

Area West Committee – 20th October 2010

7. Progress of Ilminster Forum and the Community Plan

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Purpose of the Report

To provide members with an update on the work of Ilminster Forum and the progression of projects identified in the Ilminster Community Plan.

Public Interest

Ilminster Forum is a not for profit company that works in partnership with a number of organisations to progress projects that benefit people living and working in and around Ilminster.

Recommendation

To note the content of the report and accompanying presentation from the Chair of Ilminster Forum.

Background

The Ilminster Community Plan was launched in 2005. Since that date Ilminster Forum have carried out a number of projects that were originally identified in the Ilminster Community Plan. Since the last report to Area West Committee in July 2008, Ilminster Forum has been involved in a varied work plan, details of which are outlined below:

Progress since July 2008

A number of projects have been completed since July 2008.

Ilminster Transport Information Booklet

An A5 booklet containing information about a wide variety of transport services available in the town was produced.

Business Board

The design and manufacture of a board with a map of the town centre depicting where all the local traders are based was organised by Ilminster Forum and is now located in Tesco's car park.

Heritage Trail Booklet

A pictorial trail around Ilminster Town centre giving details about a number of interesting and important buildings.

Variety of walks leaflets

A range of leaflets have been produced giving details of walks in and around Ilminster.

Website upgrade

www.ilminsterforum.co.uk has received an upgrade. This award winning community website provides information on events, local businesses, community groups and local government. In addition it carries a lot of information for visitors on the tourism section of the website.

Out of school activities for children

Over the past two years Ilminster Forum have obtained funding and have worked in partnership with a number of organisations to provide out of school activities for children in Ilminster.

Swap Shop – Green Event

A fun event aimed at Ilminster residents providing a showcase and a range of activities with the aim of helping people reduce their carbon footprint. The event incorporates a Swap Shop where people can bring along unwanted items and swap them for things that other people no longer want.

Current Projects**Library Garden**

Working in partnership with the Library, the Brownies and other volunteers to create a community garden outside the library.

Ilminster Volunteers

This is a new project being set up after a request from the Town Council. The aim is to have a group of volunteers who can carry out work that will help keep Ilminster a clean and tidy town.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications.

Corporate Priority implications

- 1.11 A vibrant and sustainable Yeovil, market towns and rural economy.
- An enhanced built environment
- 4.19 Increase civic participation in the local area from 16.4% in 2008/09 to 18% by 2010/11.

Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications (NI188)

Ilminster Forum has delivered events aimed at raising awareness of lifestyle changes people can make to reduce their carbon footprint.

Equality and Diversity Implications

There are no implications currently arising from this report.

Background Papers: *AWC Report – Progress of the IIminster Forum & Community Plan 21st November 2007*
AWC Report – Progress of the IIminster Forum & Community plan – 18th April 2007
AWC Report – Progress of the IIminster Forum & Community plan – 20th December 2006
AWC Report – The Progress of IIminster Community Plan Projects – 18th October 2006
Memorandum and Articles of IIminster Forum Ltd
The IIminster Community Plan – April 2005