

5 January 2023

Background

Sustainable Crediton hosts a range of initiatives and empowers local people to lead projects that help people and communities live more sustainably. These currently include:

- The pollinator project- improving and maintaining green spaces and small patches of common grounds, fosters connections between residents and supports physical & social activity
- A shared allotment- supporting and connecting individuals for whom full responsibility would be too much and helps people learn through doing, socially
- The Community Larder in partnership with the Library
- Pig Club - connecting smallholders and local people who are keen to reduce food miles, ensure animal welfare, support heritage breeds and grow local connections
- A tree planting programme
- A woodland management and biodiversity learning and maintenance programme that is rooted in community
- A popular annual seed share and sustainability fair
- An annual Big Green Fair in the Square

- A robust website that signposts a wide range of activities, events and resources of our and other group's activities and provides content for a monthly local newsletter to around 750 people

Following a "Forum for the Future" event in autumn 2022, we are also actively planning

- Sustainable Saturdays social programme of talks and activities
- A Repair Café
- A new intergenerational project with local schools
- Reinvigorating a textile group
- An intentional programme of networking, linking and promoting other initiatives and groups across mid-Devon (including Sunday Cycling Group, Cycling for Mum & Babes, Nature Wardens, Extinction Rebellion, ShareShed, Significant Seams, Turning Tides, Copplestone Olio Group, and DCC Community Action Group)

- We would very much like to showcase green initiatives set-up by the Town Council Climate Emergency Group, promote green alternatives, (lift sharing, public transport, cycle routes etc), and provide dedicated noticeboard space for green and community activities
- Similarly we are keen to support and promote ecologically engaged social enterprise and businesses and business products. We could host or facilitate providers offering decarbonisation planning, training programmes, and specialist consultancies.

Sustainable Crediton is part of the worldwide Transition movement aiming to work within communities to help people to live more sustainably. The approach is designed to be 'regenerative': people come together to catalyse, connect and support local initiatives.

Issue

Despite this substantial work with the involvement of over 100 area residents annually, we've become aware that a growing number of Crediton area residents are not aware, or are

under-aware of Sustainable Crediton and other local green initiatives. Currently, our main ways to communicate include Facebook, the Courier, our newsletter, and our website. We are keen to be more present and outreaching, particularly to younger and newer area residents.

Proposal

An embracing, umbrella 'green' information hub on the Town Square would substantially support a key strategic issue for the town.

Sustainable Crediton would like to explore making the offices in the square a community hub. The space would:

- provide a central and inspiring contact point for becoming involved in and proposing new initiatives
- improve information availability and visibility about activities happening in town
- Support development of volunteering
- Support Sustainable Crediton in developing and supporting new projects and collaborations
- We foresee this increasing our ability to draw external funds into Crediton for community-led projects.
- Overall, this will reduce social isolation, enhance a culture valuing sustainability and connections within the town.

Sustainable Crediton would like the hub to be open to the public regularly and to offer hireable space for community events, meetings and services.

In order to achieve these ambitions *sustainably*, we recognise that we need to consider:

- Our ongoing financial requirements and financial planning
- Legal Requirements like insurance, DBS and Vulnerable People Policies, and Health and Safety considerations
- Further practical considerations like key holding policies, training for volunteers and any other workers, and space hiring policies
- Liaise with CTC initially and on an ongoing basis around administration, and potentially complex issues arising

As such, we want to express that we are very keen to progress and trial running a Green Hub on a pilot basis.

We foresee undertaking three strands of activity if you are prepared to adopt our proposal:

- 1) A fundraising programme (expected to take a minimum of four months to begin to show any momentum)
- 2) An operational programme including policy review and development
- 3) Developing an ongoing business plan to sustain the hub

Request

With all of this in mind, we'd like to propose and request that Crediton Town Council:

- provide the space from the completion of the repairs for the remainder of the existing lease as an in-kind contribution to Sustainable Crediton.

Action Plan

We would plan to open it from 1 April 2023.

From the point of your decision, we can immediately begin active fundraising - leveraging the value of your in-kind support as match funding for the longer term needs.

Likewise, we can begin to take-on the operational activities and physical preparations.

Conclusion

Sustainable Crediton would need to treat this as a pilot project. We are keen to seize the opportunity, but need space and time to make it viable sustainably.

We have established a working group around our ambitions for a Green Hub. This is comprised of four Core Group members, and due to the substantial financial implications of this project, includes our Treasurer, Esther Mann. The working group meets on an as needed basis. The wider Core Group meet monthly. If you accept our proposal, we would grow the working group appropriately to the activities we will be undertaking.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of our proposal and welcome any further questions you may have.

With many thanks for your consideration.

Sustainable Crediton Core Group



Kings Coronation Weekend Report

Report by: Town Clerk
To: Full Council
Date: 30 March 2023

Recommendation

That Full Council considers and agrees plans and budget for the Kings Coronation weekend and discharging responsibility of the event to the Planning and Town Strategy Committee.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To approve plans for the Coronation Weekend.
- 1.2 To approve the budget for the Coronation Weekend.

2. Background

- 2.1 A programme of events has been released by Buckingham Palace, to include:
 - Saturday 06 May – Coronation service at Westminster Abbey
 - Sunday 07 May – Big Lunch
 - Monday 08 May – The Big Help Out
- 2.2 The Town Council were an integral part of the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations and in marking the death of the Queen and have drafted a schedule for the weekend.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The Coronation celebrations will cover aspects of the national events, and some additional locally planned (below proposal are to be confirmed or considered by the committee):
 - Sunday 07 May – Big Lunch on Town Square, to incorporate food and entertainment
 - Sunday 07 May – Service of Thanksgiving at Holy Cross
 - Monday 08 May – advertising of ‘The Big Help Out’ and marketing leading up to event, to suggest young people send pictures of them helping out in the community (with a small gift for sending in pictures)

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 To enable events to take place, Full Council are requested to consider an allocation of £2500.00 from Ear Marked Reserves to provide:
 - Big Sunday Lunch to incorporate:

Entertainment	£750.00
First Aid	£250.00
Radios	£68.00
Cream Teas* (scones requested from Morrisons)	£150.00

*Proceeds from Cream Teas will go to Youth Club, who will be staffing the stall

- Commemorative Wild Flower gifts - £715.00 (700)
- A small budget to provide small gifts to young people providing 'Big Help Out Day' photographs - £150.00
- Contingency - £352.00

TOTAL: £2500.00

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 The planned schedule would provide a host of activities, suitable for all sectors of the Crediton community and will be managed safely.