

Ponteland Community Partnership

Monthly Meeting

Date: 15th July 2015.

Venue: Merton Hall, Ponteland.

Attending: Alma Dunigan, Shirley Hill, Brian Prickett, Syd Cowan, Christine Greenwell, Robin Ramsay, Sheila Campbell, Carl Rawlings, George Clasper, Rob Anderson and Nirmal Sehgal.

Meeting opened at 19.00.

1. **Apologies:** Frank Harrington and Mike Brown.
2. **Welcome:** Chairman Alma Dunigan welcomed everyone present and especially new member Nirmal Sehgal.
3. **Minutes:** Passed.
4. **Matters Arising:** None.
5. **Chairman's Report:** Alma emphasised that our aim was to identify appropriate activities, events and projects which will improve the quality of life for the Ponteland Community and seek to host them with the support of other individuals, businesses and organisations. Progress so far:-
 - SH has sent letter of thanks to PTC for £500 Grant.
 - AD met Chris Jennings to prepare the Re-Launch of PCP in September edition using past and future events for the article.
 - 1 BBQ to be arranged. All activities to be used in the PN&V article on Re-Launch of PCP.
 - Funding requests from Lyons and Rotary were awaiting results but AD had invitation as guest speaker at Rotary Dinner on 4th August re-funding and, invitation to discuss future collaboration with Young Rotary
 - 2 meetings with Youth Service, Police and Northumberland Clubs for Young People to discuss opportunities of collaborative working.
 - Outcome positive with 3 summer sessions arranged at the all- weather pitch on 3/17/24th August.
 - AD attended a training event sponsored by UK Youth to train students for Democracy Week.
 - AD had 2 meetings with year 12 students at Ponteland High School, setting up an activity for Democracy week, a national government backed event in week from 12th October 2015.

- 6 students will be awarded Democracy Champions Certificates as a result of having completed the training with 2 others to follow.
- High School year 12 students will set up a Youth Forum to support PCP and PNP sub groups with 'feed- back' to PCP.
- Ponteland 'Question Time' event on 16th October in Memorial Hall.
- Business sponsor found for Democracy Week but need to identify reasonable costs. Topic for debate 'Lack of facilities for Young People in Ponteland'. Imminent selection of adult panel + 1 VIP.
- AD had little success in discussion on future ideas with Sure Start.
- Meeting with Richard Powell re Community Chest funds grant; need specific project before consideration.
- 1 other local business, has agreed in principal, to give sponsorship for a future event.
- SH and AD have sent letters to organisations to give quarterly reports to SH.
- Alma reported that the new website was nearly complete and comments thus far would be appreciated. A discussion followed but the general consensus was that it would be excellent.

6. Pont News and Views – Financial Report. PN&V Bank Balance - £6.360.25 + Transfer from Nat West £693.91 = £7.054.16.
PCP Bank Balance £586.33 – Ageing Well £342.70 leaving PCP Balance at £233.63.

7. Sub Groups –

- Editorial – Nothing.
- Neighbourhood Plan Group – Engaged Planning Consultant – Meeting with each sub-group. Noted – lack of support from NCC.
- Constitution Review – meeting to be convened with Brian Prickett, Frank Harrington and Syd Cowan.
- Youth Activities – Year 12 students wish to change image of Memorial Hall – ask Cowell's Garden Centre for the loan of plants for day of meeting on 16th October.
- Encouragement to submit funding request for Twizell Place Football Pitch Project but delicate negotiations would be required because of local residents' concerns. Alternative plan needed for back-up.

8. Written Reports: Shirley reported that she had received the following:

- Ageing Well: Report from Brian Prickett on 29th June 2015.
- It was agreed that the possibility of setting up their own bank account should be investigated.

- The Winter Warmer event was fixed for Saturday 17th October from 10.00 until 12.30. It was agreed there should be a maximum of 15 stalls in the main hall and up to 3 in the small room.
- Newcastle International Airport Consultative Committee report:-
- Sheila Campbell reported that it had been rated as the ‘best regional airport for 4 years.
- Just completed £14 million improvement to facilities.
- Sponsorship of Ponteland ‘Party in the Park’.
- Pressure to keep “slots” at Heathrow for business and travel.
- Increase in destinations each year.
- Value to local economy.
- Involvement by all local authorities – 52% of shares.
- Concern regarding Government discussion paper from the impacts of airport passenger duty devolution to Scotland and Wales.
- Community Transport:- David Gambles submitted an article & Data on:
- Vehicle Activated signs in South Gloucestershire for the Council.
- Effectiveness in reducing traffic speeds
- Large scale evaluation prepared by Road Safety Division – Department for Transport.
- This information was also submitted to the DHEC who are considering giving money to the PTC for purchase of a sign.
- DG attended an Arriva Briefing Session on 6th July on behalf of the PTC regarding proposed changes to services within the Northumberland area. Arriva do not run commercial services through Ponteland but had recently operated the 100 service between Morpeth, Kirkley Hall, Ponteland, Newcastle Airport and Cramlington. Northumberland College has now decided that current services which have been available to the public will no longer run. Instead a small number of dedicated services will operate which are only available to students. This took effect from 3rd July.

9. A.O.B. Venue for future meetings:

Carl Rawlings offered the PTC Meeting Room and this was gratefully received and agreed by the committee.

Alma called for everyone to think of ideas for future events.

It was suggested that as it is the Queen’s 90th Birthday next year should we consider a Street Party?

Another idea was an autumn Continental Market.

Sheila wished to thank Alma and Rob for their hard work.

Rob invited the committee to his Retirement Party in the 7 Stars on 10th September.

10. Meeting ended at 8.40.

**11. Date of following meetings at 7.p.m in the PTC office on Meadowfield, Ponteland:-
16th September, 21st October, 18th November.
There are no meetings in August or December.**