

Chapel-en-le-Frith

Market Towns Initiative Succession Strategy



CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH
Regeneration Partnership



For more information on the work of the Market Town Initiative – see High Peak Borough Council’s website. <http://www.highpeak.gov.uk/neighbourhood/markettowns/>

Copies of Regeneration Partnership minutes and papers are available on <http://www.highpeak.gov.uk/council/agenmin/regen-chapel/>

Additional information can be obtained care of the Economic Development Manager on 0845 129 7777

1. Purpose of report

To outline achievements of Market Town Initiative and to highlight work still needed to complete 10-year action plan for Chapel-en-le-Frith's regeneration.

2. What was the Market Town Initiative?

2.1 Background

The Market Towns Initiative was established by the Countryside Agency with support from the East Midlands Development Agency, to help revitalise the role of the market town as a rural service centre in the 21st century. The initiative included a 'healthcheck' of the town's economy and social assets and funding for a Market Towns Project Manager to take forward the vision and implement projects identified from the healthcheck. The aim of this scheme was to be a springboard for market town regeneration where the revitalisation meets the needs of local people. The process "should create a shared vision of the town's future, shaped by people who live and use the retail, leisure, professional and public services" located within the town.

The results of the Chapel-en-le-Frith healthcheck completed in July 2002 indicated that the town was recovering well from a period of serious decline which occurred between the late 1980s and mid 1990s, when the town was primarily dependent on one major employer which reduced its workforce from around 3,000 to its present day 950. A number of significant improvements led by Chapel-en-le-Frith Regeneration Partnership had occurred over the previous five years, (1997-2001), specifically the establishment of a conservation area and a Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme (HERS). A new confidence in the town's future was evident by winter 2002/3 with the full occupation of industrial units and the development of 12 new retail businesses within the twelve months. However, further work was needed to draw together some of the disparate improvements and build on the successes achieved. The town also wanted to capitalise on its historic legacy and location within the wider Peak District to support existing and new businesses in order to draw visitors from the nearby tourist hot spots.

A key finding of the healthcheck was that the town and its hinterland had a high proportion of young people under the age of 16 but there was a strong perception that there was little for young people to do. This was one of the key concerns of all age groups consulted in the healthcheck and led to a number of project ideas. In addition, many families had irregular hours or shift working patterns and a significant proportion of people commuted outside of the immediate hinterland for employment. This was seen as a significant feature of the town, which could affect access to services, shops and community engagement. For further information see Annexe 1: Healthcheck Process

2.2 The Healthcheck findings & priorities

The findings of the research and consultation were used by the Regeneration Partnership to identify a ten-year vision for the town's development including key objectives and projects that would enable the regeneration to take place. This was agreed by the partnership in November 2002 as "Chapel-en-le-Frith aims to be a thriving, prosperous, safe and attractive town with jobs, homes and facilities for all."

The five objectives agreed by the partnership were:

1. Building a stronger community
2. Strengthen leisure facilities for all generations
3. Supporting built environment improvements
4. Marketing and attracting people into the town
5. Working with partners to achieve improvements

The Regeneration Partnership established short-term, medium and long-term priorities for action, which they hoped would be achieved over the next ten years. The projects were all planned to be developed in partnership and could be led by community groups or Parish, Borough or County Councils.

By implementing projects it was hoped to:

- Improve community safety and reduce fear of crime –the high incidence of youth gathering and perceived 'youth nuisance' was to be tackled by providing new facilities and information on activities which would engage young people
- Improve access to recreational opportunities through exploring the establishment of walking, cycling route which could help promote healthy lifestyles and help reduce car reliance and traffic congestion
- Conserve and enhance historic Peak Forest Tramway including nature conservation to help safeguard 18th century feature and promote understanding of the local environment
- Improve economic participation rates for women by supporting range and information on childcare (including school holiday childcare), which in turn will support increased prosperity of residents by raising average household incomes. This would also benefit local retailers due to increased spending power of households
- Improve access to information for local residents, visitors and businesses which will support local shopping and retention of disposable income within the local area
- Improve physical appearance of town centre and the main entrances into the town to encourage visitors into the town centre to spend money within local shops, pubs and restaurants

Seven Projects were agreed as priorities to take forward within the lifetime of the Market Town Initiative in November 2002, a further nine were agreed as medium term objectives (2005-2007) and seven were agreed as longer term goals (2007 onwards). It was acknowledged that some movement within these agreed priorities would occur in order to take advantage of funding opportunities or as a result of priorities within individual organisations. It was also reasonable to expect that local, regional or national initiatives could influence a small number of projects, which could make them unachievable by the partnership. A full list of the agreed prioritised projects is included in Annexe 2.

3. MTI Action Plan Progress 2003-2005

- 3.1 Within the lifetime of the Market town initiative twenty-one projects have been completed which relate to thirteen of the action plan points. (Full details in Annexe 3). This has far exceeded original work plan and has given the town a number of quick wins, which have been recognised as major improvements for the town. Three of the projects have won special recognition in Action for Market Towns East Midlands Awards – including one project being voted best overall project in the East Midlands in 2004/5. In addition, the MTI has worked with partners on a number of smaller issues to improve the quality of life for local residents and improve the appearance of the town centre. For example, improving frequency of footpath litter clearance, promoting use of Borough Council's clean team services, marketing town events via peak District web site and visitor guides.

An annual progress leaflet has been introduced to inform residents of progress and forthcoming objectives. It also serves as a tool to remind people what they asked for within the consultation, which can easily be overlooked as improvements are implemented. It is hoped that this will be replicated over the years in order to continue to inform and engage local residents and businesses.

3.2 Main achievements in Chapel-en-le-Frith 2002-2005

Funding for the twenty-one projects implemented within the lifetime of the Market Town Initiative primarily came from resources external to the Regeneration Partnership including grants from Rural Action Zone (Derby & Derbyshire Economic Partnership), The Countryside Agency, The Arts Council, Community Safety Partnership, The Peak District National Park Authority, National Lottery and European Regional Development Fund. The Regeneration partnership has used its small annual budget of £10,000 to match fund action plan projects – which has resulted in over £358,000 of external funding for projects within the lifetime of the Market Town Initiative.

Projects completed included:

1. Building a stronger community

- Development of information on School holiday childcare & activities and work with private and community organisations to introduce provision within the town
- Improved information for residents through community newsletter (Led by Healthy Living Network)
- Improved information for visitors through introduction of touch screen information board (cross cutting with objective 4) and inclusion of Chapel-en-le-Frith within wider Peak District marketing initiatives.
- Local Business support and training programme developed to promote survival of new and existing businesses within the town and help rejuvenate business forum. This has included establishing database of local companies; distributing information to companies e.g. grants, training opportunities; co-ordinating the first years Business Forum meetings; establishing and securing funding for Independent Traders Marketing workshops
- Regeneration committee meetings are now all open to the public and agendas, minutes and papers are all published within High Peak Borough Council's website

2. Strengthen leisure facilities for all generations
 - The development of new informal recreation facilities in partnership with Parish Council including new skateboard/BMX site and two youth shelter. This project was recognised by Action for Market Towns for the involvement of young people in all stages of the process.
 - Completion of Peak Forest Tramway feasibility study as a cycle walking route (cross cutting with objective 4) and second project that explored issues raised through the study in more detail including the design aspects and conservation management.
 - Improvements to part of the Peak Forest tramway footpath to improve accessibility for people with disabilities and parents with buggies. (cross cutting with objective 3)
 - Established Chapel Circular bus service to serve needs of residents of Chapel West (link to Town End connections) & serve needs of less able residents living away from Market Street
 - Established pilot swim bus linking Chapel town to Buxton and New Mills swimming pools four days a week.
 - Developed in partnership with High Peak Community Arts Young people/older people oral history film project. As part of the Infusion Youth festival this won best community project and best overall project in the East Midlands in the Action for Market Towns Awards 2004/5/ for the way that it linked generations and broke down stereotypes about teenagers and older people.
 - Forward information on grant opportunities which enabled Parish Council to secure funding to improve accessibility of town hall

3. Supporting built environment improvements
 - Supported development of second conservation area at Town End which will help secure long term conservation of historic builds and also enables property owners to apply for conservation grants administered by High Peak Borough Council on behalf of the Regeneration Partnership.
 - Introduced twelve new planters at Town End and two new flower boxes under welcome signs
 - Introduced three new litter bins and secured funding for replacement street furniture
 - Worked with the Clean Team and Environmental Services to improve frequency of footpath and pavement street cleaning and wrote numerous articles for community newspaper encouraging residents to be more litter conscious and use services of Clean team.
 - By the end of the market town initiative it is also hoped to have completed two small scale built environmental projects to include the raised paving area at Town End and the setted public access way between High Street and Eccles Road (behind Kings Arms Hotel).

4. Marketing and attracting people into the town
 - Explored potential of town as visitor destination and developed new town centre leaflet to promote town as visitor destination,
 - Worked with external agencies such as Peak District Marketing Forum to include town in Peak District wide what's on, visitor guide and website.
 - Encouraged public houses which offered accommodation to get inspected then they could be marketed as visitor accommodation (2 public houses have since done this and one will shortly after upgrading of facilities)

- Introduced annual 'What's on for summer' leaflets
- Organised series of themed events to encourage visitors into town during summer and build town's reputation as 'stop-off' destination including Traditional May Day Event in 2005.
- Supported development of Youth music/arts event, which would engage young people and provide focus for their interests and talents. (cross cutting with objective 1). This project (together with heritage film) won regional Action for Market Towns award for best community project and best overall project in a market town in the East Midlands in 2004/5. The project is currently in the national competition, which will be announced in October 05.
- Worked with High Peak Community Arts to develop A-Z Flag project exploring local distinctiveness. The flags have a three–four year lifespan and also help to brighten up the town centre (cross cutting with objective 3)

5. Working with partners to achieve improvements

- Worked with a range of partners to improve services including frequency of footpath clearance around the town centre (cross cutting objective3), hanging baskets, marketing etc:
- Practically supported campaign for improved links to technology e.g. broadband for both businesses and residents by writing press releases and providing information
- Worked alongside partners to support the continuation of the traditional market including Summer market day 2004 to encourage new shoppers
- By the end of the market Town Initiative, hoped to have secured review of parking arrangements at Town End to allow some time limited on street car parking for customers of local shops.
- Assisted a wide range of voluntary and community groups to access funding for projects in the community.

4. Future work

4.1 Short term Priorities

The original prioritised action plan had seven key projects to be achieved within lifetime of initiative. Six of these were achieved in part or full and one was postponed as a larger scale pilot programme in the neighbouring market town of Glossop aimed to explore issues of town centre appearance and the built environment through the liveability grant. It was therefore agreed to postpone any action with regard to town centre warden/caretaker until best practice could be examined from this larger project within High Peak Borough Council.

Projects elements not delivered within original timescale were:

- Warmbrook field development for football pitches and development of play equipment for 7-11 year olds on school site which would be accessible out of school hours
- Larger scale project to screen Derbyshire County Council highway sites including grit tip at main entrance to the town
- Development of website portal
- Town warden/caretaker pilot

The main reasons for these projects not progressing were:

- a) The Primary school has been through a period of adjustment with the original head leaving, an interim position for 9 months and then a new permanent head coming into post. A speculative funding bid was made with original

- head teacher to Derbyshire County Council's Aggregate levy fund but this was unsuccessful. With the change of staff and Ofsted Inspection, this project had to be postponed. There is now a new grant programme under the Football Foundation, which the school can apply for directly with regard the drainage of the school field. Any additional play equipment proposal will necessarily be postponed until this ground work is completed by the school.
- b) Derbyshire County Council had a review of their Highway facilities in 2003. They asked the Regeneration Partnership to postpone the screening project, as if they were to re-locate away from the sites, then a private developer would be developing it, which could make the project redundant. Currently, no alternative site has been secured for Highways and therefore this project should be high priority for the regeneration partnership post the conclusion of the Market town initiative.
 - c) The website portal project was explored in depth and costings were developed. However the on-going maintenance of the website and the cost to individual businesses after the initial development period were high. It was agreed to postpone this project in the short term and review business needs. Ideally, a project developing individual businesses websites would be developed – perhaps by matching ICT High School Students – and then a overarching portal could be developed or linked. Alternatively, a borough wide initiative to improve e-government could incorporate links to local businesses.
 - d) The warden project was not developed at this point as it was agreed to wait until the findings from the Glossop Liveability pilot had been examined. This coincided with the development of the Cleaner, Greener agenda, which developed key service standards for environmental maintenance, and the expansion of HPBC's clean team to tackle complaints. The warden project is no longer seen as required.

4.2 Medium Term projects 2005-2007

Nine projects were identified in the original prioritised action plan. Of these seven have been partly or fully implemented and one was seen as no longer necessary as the creation of High Peak Council for Voluntary Service means that the capacity building needs of the community sector are now being met.

Key elements still to be achieved within original timeframe

- a) Development of Britain in Bloom community group and application
- b) Development of more strategic action plan to encourage visitors into the town centre including exploring potential for additional visitor attraction(s).
- c) Transport management review of market place including upgrading of pedestrian route from Miry Meadow car park and exploration of time restrictions around historic centre to limit all day car parking
- d) There is continued need to support development of events (including May Day, Infusion Youth Festival)

4.2.2 Foreseen challenges

- a) Britain in Bloom: An initial meeting was held in June 2003 to explore interest in developing a Britain in Bloom community group. Although this had some community support (9 attendees + number of businesses offering assistance) with many people offered to be practically involved, no individual came forward to lead the project. In other towns in the area, officers from High Peak Borough Council or local Parish Council have led development but neither of these

organisations have capacity at present. A key challenge will be to identify a specific individual with the drive, enthusiasm and time able to take this forward otherwise this project cannot proceed.

- b) Attracting visitors: A more strategic action plan to encourage visitors into the area was proposed. Partners should be aware that national strategy of most funders is not to support new large-scale visitor attractions.
- c) Transport & parking: This project needs to take priority but will need to be handled sensitively as they are conflicting views even within businesses (i.e. some business owners like to park outside their shop and don't see the incongruity that their customers can't park)
- d) Events: Although these projects if continued will primarily be led by either the local business community and/or Youth Services, it is recognised that some support at least in the next few years will probably be necessary to ensure their sustainability.

4.3 Long terms projects 2007 +

None of the seven long-term projects were developed within MTI as they were seen as longer-term aspirations for the town – however, in relation to a number of projects a number of factors should be identified

- a) Playhouse accessibility and re-development. The Disabled Discrimination Act means that the Chapel Players needs to focus on this project in order both to meet legal requirements and also open up their audience and community participation to people with disabilities. It is hoped that they will work with High Peak CVS to lead this project, perhaps will some support from Parish Council or new HPBC Arts Development post.
- b) Warmbrook Wildlife project: Chapel-en-le-Frith High School has expressed interest in developing wildlife project in partnership with High Peak Community Housing who owns the land. This would be an ideal solution and one that would enable environmental funds to be drawn down and young people to learn environmental sustainability skills. The main issue will be long-term maintenance of the area and this will need to be fully developed at the onset. It is possible that new compact with Groundwork could led this piece of work
- c) The floor space of the Library could easily be expanded if the Registrar was re-located to the upstairs office (lift available). However, this would reduce income to Derbyshire County Council Libraries service that sub-let this area and would probably not suit registrar. An alternative would be for a larger grant funded scheme to re-locate the Parish Council office to the front of the building and utilise the unused space under the annexe with the addition of a glass wall and new entrance. This would be significantly more expensive and would require joint working with Parish Council and Library Service but would perhaps be the best long-term solution to increase the library space and increase visibility of Parish office.
- d) The Matlock- Buxton Rail feasibility study has concluded that a re-establishment of the cross-country rail link would be too expensive. This effectively rules out the re-opening of the Chapel Central Station in the short term. However, in the longer term a loop could be created on the Manchester/Sheffield line which could have additional benefits for train companies (i.e. allow express & goods trains to leap-frog stopping services). This is something that the Community Rail Partnership could lead and is something that Regeneration Partnership could support.

- e) A community cinema project could be developed however, research will need to be conducted to see if this meets the expectations of local residents.

5. Way Forward

- 5.1 Since the community consultation undertaken in 2002, a number of issues have also come to light and should be part of revised programme of action.
 - a) Retail shop decline. One of the biggest threats to the appearance of the town centre is that a number of small retail shops are run by independent traders who are reaching retirement age and feel that this is little prospect of selling their business as a going concern. A number of these business owners live above their shops and it is possible rather than moving, they could simply retire and do nothing with the shop premises. This has already happened to two shops and a further four are at risk. All of these shops are on the main street and empty or unkempt premises in the town centre will obviously give a poor general appearance, which could make new start-ups or existing businesses reluctant to invest in the town.
 - b) Manufacturing industry is in decline nationally but remains an important part of Chapel-en-le-Frith's (& the High Peak's) local economy. These kinds of businesses (as well as suppliers and transport companies) need increased levels of professional assistance to ensure that they can survive and grow their businesses in the local area. Of specific concern is Federal Mogul, which employs nearly one thousand people. If the multinational company were to transfer significant parts of their business to other premises (in Czech republic) this could impact significantly on both employment levels within the town and also shops which supply goods and services to these employees.
 - c) The Pension crisis (Federal Mogul employees) means that many pensioners and employees are uncertain about their retirement income. This will have a longer-term impact on people's willingness to commit money – both on non-essential items, as well as a possible cutting back on day-to-day items. This could have a major impact on local shops and services – especially where these are targeted at older people.
 - d) There are a number of development sites on the prime industrial land in Chapel-en-le-Frith that need to be developed for inward investment or business development. It is important that these sites are kept for employment in order to retain a diverse range of employers within the area. It is also well recognised that approximately 70% of people's disposable income is spent within five miles of their place of employment (not home)- therefore if a diverse range of retail shops are to be sustained in the long term, then supporting a range of business development is key to retail survival. Salaries and wages tend to be highest in industries where technology and innovation plays a critical role in making and keeping them competitive and therefore this should be the focus of business premises.
 - e) There is a continued need to support linkages between Chapel-en-le-Frith High School, the newly expanded University of Buxton and the businesses in the area – to ensure that local young people are aware of the skills that local firms require, and so that local businesses can gain from the knowledge and enthusiasm that young people can bring to them. A project to link ICT High

School students to retail shops and other local firms in order to develop tailor-made e- presence is envisaged as starting point for future development.

- f) Chapel-en-le-Frith has not had a long term history of community engagement and many community groups struggle to get members (especially people willing to lead groups) this includes the Business Association. It takes time to build this engagement and there is an on-going need for staff time to support projects that are community led if they are to be sustainable in the longer term. This will be intensified with the completion of the Market Town Initiative (and therefore no MTI Manager) and the completion of the Healthy Living Network Project (and therefore Community Development Worker) in June 06.
- f) Affordable Housing has become an important issue over the last three years as house prices have increased relatively dramatically. The prices today are significantly higher than at time of Healthcheck (Terraces £105,000-£120,000; 3-bed semis £180,000-225,000 and four bed detached ranging from £350,000-£650,000). There has recently been some affordable housing built within the town centre consisting mainly of 2 bed apartments for shared purchase. These prices linked to the relatively low level of wages in the area results in a lack of affordable housing. This is exacerbated by a low turnover of social housing.

5.2 Updated formation

The statistical information included within the healthcheck used the latest data available. The new figures, based upon the 2001 census and 2003 average earnings surveys shows that Chapel-en-le-Frith and the High Peak are closing the gap between national and local average earnings, but there are still some key challenges – most notably the increase in average wages when compared to change in house prices.

- The gross average weekly earnings in the High Peak were £296.53 (£15,420 p.a.) in 2003 which compares to national average of £371 or £19,292. This was a change of 9.8% from 1999 (compared to national change of 17%). However the price of homes increased by 124% in the same period – outstripping the national average by 17%.
- Between 1998 and 2002 total employment in the Borough fell by 8 per cent compared to a decline of only 2.9 per cent in Derbyshire and a *growth* of 4.9 per cent in Great Britain. Many of the jobs in the Borough are part time (26.7 per cent compared to the regional average 24.9 per cent). As a result of the industrial structure and the high level of part-time employment wages are low compared to the rest of the region.
- Although a significant proportion of residents do commute, it is often less far than envisaged (i.e. not necessarily Stockport or Manchester town centres). Therefore any measures aimed at increasing sustainable transport should be aware of the potential alternative destinations. It should also be noted that if we want to improve the average salaries of local people, then attracting high wage employers to the area is crucial as we could exacerbate a two-speed economy where the higher earners commute.
- The High Peak had a slightly higher percentage of women working than the national average (57% compared to 56%) and in Chapel East and West wards 26.62% and 22.85% of women worked part time (compared to UK average of 19.97%) This is a significant change from the original healthcheck when only 53%

of women were in any kind of economic activity at all. The need for on-going information on childcare is therefore vital. (Source national statistics.gov.uk)

- In 2001 census, households with a person with limiting long life illnesses were similar to the national average (Chapel West: 34.07%; Chapel East 34.20%; nationally 34.05%) and 70% classified themselves as in good health. The anomalies in age expectancy between the wards have now changed so that the average life expectancy is 78.
- At High School level, Chapel-en-le-Frith young people performed above average –with more people gaining qualifications. Chapel East and West had a similar proportion of population with no qualifications (27.05% & 28.37 respectively), which were in line with High Peak average (27.13%) and below the regional and national averages.
- At higher-level qualification levels (NVQ4/5 or 1st Degree level) the town was significantly below the High Peak average (21.91%) with only 16.57% (Chapel West) and 17.69%(Chapel East) having higher qualifications. This indicates that Chapel-en-le-Frith is at risk of being left behind with improvements in other areas of the borough. There is therefore a need to ensure that employers requiring higher level skills can recruit locally through linkages with University of Derby and other HE institutions and more focus is placed upon skills development at the higher level.

5.2 As there is no grant funding for the Market Town Manager post to be continued, an action plan has been put in place outlining which partner will take forward specific elements of the 10 year action plan (Annex 3).

6. Conclusion

The funding provided by the Countryside Agency, Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council, High Peak Borough Council and Derbyshire County Council to support the Market Town Initiative has enabled a key number of successes to be achieved and a clear plan of action for the town's regeneration to be put in place. The Market Town Initiative costed £90,000 (£45,000 of Council funding) over the three-year period but brought in external funding of over £358,000, which represents excellent value for money. In addition, the Initiative helped to generate new activity, community pride and voluntary involvement all of which will help sustain regeneration improvements for the longer term.

Annexe 1: The Healthcheck Process

The Healthcheck was led by a Project Co-ordinator over a six-month period from January 2002 to June 2002. The process involved the identification of local community stakeholders for consultation and the establishment of an 'information base' for respondents to the various surveys undertaken by structured interviews; postal questionnaires; events and innovative initiatives involving local schools, voluntary organisations, small businesses and larger employers and others within the community. In addition, considerable research was sourced from local and central government departments and 'The State of the Countryside: White Paper'. This enabled trends to be identified in order to put the town in context within the English Countryside.

Following completion of the draft healthcheck (July 02) and the appointment of the Market Town Project Manager also in July 02, a six-month validation process commenced. This included:

- Research and compilation of data from statutory bodies and other sources in order to compile the environmental, economic, social/community and transport/accessibility Countryside Agency Snapshot and Worksheets sections
- Survey of working age population
- Development of SWOT analysis and proposed actions for environmental, economic, social/community and transport/accessibility
- Comparison of town's assets with benchmark established by the East Midlands Development Agency
- Inclusion of consultation work undertaken by external agencies
- Development of a 'vision for the town's regeneration'
- Consultation on the vision and priorities
- Comparison of the town's action plan to regional and sub regional priorities
- Development of individual projects proformas

The validated report was completed in March 03, approved by the Regeneration Partnership in their quarterly meeting in April and was publicly launched at an event targeting local businesses and community groups on May 12th 03. The report, and executive summary were widely distributed and made available at local venues and on line at www.highpeak.gov.uk. In addition a four page leaflet highlighting the vision for the town's future and proposed actions which arose out of the consultation was developed and sent to all households within the town centre as well as being distributed via community groups, local amenities and businesses.

The vision, "Chapel-en-le-Frith aims to be a thriving, prosperous, safe and attractive town with jobs, homes and facilities for all", was developed from consultation. It was confirmed as the preferred option by respondents to the working age survey, as it would enable the partnership to focus on community building, leisure and access to town facilities, built environmental projects and those which market and attract people into the town. Chapel-en-le-Frith also aimed to be somewhere you visit and live out of choice, which attracted people to its countryside location.

Annexe 2 Agreed Projects November 28th 2002

Prioritised Action Plan

Approved by Market Town Initiative sub group on 21st November 02 and full Regeneration Partnership meeting on 28th November 02. Ten year prioritised action plan:

Short Term (2003-2005)

1. Informal recreation project
 - Development of new skateboard/BMX site in Memorial Park
 - Development of Youth Shelter adjacent to skate facility
 - Drainage of Warmbrook field and establishment of two flat football pitches
 - Development of safe/secure entrances from Warmbrook Road, Eastbrook Road and potentially Westbrook road via repaired footbridge.
 - Development of play equipment for 7-11 year olds accessible out of school hours
2. Develop Peak Forest Tramway feasibility study
 - As cycle track/walking route
 - Wildlife planting and art interpretation
 - Safe cycle route link to High School
 - Secure bike parking in town centre
3. Develop social enterprise project to cover school holiday childcare provision within the town
4. Support development of second conservation area and HERS scheme at Town End to include extra on street parking at Town End.
5. Develop project to improve gateways from by-pass to town centre including screening of industrial sites and introduction of planters at Town End
6. Information project to include:
 - Community newsletter
 - Website (cross cutting with marketing)
 - Explore how local population is informed about training opportunities (Learn direct) and how new technology could help them improve incomes–Community newsletter features?
 - Information project to develop shared signage/posters (Parish, Borough and County Council) with details of activities and contact numbers.
 - Touch screen information board
7. Town caretaker/warden pilot project to be proactive response to town centre appearance and maintenance including litter, fly posting, graffiti, gritting, checking of visitor/public amenities, Liaising with shop owners regarding issues, concerns.

Medium Term Priorities (2005-2007)

8. Pilot Chapel Circular bus service
 - to serve needs of residents of Chapel West (link to Town End connections)
 - support access to new leisure centre in evenings
 - serve Combs village

- serve needs of less able residents living away from Market Street
- (Route to include: Chapel-en-le-Frith→Combs→Whaley Bridge→Buxworth→Chinley→Chapel Milton→Town End→Thornbrook Road→Rowton Grange Road→Long Lane)

9. Pilot swim bus linking Chapel town to Buxton or New Mills pool. This could be run two days per week, with a two return services per day to co-inside with swimming lessons, over 50s/quiet swim, weekend splash session

10. Marketing project developed to address how to attract visitors into town centre including:

- Develop marketing strategy to capitalise on towns location
- redevelopment of website,
- leaflet to promote town as visitor destination,
- closer links with Chestnut centre to promote shared 'identity',
- work with external agencies e.g. Peak District Tourism to include town in strategy,
- work with town centre businesses to develop tourist accommodation,
- develop Britain in Bloom application
- use environmental strengths of town as focus for visitors
- explore potential and feasibility for 'visitor attraction' within town centre

11. Develop transport management plan for upper Market Street and Market place

- Explore feasibility of restricted parking during summer weekends
- Explore options for re-direction of traffic on Eccles road
- Explore option of re-tractable bollards on Market Place and Church Brow
- Assess pedestrian needs at Rowton Grange junction
- Explore options to reduce bottleneck on Market Street
- Develop project to improve and light pedestrian route from Miry Meadow to market place

12. Capacity building project to support the development of increased community involvement

13. Youth/older people film project

14. Explore development of themed event to encourage visitors into town during summer and build town's reputation as 'stop-off' destination

- Themed week/fortnight to celebrate local distinctiveness support development of community identify and promote visitors, Youth music/arts event.
- Walks and wildlife talks
- Flag/Banner project

15. Local Business support and training programme to be developed to promote survival of new businesses within the town and help rejuvenate business forum. Including:

- Work with businesses to access grants, improve awareness and develop practical enhancements which promote disabled access
- Start up and training grants for whole town and hinterland area
- Support development of shared site 'incubator units
- Market town portal initiative (on line shop creator)

16. Regeneration committee public meeting and encouragement of greater numbers of community representatives

Longer Term Priorities 2007+ (Templates not included in the Action Plan edition 2003)

17. Playhouse improvement project

18. Wildlife planting/improved site by Warmbrook and development of project to prevent on-going deterioration to footpath network

19. Blue Plaques on famous residents houses or at sites of specific historic events

20. Re-development of Town Hall to enhance Library provision and access to ICT/information and development of new accessible entrance

21. Research needs of older residents and develop projects appropriate to outcome

22. Support proposal for re-establishment of Chapel-en-le-Frith Central station (Manchester-Sheffield line)

23. Local cinema project

24. Work with partners to improve services: (projects which require time input but not external funding)

- Linkages between Bowers 189 and Chinley service (interim measure if Chapel Central station re-opened)
- Explore options for early morning 200 service for commuters/school commuters from town to station
- Explore feasibility of Transpeak service stopping at Town End (to link with Chapel circular)
- Work with bus operators to ensure all routes and timetables are listed at stops
- Work with Police to address concerns over police speed/movement of traffic patrol
- Ensure sensitive developments on all new developments especially at gateways and National Tyres site
- Work alongside partners to support the continuation of the market
- Work with external agencies e.g. Derbyshire County Council to address issues of administration of childcare system

Annex 3: Agreed Lead organisations for revised action plan 2006-2012

It was agreed at the Regeneration Partnership on 13th October 2005, that the following partners would lead projects.

Parish Council

- Annual inspection of Skateboard/MBX facility and maintenance as required (approved)
- Planters and welcome sign boxes – to be planted and maintained (approved)
- Potential town hall internal re-development to expand Library facilities and re-develop internal use of building (with DCC Library services)
- Support Business Association to develop May Day Event
- What's on in Chapel-en-le-Frith (summer visitor information)

High Peak Borough Council

- Matters connected to Conservation areas including administration of grants and explore options to arrest decline in shop frontages
- Administer grant claims for Chapel Swim bus & Chapel-en-le-Frith Circular until end of grant funding (March 06)
- Research & support inward investment/business growth opportunities and support manufacturing (supplier businesses & haulage) as part of Borough wide Regeneration Strategy
- Development of industrial land for high wage employers and linkages to University of Derby to ensure local people have appropriate skill base
- Visitor information including Christmas Leaflet and Central area walking guide
- Peak Forest Tramway development (in partnership with DCC)

Derbyshire County Council

- Develop project to screen DCC Highways Sites on Sheffield Road
- Traffic Plan to encourage use of free car park (Miry Meadow) and review traffic plan around market place to encourage a greater turnover of traffic to support local businesses
- DCC Youth Services to lead Infusion Youth festival 06 in partnership with High Peak Community Arts and others as appropriate
- Potential Town Hall internal re-development to expand library facilities in partnership with Parish Council
- Peak Forest Tramway development (in partnership with HPBC)

Chapel-en-le-Frith Business Association

- May Day Event – with support from Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council
- Partnership with High School to develop traders' web pages

Chapel-en-le-Frith Amenity Society (Unapproved as no representative present)

- Up grade and maintain touchscreen
- Updating of Visitor walking leaflets
- Information plaques

Chapel-en-le-Frith High School (Unapproved as no representative present)

- Partnership project with High Peak Community Housing to design and develop wildlife area supported by environmental organisation such as Groundwork.
- Partnership with Business Association to develop traders' web pages

Healthy Living Network (until June 06)

- Community newspaper
- What's on for children and young people (summer guide)

Other:

- Chapel-en-le-Frith Primary School – submission of funding application regarding Warmbrook field drainage
- Chapel Players – submission of funding application regarding Disabled facilities

Projects with no identified lead:

Development of Chapel-en-le-Frith in Bloom and environmental enhancements

Chapel Newsletter – post completion of Healthy Living Network Project (June 06)