

PONTELAND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

MONTHLY MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of Ponteland Community Partnership held on 21 June 2017 at 7 pm at Ponteland Town Council Office, Meadowfield.

Present: Mike Brown, Alma Dunigan (Chair), Councillor Alan Hall, Frank Harrington, Pratima Mehra, Yuvraj Chauhan, Nirmal Sehgal, Heather Thomas.

Attending as an observer – Yvonne Ferguson

Councillor Alan Hall was welcomed to the meeting.

1 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from George Clasper, Shirley Hill, Robin Ramsay and Councillor Alan Varley.

2 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of the previous meeting would be considered at the next meeting.

3 **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

4 **Community Matters and PCP Issues**

Love Northumberland

Notification had been received from Northumberland County Council that Ponteland Community Partnership's Bridleway Project has been shortlisted in the "Best New Project Category". The management group had been invited to Alnwick Garden on 5 July 2017 for the presentation evening at which award winners will be announced. There are 50 projects invited divided into 7 categories for awards.

There is an article in July 2017 Pont News and Views on the short listing for the award. The article also makes a request for volunteers for the next project "Old Railway Line" Rotary Way **in the autumn**.to Autumn. A further article is proposed for August 2017 Pont News and Views if the project receives an award **and to invite volunteers to register**.

Meeting with Councillor Alan Varley - Mayor

Alma Dunigan and Frank Harrington had met with the new mayor. It was proposed to work collaboratively for mutual benefit on some future projects of joint interest.

5 **PCP Financial Report**

At the 21 June 2017 there is £3508.20 in the account of Ponteland Community Partnership. Of which £2,650 is for the "Old Railway Line Bridleway Project". During the period there was one payment – a donation to Junction 42 for auditor's fees.

6 **Sub Groups**

Management Meetings

Two management meetings had taken place to finalise the two educational interpretation panels for the bridleway project. There had been significant contribution to the panels from Local History Society, Wildlife Group, Friends of Ponteland Park and Ponteland Town Council.

Alma Dunigan and Frank Harrington had met with Anne Lawson in relation to the governance of small groups. Discussions had also been held with Hexham Community Partnership.

Projects

Bridleway – Callerton Lane to Rotary

Two educational panels have been ordered. There is about 6 weeks manufacturing time. Installation will take place on 29 July 2017 or 5 August 2017. Two perch bench seats have been donated by Northumberland County Council's (NCC) Countryside Officer.

It was agreed that an event would be held in September 2017 to mark the installation of the educational panels. It was suggested that there might be a walk to mark the occasion.

New Project - "Old Railway Line Rotary Way to Airport

An onsite meeting took place last week with Tim Fish, the NCC Countryside Officer, Frank Harrington, Ward Bros and Alma Dunigan to agree the tasks needed to be achieved for another successful project. This would include some hand pruning, planning of 100 trees and 100 wildflowers, installation of 4 perch benches and up to 4 interpretation panels. Planning permission requirements and costs in relation to boards on Ward Bros site will determine the number of interpretation boards.

Ward Bros has agreed to contribute up to £2,000 "in kind" to the project in the form of repairs to the path (over and above statutory condition required) using aggregate, machinery and labour, replacing fencing and additional trees.

At the Airport end of the Old Railway line it is proposed to use photographs relating to the Old Aero Club which is over 75 years old. There is also information potentially available in relation to Prestwick Pit and the ICI depot.

An application for funding to the Community Foundation is due to go in within the next few weeks.

7 Reports from Other Organisations

Ponteland Community Trust

Councillor Alan Hall provided an overview of Ponteland Community Trust which is a private limited by guarantee without Share Company. It was established by Peter Cowey who was Mayor at the time in response to the potential provision of funds to the community by property developers. The Ponteland Community Trust had focused initially on the development of a Community Hub. There most recent project relates to the improvement of Ponteland Memorial Hall.

8 Any Other Business

Safeguarding Policy

It was agreed to adopt the NSPCC policy for safeguarding and for a register to be signed by members. Discussions had taken place with Caroline Friend from Voices who would meet with the management group for further discussion on other policies required to be in place when requesting funding from large organisations. It was agreed that the Safeguarding Policy would be amended following this meeting.

Website

Work was agreed on updating the website, including membership of PCP, and information on project work being undertaken by the group.

Toilets in Ponteland

Nirmal Seghal raised an issue in relation to the number of public toilets in Ponteland. There was discussion on a scheme suggested by Councillor Christine Greenhall in relation to the use of toilets within shops

Christmas Party for Older Residents

Nirmal Seghal suggested that the PCP look at the feasibility of providing a Christmas Party for Older Residents. It was agreed that this would be an agenda item at a future meeting. There was a need to establish whether any events were already planned eg by Ageing Well or the Churches. The Rotary Club has an event in February for Older residents **due to the number of other events over Christmas.**

9 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 19 July 2017 at 7 pm, in the Ponteland Town Council Committee Room.

HMT/22/6/17