TOWN TEAM MEETING

10th May 2022 – The Lantern

Attendees:

- Neil Ingram – ITC and OI Project Officer
- Cllr Bert Gear – ITC
- Barbara Clarke – Events 4 Ilfracombe, Tourist Information, IBTA
- Rob Townsend – ITC (Town Maintenance Operative)
- Bridget Gear – Ilfracombe in Bloom

1. With limited attendees the main focus of discussion was how best to effectively re-launch the Town Team. This was followed up by a discussion with the One Ilfracombe Programme Manager and the following will be implemented:

- More notice to be provided for future meetings.
- Time of meeting changed to earlier in the morning to assist in NDC/DCC attendance.
- Update the e-mail distribution list.
- Undertake a push to ensure that One Ilfracombe partners and local services are represented.
- Neil Ingram (ITC & OI Project Officer) to be the Town Team lead.
- Ilfracombe & District Business & Tourism Association to be represented.

2. The following updates were reported on the previous meetings notes:

- **Jubilee Plants** – Ropery Road Tubs/Hanging Baskets and Bandstand will be planted by either Ilfracombe in Bloom or via Mike Jones (NDC Parks). Bridget Gear noted that it would be too soon for all the planting to take place pre Jubilee. Rob informed the group that there would be sufficient floral displays across the town to coincide with the Jubilee weekend.

- **Litter Bins** – Neil is working with Cllr Netti Person to undertake a complete audit of bins in Ilfracombe and to use this information to update the NDC Bin App and assess if bins are in the right place and to identify where the local hot spots are that would benefit from additional bins/collections.
- **Finger Posts** – This issue will be raised again at the next ITC F&GP meeting on 23rd May with the likely outcome being that the Town Clerk will set a final (acceptable) date directly with the company for delivery or the contract will be cancelled with potential legal action to follow.
- **Fore Street Hoarding** – The work to repaint the hoardings has been undertaken by The Friends of Fore Street using materials secured using the Welcome Back Fund with it having been established that the fencing was erected at public expense therefore upkeep was also permitted using publically sourced funding. Neil to introduce and arrange a meeting between Stuart Coslett and Dan & Hayley (Silk Screen Art) about potential Art Project. Neil to speak to Cllr Crabb in relation to obtaining NDC funding for this.
- **War Memorial cleaning** – having fallen short of the 3 quotes required for Welcome Back Funding it is now intended to explore alternative funding options. Neil will follow this up with the Town Clerk. Bert Gear suggested that the War Graves Commission could be a potential source of funding.
- **Blocked Drains** – ITC Cllr have been round the town and identified and reported where there is an issue. If blocked drains are not reported to DCC, who have responsibility for them) then they are not aware of the issue. Feedback is that the A roads are cleared/cleaned at least annually with all other drains being on a 3 year cycle.

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- Neil reminded the team that the Annual Town Meeting was taking place on Thursday 26th May and that the next Town Team meeting would include a focus on some of the issues raised by local residents that would benefit from Town Team ideas/intervention/assistance.

- Cllr Gear proposed that the taking on of an Apprentice to assist the ITC Facilities Manager (Building Maintenance/Property Management) be raised at the next F&GP meeting on the 23rd May.
- Neil proposed that a deep clean of the ITC owned bus shelters (9 in total) be undertaken using ITC funding. This would then permit the ongoing cleaning of the shelters to be undertaken by community groups and organisations for which he already has some volunteers. Once the shelters are cleaned Neil also proposed that the potential for adverts be explored. To be raised at next ITC F&GP.
- The question was raised about what had become of the "Waste Shark" at the harbour as little had been heard about it since its launch. Neil will ask the Harbour Master.
- The state of The Lanes was raised. Neil stated that the Lanes were very much on Clive's (ITC Hygiene Operative) route but that he would explore the potential for use of the Community Payback Team. Neil mentioned that this would only take care of the pavement as the walls along the Lanes are privately owned.
- Rob Townsend expressed confusion as to what sponsorship signage was still extant and/or relevant for certain flower beds and planters across the town. It was established that Rotary still funded and maintained the boat on the New Barnstaple Road junction and the Cart on Quay Head. It remains unclear as to whether Compass Rotary still maintain the beds on the road from Mullacott and likewise the Lions signage at the War Memorial (maintained by ITC).

Date of next meeting: 0930 15th June The Ilfracombe Centre