

## **SHEPTON MALLET TOWN COUNCIL**

Meeting	People & Promotion Committee
Date	08 December 2020
Author	Project officer
Subject	Community projects proposal

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 For councillors to note the ideas put forward in Appendix A and consider these for further discussion at a later committee meeting if needed.

### **2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The People & Promotion committee was established to focus on a wide range of priorities in the namesake sections of the Town Plan. These include commitments such as:
- Develop strategies to work with and support groups that are representative of the community, to encourage participation and to combat social deprivation and loneliness.
  - Encourage opportunities to become involved in the town and develop a volunteer scheme to embrace all those who currently (or would like to) volunteer
  - Facilitate activities across town that encourage people to get involved
  - Work with community interest groups that bring events and activities to the community, to encourage participation
- 2.2 A number of local organisations and groups have recently approached the town council with an interest in working together, including Health Connections Mendip, Somerset Activity & Sports Partnership (SASP), Mendip One Team, The Avon and Somerset Constabulary Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), The Art Bank, Make the Sunshine, The 7 Starlings, SMart (Shepton Mallet Art) and the MHA (Methodist Housing Association) to name some.
- 2.3 Health Connections Mendip have shared the document in Appendix A with the town council. The document lists a number of ideas for community projects which could be delivered in Shepton Mallet. These are projects which would require the involvement of a range of actors and should be community-led, not town council-led. This document has been submitted to councillors in this committee for them to consider and return to if they so choose at a subsequent committee meeting.
- 2.4 Any councillor with an interest in community projects is invited to submit their ideas and suggestions to the next meeting of this committee.

### **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 Any projects or initiatives supported by this committee will be constrained by the community project budget agreed for the next financial year.

#### 4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 In line with this town council’s commitment to sustainability and protecting the natural environment, the council will be mindful to seek ways to reduce the negative impact of any project on the environment and identify ways to promote sustainable practices.

#### 5.0 TOWN PLAN REFERENCE

##### People

Celebrate Volunteering	<p>Introduce a Civic Award Scheme and Honorary Citizen Scheme to celebrate locals who give their time and skills to improve the lives of others</p> <p>Support a Friends of Collett Park Users Group to develop initiatives in the park, to include walks, craft and sport and leisure</p> <p>Encourage opportunities to become involved in the town and develop a volunteer scheme to embrace all those who currently (or would like to) volunteer</p> <p>Create opportunities for sharing of skills, to ensure that volunteers are looked after in an inclusive manner</p>
Encourage and facilitate family based activities	<p>Ensure that there are events for all ages and areas of the community and that they are supported and promoted to a wide audience</p> <p>Facilitate activities across town that encourage people to get involved</p> <p>Work with community interest groups that bring events and activities to the community, to encourage participation</p>
Support and promote clubs and societies, to encourage participation and growth	<p>Develop strategies to work with and support groups that are representative of the community, to encourage participation and to combat social deprivation and loneliness.</p>
Create a directory of groups, spaces and funding opportunities as well as a What’s On Guide	<p>Develop new ways of sharing information, through improving the connections between a wide range of community groups as well as sign posting to funding opportunities and places to meet</p> <p>Work collaboratively to create or promote spaces, which includes schools, library, community halls and Collett Park, which can be used as hubs for a range of cultural, arts, education and volunteering opportunities</p> <p>Develop a What’s One guide of the activities and events in town</p>
Promote the Community Donations and Grant Scheme	<p>Continue to offer a donations and grants based scheme that encourages wellbeing and cultural development of the community</p>

**6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 For councillors to note the ideas contained in Appendix A and consider these when defining how the town council wishes to deliver on its Town Plan commitments listed above.