

Making the Most of Martock (M3) – Update

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Purpose of the Report

The purpose of the report is to update members on the current situation with M3 (Making the Most of Martock) and to provide an opportunity for members to discuss the future relationship with the local partnership.

Public Interest

The M3 partnership was originally established in 2001 with support from SSDC. SSDC is currently a 'core member' of M3.

Recommendations

1. Members note the update on the work of the M3 partnership and the current partnership arrangements
2. Members consider whether it is still necessary or desirable for SSDC to continue to be a 'core member' of the partnership.
3. Members consider becoming an 'advisory member' of the M3 partnership.

Background

The Making the Most of Martock Community Partnership (M3CP) comprises a number of organisations that originally came together to deliver the Martock vision and the Local Community Plan. SSDC was involved in setting the organisation up and is a 'core partner' under the organisations constitution. Area North Committee (ANC) nominates a representative on an annual basis.

Members considered a report to outside bodies at the July meeting of ANC. Cllr Clarke currently represents SSDC on the partnership.

Making the Most of Martock (M3) – Purpose and Governance

The M3 Community Partnership comprises several organisations that have come together to enable delivery of the Martock Vision and community plan. Core members of the partnership are stated as:



South Somerset District Council

- South Somerset District Council
- Martock Parish Council (Currently now an 'advisory member')
- Parochial Church Council
- Martock Christian Fellowship
- Martock School Governors
- Martock Business Forum
- Martock Community Group
- Martock Surgery
- Martock Fire & Rescue

Martock Parish Council withdrew as a core member in March 21 and now has a nominated representative attend meetings as an observer.

Somerset County Council was originally a core member and also withdrew from the partnership in 2021.

The aim of the partnership (as stated in the community plan 2018-23) is 'to ensure that all of these organisations are working together in the most efficient and effective manner'.

M3 is established as a Community Interest Company (CIC) with three active Directors.

The partnership organises the following:-

- 'The Pinnacle' - the community magazine - which is printed quarterly with the proceeds from the advertising, and is delivered free to all the homes in Martock, Ash, East Lambrook, Kingsbury Episcopi and Long Load by a 40 strong group of kind volunteers. (previously published as The Leveller).
- Martock Online website (apart from the local democracy section) which provides news and information about community facilities, events and a directory of businesses in the local area.
- Martock Awards, to thank individuals who go the extra mile for our community

The partnership is responsible for producing and monitoring progress of the Martock Local Community Plan.

The 2018 – 23 plan continues the work of previous plans under five key themes.

- Connecting Martock
- Culture and the Environment
- Youth Provision
- Living Learning and Livelihoods
- Community Safety

An action plan sets out specific projects that are planned or already being taken forward.

SSDC as a Core Member

The focus of the work carried out by M3 is local to Martock. There are links between much of what is set out in the action plan and SSDC priorities. However, SSDC is not expected to be responsible for delivery of any elements of the plan.

It is not clear what the purpose or implications of being a 'core member' are for SSDC. Core membership status could convey or suggest responsibility for delivery. For many years, the contribution that SSDC has made has been to nominate a member of Area North Committee to attend M3 meetings. SSDC has not been asked to provide financial support or officer time in recent years.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications related to this report.

Council Plan Implications

The work of M3 Community Partnership detailed in the report contributes broadly towards outcomes set out in the key areas of focus for Economy, Environment and Healthy, Self-Reliant Communities.

Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Implications

There are no implications for carbon emissions and climate change related to this report.

Equality and Diversity Implications

<i>An Equality Impact Relevance Check Form has been completed in respect of the Proposal?</i>	Yes
<i>The Impact Relevance Check indicated that a full EIA was required?</i>	No
<i>If an EIA was not required please attach the Impact Relevance Check Form as an Appendix to this report and provide a brief summary of its findings in the comments box below.</i>	
<i>If an EIA was required please attach the completed EIA form as an Appendix to this report and provide a brief summary of the result of your Equality Impact Assessment in the comment box below.</i>	
Additional Comments	
The report provides an update on the work of the M3 partnership. The recommendations will not result in a reduction or loss of support or services to residents. It is considered that there is no equality impact as a direct result of this report.	



South Somerset
District Council

Background Papers

- Appointment of Members to Outside Organisations and Groups – ANC Wednesday 14th July.
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