

Working for Shipston

The Newsletter of Shipston Town Management Partnership
Issue 1—August 2009

Welcome to our First Newsletter

Shipston Town Management Partnership was legally incorporated in February this year.

We have formed a board of seven volunteer directors and have attracted 25 members and 3 organisations, not a bad start but there is scope for much more support to ensure that the objectives for which the Partnership has been set up, be achieved

Although there is not much to show for our efforts during these first few months, much has been going on in the background, which has prompted this first news letter as we are conscious that we need to demonstrate progress to maintain the interest of our valued members.

We hope that by keeping you informed we are more likely to gain your confidence in our ability to address the issues our town is facing, and by creating discussion within the community we are more likely to attract more members to get involved.

Working-for-Shipston.com

We see communication with both members and the broader community as being very important and with this in mind, we are in the process of setting up our web site which will be kept up to date with our various projects and activities.

One of the more important parts of the web site is the opportunity for members and other visitors to suggest activities that the company might consider and whether it is via the web site or by phone call or letter, we would value your ideas and suggestions.

Of course not all members use the internet so we will publish newsletters from time to time to keep you all informed.

First Projects

The "Black Shed"

Our first project is the Storage facility at Shipston Sports Club and although this may not be the most sexy project it is one we feel we can win in a relatively short time.

To remind you, it is intended to replace and enlarge the facility at the Sports Club to allow the Council emergency and maintenance equipment to be stored on the town side of the Stour, the river being the highest risk in terms of emergencies in Shipston.

The first stages are to get title to the land, draw up plans for planning application, get bids from suppliers, write a business case and raise about £50,000.

The costs will be supported from revenue from both the Council and the Sports Club by providing better secure storage. Shipston needs this project to succeed to protect our town.

All these stages are underway and the Council and the Sports Club have agreed, in principle, to cooperate with the scheme.

Sponsorship

We are in the process of approaching a number of local commercial organisations with a view of obtaining sponsorship for STMP, offering them the opportunity to be associated with what we believe to be a tremendous asset to Shipston.

Although we are all volunteers, there are various costs we have to meet such as funding planning applications, stationery, room hire for meetings, and set up and design costs for the web site.

We still have a small balance from membership fees which will keep us going for the time being but we clearly need to attract more seed money to get things going and sponsorship is one avenue for us to pursue.



Tilemans Lane Garden

We continue trying to unravel the complexities associated with this piece of land as there seems to have been a rather questionable approach by Stratford District Council.

The Partnerships sees this as an opportunity to turn this small site into something useful to the Town.

However, we have not given up and some small progress has been made. There appear to be several opportunities that have been presented to the town that have not been followed up by the appropriate authority, we intend to address such opportunities and ensure the town has its say.

Spread the word

Please spread the word to your friends about what we are trying to do for the Town

We need their money, their help and, when it comes to the projects, their practical skills.

If there are opportunities to improve the town that you are concerned about please let us know and perhaps we can muster help from our members to address them.

We now have the legal structure, the organisation and the skills to make a difference.

You can contact us by telephoning 0560 245 9343 or by e-mail to:
info@working-for-shipston.com

As soon as our web site is fully up and running, we will let you know.