

Herefordshire Sustainable Food & Tourism Partnership, 9th October 2014

Present: David Curtis, Jenny Beard, Claire Greener, Bobbie Heavens, Nick Read, Cathy Meredith, Clare O'Reilly, David Bailey

In Attendance: David Bland, Stephen Badham

Apologies: Rachel Jones, Mel Potter

Mike Pigrem had resigned from the group but was available to be consulted on issues. The Chair had thanked him for his contribution.

Creative England

Stephen Badham, Senior Production Manager for Creative England gave a presentation on its work. It was a not-for-profit company and the successor to Screen West Midlands, which funded and supported the British film industry, computer games and creative media. Whilst it had sponsored "Flicks in the Sticks" this was now undertaken by the British Film Institute.

Stephen's role was to find sites for film locations and local suppliers to support productions. The company also liaised with Local Authorities and others over, for example, road closures and the permissions required when filming on location. The company also promoted British locations to overseas film makers and attracted inward investment.

Herefordshire Council had a register of available buildings and sites which could be consulted and the Partnership agreed to publicise the opportunities so that individuals with potential locations could register on line: www.creativeengland.co.uk.

Broadband

David Bland's report had been received by the Partnership and members thanked him for his excellent assessment. It was noted that the report was to the members of the Partnership and not for public use. David, Cathy and Clare reported back on a conference in Lancashire addressing community broadband initiatives. It was important to make the business case first and respond to local circumstances. Given the sensitivities of the issue it was agreed to recast the report, with an accompanying paragraph explaining its origins and the role of the Food and Tourism Partnership, and then submit it to the CEO of Hereford Council - seeking a meeting to discuss it further.

Herefordshire's Economic Master-Plan

Jenny reported on a meeting which had discussed tourism, leisure and heritage as part of the intended Economic Master-Plan. The meeting had been attended by city-based organisations primarily and there was concern that the rural economy was not being addressed. Clare Greener had also experienced an urban bias in the meeting she had attended.

Any Other Business

David Bland was part of a pan-European network seeking to ensure that universities understood the needs of rural communities. He will circulate further information.

Date of Next Meeting

9.30am on Tuesday 2nd December at the Duchy Estate Office.