

Mr Dance outlined the work of the college raising the following key points:

- The college offered a multi-skilled course for students from year 9 through to year 13;
- The course covered eight trades; such as bricklaying, plastering, joinery, plumbing and electrical work which would lead onto an apprenticeship post year 13 in their chosen field;
- Recent projects undertaken included 'friendship' benches for local schools;
- A bench for the television programme DIY SOS soon to be broadcast as part of the television series;
- Eight local primary schools worked with the college to design 'friendship express trains' for their playgrounds, these were crafted and built by students at the college;
- The timber and materials were donated free of charge by local suppliers in support of the projects.

Mr Dance showed possible designs for a memorial bench to surround a tree in Courtenay Street. The tree had been confirmed as healthy and stable despite its roots erupting through the pedestrian paving area. The area had been protected by barriers to ensure safety to pedestrians which was both unsightly and not practical on a long term basis. The proposed design included a hexagonal bench with seating around the tree, made from oak and hand painted. Each side would depict a scene in commemoration of WWI following the themes, air, sea and land. Mr Dance suggested that the bench be completed and installed in time for public reveal on the 11th November 2019, Armistice Day and he assured Members that the bench would be built to a high standard and compliment the area of the town.

The Chairman thanked Mr Dance for his enlightening presentation and invited questions from Members.

Members welcomed the opportunity for the students to design and build the bench and for it to be located in a prominent location in the town. They hoped that by involving young people in such projects it would encourage them to take a pride in the town and the street furniture would be less likely to be damaged. Members commended Mr Dance's efforts to involve other schools alongside the college. Councillors suggested that the hexagonal shape may allow for additional designs such as landmarks in the town, a reference to trains or local industry. Mr Dance would consider these alongside the air, sea and land elements. Members sought assurance that the bench could be relocated if necessary and acknowledged that it would be maintained by the Town Council.

Mr Dance welcomed the suggestions and contributions from Members and would provide draft designs for review by the Committee in due course.

The Chairman thanked Mr Dance on behalf of the Committee for his enthusiasm and commitment to ensuring that the bench would aesthetically enhance the town and be of a high standard. Whereupon Mr Dance was invited to leave the meeting.

367. **SUB-COMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/FORUMS**

A(i). EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE – 9th JANUARY 2019

Arising from the consideration of the report of the meeting it was

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Events Sub-Committee meeting held on 9th January 2019 be hereby approved and adopted; and

A(ii). COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GROUP – 23rd JANUARY 2019

Arising from the consideration of the report of the meeting it was

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Community Engagement Group meeting held on 23rd January 2019 be hereby approved and adopted;

368. NEWTON'S PLACE - UPDATE

The Chairman invited Councillor M Ryan, Chairman of Newton's Place Project Board to update Members on the project. Councillor Ryan noted that Members were regularly informed of progress on the project but that he was pleased to report that there had been excellent media coverage of the revealed hoardings produced by local school children. The bright and colourful hoardings attracted coverage from local television, radio and press and he commended Mrs Bennie, Museum Volunteer for her effort in the project.

Councillor Ryan added that the Members of the Project Board would be attending a site visit Friday 15th February 2019 and further site visits would be arranged for Councillors in due course. He was pleased that work was well underway on the roof, despite the inclement weather and the project remained on track. Members noted Mr Canham's (PR/Media consultant) report to the local media in which he highlighted that the project had been largely financed by grant funding and would not impact on the Council's Precept.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Ryan for his update to Members and following discussion among Members accordingly, it was;

RESOLVED that the verbal update from Councillor Mike Ryan, Chairman of the Newton's Place Project Board be noted.

369. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

The Committee received and noted the Income and Expenditure statement for the Community and Heritage Committee, (for the period 1st April – 31st December 2018) previously circulated.

Following consideration, accordingly it was:

RESOLVED that the Income and Expenditure Statement for the period 1st April – 30th December 2018 for the Community and Heritage Committee be hereby approved and adopted.

370. LATE CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman invited the Committee Administrator to update Members on concerns regarding the bus services running from Newton Abbot, Sherborne Road to both the Highweek and Buckland areas as raised by both Councillors and local residents. Mrs Robinson advised Members that the Town Clerk had contacted Stagecoach South West raising the concerns and awaited a response. She noted that Councillor Mike Joyce had prepared a further statement to Stagecoach, tabled at the meeting. The Chairman invited comment from Councillors, whereupon Members discussed the implications for local residents. Following discussion, accordingly it was;

AGREED that a letter be sent from the Chairman of the Community and Heritage Committee to Stagecoach South West to reiterate the concerns raised among Councillors and residents.

371. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Community and Heritage Committee would be held on Wednesday 3rd April 2019.

Chairman