

Ponteland Community Partnership
Annual General Meeting Wednesday 18th May 2016

Venue: PTC Meeting Room, Ponteland.

Meeting Opened at 7.pm.

Attending: Brian Prickett, Shirley Hill, Christine Greenwell, Syd Cowan, Frank Harrington, Rob Anderson, George Clasper, Sheila Campbell, Mike Brown, Robin Ramsay, Heather Thomas, Pratima Mehra and Yuvraj.

Apologies: Brian Prickett, Carl Rawlings and Nirmal Sehgal.

Welcome: The meeting was opened by the current Chairman Alma Dunigan who welcomed all present.

Minutes from A.G.M. 20th May 2015: were read and passed.

Chairman's Report:

Alma Dunigan began her report by saying we had achieved our goal for the year with the Relaunch of the Ponteland Community Partnership, thanks to the Pont News & Views for the coverage of the Relaunch.

Activities

- Establishing a Website
- Publicity in the PN&V throughout the year
- Activities: 'Ponteland Question Time' thanks to the Debating Society at Ponteland High School for their role in the debate with their 5 debating students. Other panel members were Guy Opperman MP, Cll Carl Rawlings (Mayor) and County Cll Peter Jackson for giving up their time at the community event held in the Memorial Hall.
- Funding was secured from Ponteland Town Council £350, Dobsons £300 (PQT), Ponteland Lions £150 giving a total of £800.
- Support in kind from Cowells in providing floral displays for the PQT.
- Expenditure on PQT Insurance and Website.
- New members; Nirmal Sehgal, Pratima Mehra and Heather Thomas
- Youth Ambassador Yuvraj Chauhan appointed by the Partnership to help put forward the ideas, concerns and expectations of the young people to the group.
- Meetings – 2 meetings with the Youth Service in 2015 to discuss future activities for the youth.

Thanks

Thanks to Brian Prickett for his contribution to the Partnership over the years starting as the initial Treasurer in 2003 and then becoming Chairman in 2007 until last year, and supporting the subgroups. He has been a hard act to follow.

Thanks to Christine Greenwell for her contribution as Treasurer for 9 years.

Thanks to Syd Cowan for his assistance over the past year.

Thanks to all the committee members for their support, I appreciate it is not easy to accept change.

Editorial Report

This year has served as a good platform for the future, for the PCP. Ponteland now has a list of Community Aspirations, or Projects supported by the residents. The PCP can review this list and seek funding through the Community Chest later this Autumn 2016.

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Report

Events

- Party in the Park
- Supported the event with a display on the evidence so far
- October; Stakeholders Event
- 50 Representatives, landowners, developers, businesses and the Newcastle International Airport attended the 3 day event in the Memorial Hall.
- Planning Consultant engaged to write Draft Policies which will be amended after the Revised Vision, Objectives & Policy Options have been analysed.
- Housing Need Survey. 28% response return to the survey showing a potential future need for smaller affordable housing in the civil parish for downsizing and new family units either already living in Ponteland or wanting to move into the area.
- Revised Vision, Objectives & Policy Options. Sample survey shows an exceptional support for the vision and the 10 objectives for the Civil Parish.

Youth Provision Report

3 meetings have taken place over the past year, 2 were with Ashley Brown, Youth Manager. The first meeting was to identify the current annual provision and the next was to plan more for the future when the funding for the Youth Service was in decline, what opportunities could be created e.g. business entrepreneur activity with a £100 prize.

It should be pointed out that Northumberland is one of the few Local Authorities that still have a Youth Service – there is a duty to provide some support however this service or provision could be contracted out sometime in the future.

The last meeting held on Monday 16th May was attended by Sharon Stirling the Senior Youth Worker.

Civic Society Report

Mike Brown Reported that the Society has continued its well attended series of talks. The early part of the year saw rejection of an appeal against refusal of planning permission for new housing at Birney Hill, an application which the Society had opposed.

Northumberland's Core Strategy: the introduction of more specific proposals for the Ponteland greenbelt , including relocation of schools and library, and planning applications within the conservation area have concerned the Society during the year. Enforcement of planning conditions in the conservation area was a particular issue with breaches at YOLO being granted as retrospective permission and the later appearance of dining space on the road in Brewery Lane.

Newcastle International Airport Report from Sheila Campbell.

- Celebrated 80 years
- New Brochure with new destinations
- Extending car parking
- Best regional airport for 4 years.
- Excellent disabled facilities
- Improved outlets and revamped departure lounge
- Contributes £600 plus million to local economy
- Long serving experienced CEO David Laws moving on and new CEO yet to be appointed.
- Airport duty now eliminated up to age 16.

Youth Ambassador Report

Yuvraj Chauhan gave a brief review of his activities, especially in designing a poster and engaging with young people in the area in an endeavour to discover their ideas, concerns and expectations for improving their quality of life in Ponteland with wishes such as an 'Adventure Course' in the Park.

Constitution Review Recommendations

Syd Cowan reported on the subgroup, Brian Prickett, Frank Harrington and himself, suggestions for change to the constitution; the most significant of which was to change the age of membership to from 16 years of age.

The Hon Sec would send the amended Constitution out to all members for their consideration and comments which would be brought to the next Monthly Meeting for discussion and ultimate ratification. This was proposed by Robin Ramsay and seconded by George Clasper.

Treasurer's Report

This was Christine Greenwell's final report as she was standing down as Hon Treasurer and would be handing over to Heather Thomas who had expressed her willingness to take on the office.

The Bank Balance for PN&V as at 18th May 2016 was £11.196.00.

The Nat West bank is closed and all money is now in the HSBC which will soon be changing to Lloyds.

The Bank Balance for PCP at 31.3.16 was £633.02.

Alma Dunigan thanked all concerned for their reports.

Election of Officers

Chairman: Alma Dunigan – Proposed by Robin Ramsay, seconded by George Clasper

Vice Chairman: Frank Harrington – Proposed by Robin Ramsay, seconded by Sheila Campbell

Hon Secretary: Shirley Hill – Proposed by Christine Greenwell, seconded by Pratima Mehra

Hon Treasurer: Heather Thomas – Proposed by Sheila Campbell, seconded by Frank Harrington

Members of the Executive Council

Alma Dunigan, Shirley Hill, Frank Harrington, Heather Thomas, Carl Rawlings, Robin Ramsay, George Clasper, Mike Brown, Sheila Campbell, Christine Greenwell, Pratima Mehra, Syd Cowan and Nirmal Sehgal.

Co-opted Members

Rob Anderson: Proposed by Frank Harrington, seconded by Syd Cowan

Junior Ambassador: Proposed by Frank Harrington, seconded by Heather Thomas

Re-Elected Chairman Alma Dunigan thanked all the above for agreeing to stand for office.

Alma also expressed thanks to the PTC for housing the PCP who were previously housed in Merton Hall.

A.O.B.

It was hoped that there would be more information to impart regarding the Play Park.

Meeting closed at 9.15.

erned for their reports.**tion of Officers: 20th May 2015.**

Nominations were received for:-

Chairman - Alma Dunigan
Vice Chairman - Syd Cowan
Hon. Secretary - Shirley Hill
Hon. Treasurer - Christine Greenwell

Member of the Executive:-
Brian Prickett.

All of the above were unanimously elected but the election of sub-Group Chairmen was deferred until the June Meeting. This was deemed necessary as new Chairman, Alma Dunigan, felt that the PCP needed to be in a new place with a revised format for the future because the regeneration of Ponteland was now encapsulated within