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Mr Edwards stated that this showed Llantwit Major had a strong retail centre. He confirmed he had been working closely with both Penarth / Cowbridge and Barry Town Centres on rolling out various initiatives including late night shopping, retail loyalty cards and Shopping Apps. Mr Edwards stated that there was funding available through the Stronger Communities Grant Programme and other Grant processes. He wished to create a stronger partnership with Llantwit Major Chamber of Trade and Llantwit Major Town Centre to notify them of funding / initiatives available and assist with increasing the footfall to the Town Centre.

Recommended: That Mr Edwards provide a report to the Deputy Town Clerk of all initiatives undertaken by Penarth/ Barry and Council Town Centres as part of the Vale of Glamorgan Councils Town Centre Development Programme. Mr Edwards to further provide a list of funding opportunities available to Llantwit Major. The Deputy Town Clerk will forward and discuss these initiatives with the Chamber of Trade to encourage further links between Llantwit Major Town Centre and the Vales Town Centre Development Officer.

Update on Llantwit Major Chamber of Trade

No member of the Llantwit Major Chamber of Trade Committee was available to attend the Town Study Steering Group Meeting.

To note update from Vale of Glamorgan council re untidy land

Committee Members had previously been circulated with an email from Planning Aid Wales dated 23rd October 2017 and a written report following discussion with Vale of Glamorgan Planning Department re Planning Application 2008/01155 and the caravan sited on the property.

The Deputy Town Clerk informed members that there was no action that could be taken to obtain the removal of the Caravan from the site whilst the Planning Application development was still being undertaken. She confirmed that no conditions were put into the original Planning Application re a caravan on the Site or specifying a length of time a caravan is permitted on the site.

Councillor Dr P Dickson questioned if the Environmental Health Department could be notified to follow up this matter.

Recommended: That the Environmental Health Department be approached to see if any action can be taken re the untidy lands resulting from Planning Application 2008/01155/FUL.

To further discuss ideas for how to use the £1000 available from Vale of Glamorgan for funding Town Improvements (as discussed at the Town Study Steering Group Meeting held on the 10th October 2017

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The Deputy Town Clerk informed Committee Members that the £1000 was no longer available for this financial year due to the Vale of Glamorgan Council putting a hold on all funding opportunities until April 2018. Mr C Edwards stated that funding should be available from April 2018 and would encourage Committee Members to have ideas available for Town Centre Development projects. Committee members discussed various proposals including more litter bins, Apps for the Blue plaque / St Illtud's Church Trail, Loyalty Cards for Shoppers and the publicity to advertise the Saturday Town Centre Markets.

Recommended: That Committee Members forward ideas for Town Improvements to the Deputy Town Clerk. She will obtain preliminary costings for funding ideas and bring all results back to the next Town Study Steering Group Meeting for further discussion

Further

Recommended: That Miss V Van de Voorde discuss with Llantwit Youth Council ideas for improving the Town Centre and bring back to the next Town Study Steering Group Meeting.

Update on Sculpture Project

Gwyneth Price was unable to attend the Meeting due to a prior commitment. A written report updating members on the Sculpture Project was read to the Committee. It stated that one student had almost finished the design for the sculpture, a surfer on a pebbled beach including the Church, Town Hall together with the four shields of the Llantwit Schools. The Schools Art Teacher had approached Llandow Metal Fabricators at the costs of the steel, cutting and the powder coating process. Mrs Price stated in the report that she hoped to organise a Small Sculpture Committee Meeting in three weeks to finalise the Sculpture design and discuss the final site for the piece. She stated in the report that there would be additional costs for installation of the Sculpture.

Recommended: That Councillor G Thomas to approach Llantwit Major Rugby Club to see if they would cover the cost of installation of the Sculpture.

To receive update on Defibrillator being placed in the Square

Committee Members had previously been circulated with an email dated 10th December 2017 confirming the imminent reconnection of power to the Red Phone Box by BT and that Community Heartbeat Trust were applying for sponsorship for free red paint to renovate the Kiosk. Committee Members discussed where all the Defibrillators at present were situated in Llantwit Major and the Surrounding areas. It was confirmed that up to date lists of all Defibrillators were displayed on all Town Council Notice Boards and had been distributed to the Chamber of Trade.

Recommended: That the Deputy Town Clerk email Miss Ve Van De Voorde the up to date list of all Defibrillators in Llantwit Major.

Further

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Recommended: The Deputy Town clerk liaise with Community Heartbeat Trust when the Defibrillator will be installed in the Town Square . Confirm when training on the Defibrillator will take place and ensure the Llantwit Youth Council, Boys Brigade, members of the Town Study Steering Group are invited to attend the training course.

To receive update on the litter around the Precinct

Committee members had previously been circulated with correspondence from the Vale of Glamorgan and Mr Ian Hunt re the litter and litter bins around the Precinct. Committee members noted that the request to look into amending the commercial waste collection time by the Vale of Glamorgan Council had not been addressed.

Recommended: The Mr C Edwards re send the email to the Vale of Glamorgan Council requesting that they consider amending the collection time of the Commercial Waste Collection to assist with the litter problem within the Llantwit Major Town Centre.

Further

Recommended: That Llantwit Youth Council review the issue of litter in the Precinct and bring their findings back to a future Full Town Council Meeting.

To discuss representatives from the Alzheimer's Society attending the next Town Study Steering Group Meeting to discuss Llantwit Major becoming a Dementia Friendly Town

Councillor Mrs J Norman updated Committee Members on the progress the Town Council are making on Llantwit Major becoming a Dementia Friendly Town.

Recommended: That a representative from the Alzheimer's Society be invited to attend the next Meeting of the Town Study Steering Group at 6:30pm on the 17th April 2018 to inform members the process of becoming a Dementia Friendly Town.

To discuss Nations Tributes Celebrations for Llantwit Major

Councillor Mrs J Norman updated Committee Members on the plans for the Nations Tribute on the 11th November 2018.

1) A commemorative wall hanging is to be created made up of 6 by 6 inch fabric squares which will each depict a poppy. All local organisations will be invited to make a square for sewing onto the wall hanging. The squares of fabric can be purchased from the Town Hall at a cost of £1.00 each.

2) A cargo net donated by MOD St Athan to be hung from the Town Hall with poppies sewn onto it.

3) The Town Council have purchased 1 beacon to be installed on the Recreation Ground. The RAF have made an additional Beacon which subject to permission to be erected in the Bell Tower of St Illtuds Church.

Councillor Mrs J Norman confirmed that a press release was to be prepared in the next week confirming the above.

To discuss Report reference the RAF marching through the town to celebrate 80 years based at MOD St Athan

Councillor Mrs J Norman updated members on the proposed celebration on Saturday 28th April 2018 to mark the RAF being based at MOD St Athan for 80 years. Mr C Edwards stated that funding could possibly be available through the Stronger Communities Fund to assist with this event.

Recommended: That the Deputy Town Clerk email Mr C Edwards re details of the RAF March through Llantwit Major to see if funding is available to assist with putting on this event. State the benefits to the town of putting on this event (ie. increase footfall / trade to the town).

To further discuss Committee Members ideas for improving Llantwit Major Town and Community

Mr John Durrant requested that an Action Tracker Report be produced detailing all projects suggested and undertaken by the Town Study Steering Group in the last 18 months.

Mr Durrant also noted the increase in traffic and pollution along Llanmaes Road due to the Boverton Road closure. He stated his concern at the increase air pollution for pedestrians walking underneath the Railway Bridge.

Mrs Tina Benfield stated that the contract for the Train Services along the Valley Lines was up for Renewal with the Welsh Government at the end of the year. She requested that the Town Study Steering Group look at writing to the Welsh Government to request that the new contract consider running half hourly train service.

Councillor Mrs J Norman stated that the COOP Car Park was full of pot holes and she had fallen down herself as a result of these holes.

Recommended: That the Deputy Town Clerk produce an Action Tracker Report detailing all projects suggested and undertaken by the Town Study Steering Group in the last 18 months. The Report be brought back to the next Town Study Steering Group Meeting.

Further

Recommended: That the Deputy Town Clerk write to the Environmental Health Department raising concerns for the air pollution under the Railway Bridge along Llanmaes Road.

Further

Recommended: That a letter be written to all relevant Government Departments asking

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them to consider when setting out the contract for the new train service provider to look at half hourly train services from Llantwit Major Train Station.

Further

Recommended: That a Letter be written to Mr Ian Hunt, landlord of the COOP Car Park, requesting that he consider reviewing and repairing the pot holes in the Car Park.

Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting will be at 7pm on Tuesday 17th April 2018 in the Council Chamber of the Old School, Llantwit Major.