

# Ponteland Community Partnership

## Monthly Meeting

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017

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

**Attending:** Alma Dunigan, Shirley Hill, Robin Ramsay, George Clasper, Pratima Mehra & Yuvi, and Heather Thomas.

1. **Apologies:** Frank Harrington, Carl Rawlings, and Nirmal Sehgal.

2. **Minutes:** Passed.

3. **Matters Arising:** None.

4. **Community Issues:**

Alma commented on the fact that the outline applications for the Dissington Garden Village, Banks and Leisure Centre/ Schools developments had been discussed and all were “minded to approve” by NCC. Members were reminded that joint organisations had sent “call in letters” to the Secretary of State for their consideration.

5. **PCP Financial Report:**

Heather Thomas reported that at the 15<sup>h</sup> March there is £3.108.20 in the PCP account having received the £2.200 from the Community Trust and after the payment of £63.75 to JP Media for the updating of the website.

Bank signatories were now were corrected and updated removing members who had retired from the group and replacements reinstated, Heather Thomas, Frank Harrington with Shirley Hill to be added as a signatory later in the year.

## **Auditing of Year End Accounts**

Gaye Templeton has agreed to audit the end of the year accounts. A suggested donation of £50 will be made to a youth offending charity of her choice for this work.

### **6. Sub Groups:**

#### **a. Editorial:**

AD reported that there would be an article in PN&V updating the situation with regards to all the planning applications.

#### **b. Neighbourhood Plan Group:**

AD confirmed that all the relevant documents had been submitted to NCC for the next stage of the neighbourhood planning process which involves publicity and the Independent Examiner, for their consideration.

#### **c. Youth Activities:**

Yuvi, our Youth Ambassador, reported that he now had fortnightly meetings at Bella and Franie's coffee shop due to the large consumption of cakes and scones! However, they had designed a new logo and poster which would be passed to the chairman.

#### **d. Projects: Report on Bridleway Project starting on the 25<sup>th</sup> February:**

There are 7 stages to this project:

- The preparation of the Bridleway, middle section completed by community volunteers.
- Planting of 50 trees, supplied by NCC, work completed by community volunteers.

- Clearing away refuse and shredding branches, NCC and Town Council.
- Planting and adopting additional 25 trees, supplied by NCC – work completed by Ponteland Scouts.
- Reinstating appropriate wild flowers donated by a member of the Friends of the Park.
- Skimming path sides and adding any hard core where necessary, NCC and Town Council.
- On completion the installation of display pedestal showing the heritage of the old railway line, wildlife and habitat, supplied by the Ponteland Community Partnership.

Thanks must be given to the Area Countryside Officer Tim Fish NCC for all his support to the project supplying 75 trees, the equipment required at the events and arranging the work after the volunteers have completed their tasks. 50 residents supported the event.

Amongst the residents, on the 25<sup>th</sup> February, were members of the Foot Path Users Group, Ponteland Wildlife Group, Friends of the Park, Greenbelt Group, Civic Society, Ponteland Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, Ponteland 1<sup>st</sup> Scouts, The Lions, Ponteland Community Partnership and Ponteland Town Council.

### **Next stage 25<sup>th</sup> March Bridleway Project**

The remainder 25 trees will have been planted and adopted by Ponteland 1<sup>st</sup> Scouts and our Youth Ambassador at the end of March. Each scout will be responsible for their own tree. Hopefully by then all the grant funding should have been acquired for 2 individually designed oak pedestals to be placed along the Bridleway route, the displays will bring together the heritage of the old railway line, wildlife and habitat.

### **Display Pedestals**

Two oak pedestals with displays would cost £3,600. Currently there would be a £1,400 shortfall. Possible sources of funding to be researched were Banks Foundation and the Balinger Trust. Consideration should be given to the maintenance of the pedestals. Child protection policy to be in place and policy

**May 2017** for any outstanding work and considered for next phase of the Bridleway Project.

### **Conclusion**

As this project has been so successful the Ponteland Community Partnership will be considering another event, late summer, for the last section of the Bridleway from Rotary Way to the Airport as a way of encouraging more residents to use and enjoy this facility.

### **Other projects to consider for the future**

Robin Ramsay suggested the pond by the Fire station for a future project.

### **Britain in Bloom**

Ponteland Town Council want this ongoing project to be part of the “Britain in Bloom” portfolio, all information to support this will be forwarded to the Clerk.

The “Britain in Bloom” judges will be paying attention to community led involvement and projects such as this one, where volunteers ( some representing 9 local organisations) work with Town Councils and the County Council to achieve benefits for the wider community. Judging is anticipated to happen sometime in April (for Northumbria in Bloom) and around June this year (for Britain in Bloom). We will need to ask for more volunteers to be involved in a tidy up exercises prior to the judges visits.

## **7. Reports from other organisations:**

**Community Trust** Robin Ramsay agreed to be the representative for the Community Trust.

**Friends of the Park** reported that the FOPP’s A.G.M would take place on 25<sup>th</sup> April in St. Mary’s Church Hall. This group decided that the year 2017/18 would be a period of consolidation, concentrating on the Wildflower Meadow and the planting of Bluebells and other flowers as well as the surround of the Oxbow Lake and Fox Covert Lane.

**8. A.O.B:**

The schools were immersed in problems relating to planning Proposals and therefore it was felt that the Youth Forum promotion was best centred through the Scouts.

**A.G.M** would be held on 17<sup>th</sup> May in PTC Meeting Room. Shirley Hill would submit article to Chris Jennings for insertion in April & May PN&V.

Yuvi wished to ask why the bus services stop at 8.p.m.

**Date of next PCP Meeting: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017 in PTC Meeting Room.**