

Ponteland Community Partnership

Monthly Meeting

Date: 17th February 2016

Venue: Ponteland Town Council Office, Meadowfield, at 7.p.m.

1. Attending:

Alma Dunigan, Shirley Hill, Robin Ramsay, Brian Prickett, George Clasper, Christine Greenwell, Sheila Campbell, Pratima Mehra, Yuvraj Chauhan, Frank Harrington, Carl Rawlings and Heather Thomas (observing) and Muriel Sobo (observing).

2. Apologies:

Syd Cowan, Rob Anderson Mike Brown, Syd Cowan and Nirmal Sehgal.

3. Welcome:

Chairman Alma Dunigan welcomed everyone present.

4. Minutes: Passed and signed after insert on page 4.

5. Minutes Arising: None.

6. Chairman's Report: Alma received a letter from NCC Sue Aviston, who is now the Project Manager for the proposed new school and leisure development in Ponteland, regarding re-sighting of the Youth Centre and Henry's Hut, if moved from their current position. She said they did not have any specific proposals at this very early stage of the project for all the services currently provided on the Ponteland High and Middle School Sites. Regarding the Library she stated that a traditional stand-alone library building was not sustainable.

AD received an email from Steve Cox of the Rotary Club regarding funding, which when put before the Rotary Club members was refused on the grounds that our organisation was 'too close to being a political one' and that Rotary steers clear of any political involvement. AD & SH devised a response to be circulated to our Committee Members for their perusal.

7. PCP Financial Report from CG:

Bank Balance for PCP: £633.02

PN&V Bank Balance: £5.360.77.

8. Sub Groups:

- a. **Editorial** – Nothing to report.
- b. **Neighbourhood Plan Group:**

AD hoped all had submitted their 'Housing Needs Survey.' There would be a Community Consultation in April 21/22/23.
- c. **Constitution Review:** The proposed clarifications suggested by the sub-group will be placed before the next A.G.M for ratification. There will also be a discussion on the current age limitation for membership of the PCP as to whether this could be lowered.
- d. **Youth Activities:** Youth Ambassador, Yuvraj Chauhan, had taken his questionnaire to Waitrose early on the 1st Saturday in February when, unfortunately, few young people were in the store. He had two responses but doubted if they lived in Ponteland but they did say they enjoyed the Park and Ponteland Online. Yuvraj wished to contact the Middle School with a questionnaire asking if he could represent them and if he could use the Party in the Park for promotion.

9. Written Reports:

- **U3A:** No report.
- **Newcastle International Airport:** SC gave an interim report as detailed issues will be discussed at next week's meeting. A meeting planned with Lord Shipley for 18th February was postponed with items pressing for his support. (1) Need to protect the connectivity of regional airports with Heathrow to encourage and support the development of the economy of local areas. (2) Hence the need for a third runway at Heathrow. (3) In the devolution of aspects of the economy to Scotland, should the airport duty tax be removed in Scotland, removal or reduction of the tax in regional airports.

Leaflets delivered in the area promoting the airport with current and new routes including holiday destinations, plus the reduction in airport parking charges.
- **Ponteland Community Trust:** Nothing.

- **Civic Society:** Nothing.
Observer Muriel Sobo pointed out that Peter Sutcliffe sought a meeting with Nigel Walsh who listened sympathetically to the proposal of the Ponteland Development Trust's projected Community Hub on the existing Library site.
- **Ageing Well:** Nothing.
- **Friends of the Park:** Observer, Heather Thomas, who is herself a member of FOPP's, expressed her desire to join the PCP and volunteered to precis the lengthy report sent to SH by Margaret Stainsby once sanctioned by FOPP's committee and for it to be returned to SH for inclusion in the March PCP meeting.
- **Community Transport:** No report from DG.
- **Environmental:** Nothing.

10. A.O.B.

AD Asked Committee to study the Calendar and Catalogue lists with the view to picking an attainable project for the PCP and, with the intention to make an application to the Community Chest for funding.

AD had a request from PNPSG Vice Chair, Will Mosses, regarding evidence of past activities which would be of benefit to the group.

CG informed the committee that she would be retiring as Treasurer at the A.G.M.

CR Advised the committee that the Northumberland Community Action fund raiser David Francis, a thoroughly good egg, was retiring and anyone wishing to contribute to his farewell fund could contact him for details.

11. **NB: Date of next PCP Meeting Wednesday 23rd March in PTC Meeting Room.**