

4 SEPTEMBER 2019

BRIDPORT COMMUNITY HUB

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

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**1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To consider initial steps by the Parish Church and partner organisations towards a 'community hub', and agree any actions arising.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

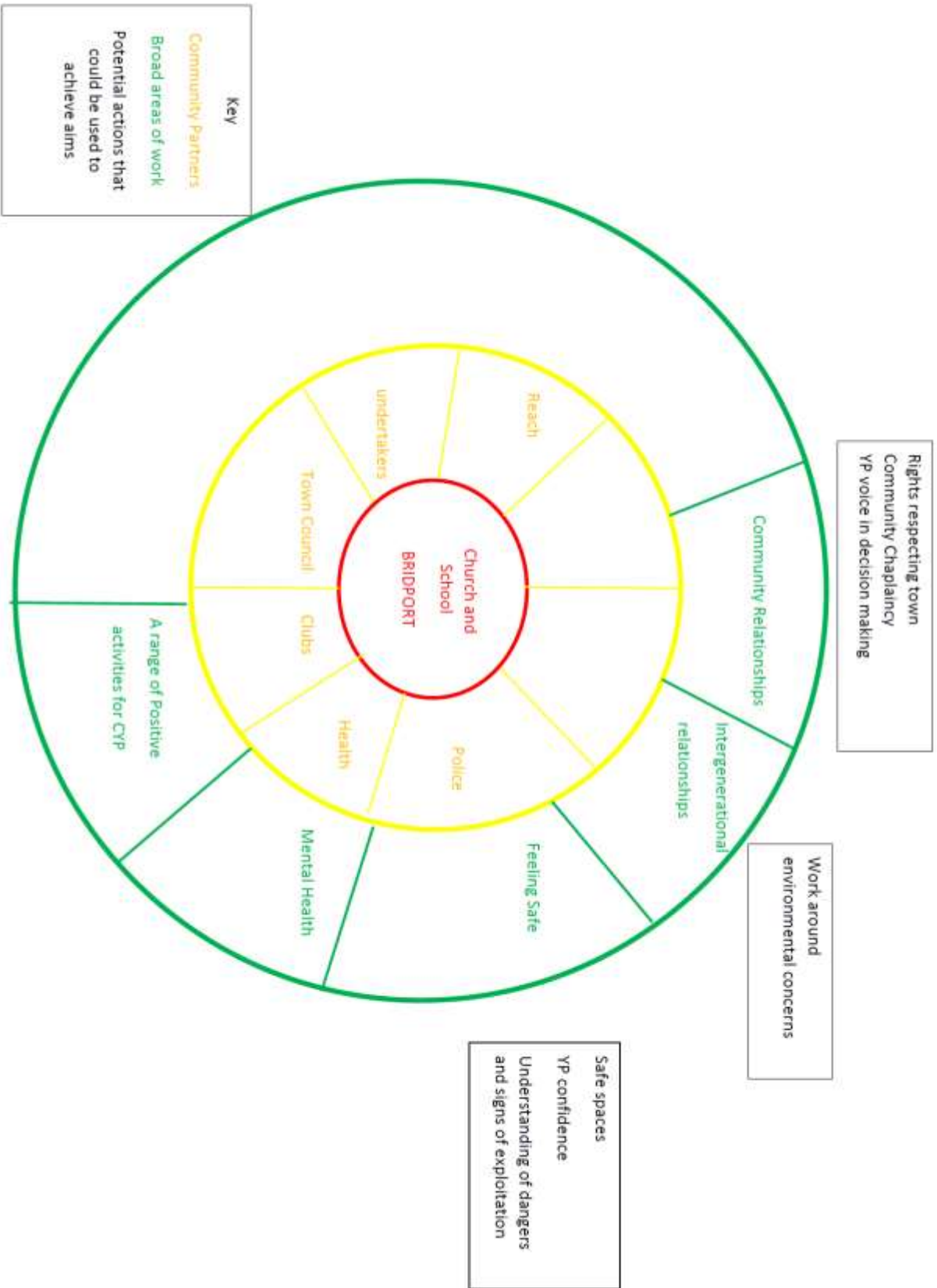
- 2.1 The Town Council has been approached by Rev Pete Stone of Bridport Team Ministry, with outline information in respect of a proposed 'community hub' facility for Bridport.
- 2.2 Rev Stone advises that the hub would aim to transform the lives of young people, children and families, working across relevant agencies and community groups. Further information may be provided at the committee meeting.
- 2.3 Rev Stone has invited the Town Council to be part of the next stage in developing the facility, along with David Powell, Simon Wakely, local schools and churches. A meeting is planned for September. He has also asked the Town Council to suggest other organisations that might be involved.
- 2.4 Rev Stone has provided a suggested structure, and the results of initial consultation with young people. These are shown at Appendix 1.

**4.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 Members are asked to consider Town Council engagement in this project, and any other information to feedback to the Church.

28 August 2019

Will Austin  
Town Clerk



## **Bridport Consultation**

### **Worries:**

*Secondary*

Safety – 50 (31%)

Personal feelings: Anxiety, addiction, loneliness appearance – 30 (19%)

Drugs, smoking – 23 (14%)

Lack of faith in authority figures – 15 (9%)

Environmental/global -14 (8%)

Local issues including a lack of activities for young people -12 (7%)

Family concerns including health of relatives, relatives in trouble and money worries -9 (5%)

Friends/peers – 5 (3%)

Exams and Future plans – 4 (2%)

School based injustices – 3 (2%)

### **Question Cards:**

1. What do you do if you are concerned: 75% talk to someone, 25% ignore/bottle it up
2. How do you mainly feel: 50/50 happy/positive or sad/worried
3. How do you feel about the future: 1/3 excited, over half worried, a few scared.
4. (See below – views on area they live)
5. (See below – views on area they live)
6. What is important to you: Family, Friends, Hobbies, Pets, school/grades.

### **Views on area they live:**

General sense that Bridport is nice, green, peaceful, but there is an overriding narrative across all the exercises about concerns for safety. Maps were divided in every session into areas that were safe and not safe, beach feeling safer than town. Wall of injustice activity reflected the lack of things to do, a sense of feeling unsafe and a desire for a few more shops/food outlets aimed at young people, with particular reference to fast food chains + clothes shops for young men. There was also a feeling that older people viewed young people very negatively and assumed that they were causing trouble even when they were just spending time with friends in town.

Not great at articulating what they might change to improve things – reflection seemed to be around wanting more to do and wanting more friends. Activities described as either free but not for us, or expensive so not used. Nominal references to a lack of transport, as well as it being expensive.

Other organisations predominately about extra-curricular activities, with mention of church, hospital and gig club.

Future dreams had a dominant theme about future careers/plans, with a small selection referencing families and health.

The primary schools had a recurring theme around bereavement, of either family members or pets. Their reflections on the local area mirrored the KS3/4 students, including the occasional references to drugs and the skate park being unsafe. There was also a small group of year 6 pupils who felt very strongly about the opportunity to discuss and celebrate LGBTQ+ issues.

**In ten years time we will see...**

That young people feel that Bridport is a safe place to live and that they feel there are safe spaces to be.

The Police and other partners have tackled the drug issue in the town so young people no longer feel scared about drug use in the town.

The community in Bridport is united, the barriers between generations have broken down and more families are moving into the town.

All Young People have aspirations for their future and feel empowered to influence the community and feel that their children will be able to do this too.

Bridport has developed into a rights respecting town and this forms a part of the 'DNA' of the community

Bridport is a community that understands the needs of its young people and actively seeks to meet them and provides good services, beyond the school, to meet the mental health needs, concerns and worries of its young people

There is a wide range of recreational and positive activities for young people to be involved in.