.
- 5.7 **Town Twinning** - no report available.
- 5.8 **Youth Service** - Mrs Lousie Sarll, Youth Development Worker, provided an update on their activities covering Duke of Edinburgh Awards, Fordham Youth, Active Citizens in School, the setting up of a Young Parents Group in partnership with East Cambs Family Project and Connexions, and Soham Action for Youth summer activities programme (see attached report). Mrs Sarll was thanked for her contribution and it was agreed that youth service activities should be a regular agenda item (Action - AC). Louise advised that new trustees are urgently needed for Soham Action for Youth and an open meeting is planned for 5th July 2006 at 1.15pm in Community Lounge at Soham Village College.

6.0 Any Other Business

- 6.1 Mr Robert Peacock reported concerns of a local resident near the new housing developments about dog fouling. They have contacted the Council's Dog Warden but queried whether any further action can be taken. It was suggested areas of concern be photographed and forwarded to the District Council. (Post meeting note - the District Council has an on-line Dog Fouling Report Form which can be used to advise of problem areas. If the details of the dog owner are known the Dog Warden can make a visit to advise on the legal requirements regarding dog fouling).
- 6.2 Pumpkin Fair - Mrs French is seeking sponsorship for the Pumpkin Fair.
- 6.3 17/21 Churchgate Street - in response to concerns raised about the activities at these premises, Mr John Powley advised that he has forwarded a letter to East Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service requesting a joint approach to tackling the concerns about the site.
- 6.4 A presentation on Soham Interpretative Art to be held by Soham Community History Museum at Soham Methodist Church, Berrycroft on Wednesday 12th July 2006 at 7.30pm.
- 6.5 It was agreed to review the Soham Town Forum's Action Plan at the next meeting to assess progress with the initiatives which have been planned for this year. (Action - Agenda item Mrs Alison Callaby)

7.0 Dates of Future Meetings

10th August 2006 (Apologies Mr John Powley & Mrs Pat Dutton)
21st September 2006
2nd November 2006
14th December 2006 .

Soham Youth Service Update

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

38 people achieved Bronze last year and 60 have signed up this year... 36 achieved silver with 8 of those getting involved in a canoe venture (5 passed the award for canoe). We have undertaken 9 weekends away (3 of those were 3 day assessment expeditions) and we have spent several days training staff for this demanding role!!

Fordham

We are working with 8 young people from Fordham and outlying villages on a Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Awards challenge. Basically most of the yp have been running not in Fordham for the last few years and are always in trouble at school... they all wanted to do D of E but we knew they would not manage the skill and service so we have organised this and have so far sanded down and painted benches on Fordham rec... go and see!! We will be undertaking other projects in Fordham.

ACIS (Active Citizens in School).

Pantomime 3 is on its way. December 2005's Cinderella successfully raised over £1,000, which was donated to the school, the young people's prom and the youth service.

Approx 30 yp will be involved this year in a production of little red riding Hood and evening performances are on Friday 1st December and Saturday 2nd December 2006, with a Matinee performance on the Saturday. All yp are working towards an accreditation in recognition of they're volunteering for their school and community. Monies raised will be donated to the school and youth service as well as other charities chosen by the young people.

Young Parents Group

This has been set up with the support from East Cambs Family project and Connexions. It meets every Tuesday morning in the Ross Peers Sports Centre, creche and transport provided. Starting fund from the youth service. I have successful received funding from the local network fund £6,800, this will go towards staff costs, craft activities, driving theory and maintenance, IT skills, cookery skills, transport and other running costs for 1 year. Further funding will be needed. Currently 10 yp from Soham and surrounding villages access the service, to take part in activities access information and support form staff.

Summer Activities. So 4 Youth.

Alton Towers trip for years 8 and above on the 2nd Aug. 45 yp.

Mepal residential on the 14th & 15th Aug for 11 yp.

Funded by students and subsidised by Awards for All bid I achieved for £3,700. This has also paid for staff training and the Easter holiday activities which consisted of DJ, Dance workshops in Soham, Isleham, Burwell, Ashley, Swaffham bulbeck.

Committee meeting on the 5th July 2006, 1.15pm in the Community Lounge. Members desperately needed otherwise the group will close.

If you can support us in any way but are unable to attend the meeting please contact either: Mrs Linda Homan (Youth manager) lhoman@soham-college.org.uk or Mrs Louise Sarll (Youth Development Worker) lsarll@soham-college.org.uk
Or telephone 01353 724115.

Notice of Meeting

Date: Thursday 10th August 2006, Time 7.30pm

Venue: The Walter Gidney Pavilion, Fountain Lane, Soham

Agenda

	<u>Item Lead</u>
1. Present & Apologies	
2. Notes of Forum meeting on 29 th June 2006 together with any matters arising	All
3. Market	Androulla French
4. Review of Soham Town Forum Action Plan	All
5. Project/Group Updates	
• Festival	Peter Beer
• Community Transport	Anne Tuite
• Soham On Line	Chris Scurrah
• Community History Museum	Donna Martin
• SACT	Robert Peacock
• Viva Arts & Community Group	Dan Schunmann
• Town Twinning	John Kirkham
• Youth Update	Louise Sarll

Date of next meeting: 21st September 2006

Meeting Dates for 2006

Thursday 2nd November 2006

Thursday 14th December 2006

Alison Callaby, Team Leader Town Centres

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