

Ponteland Community Partnership

Minutes of Zoom Annual General Meeting 18th November 2020

Welcome from Chairman

Attendance: Alma Dunigan, Chris Brummitt, Shirley Hill, Heather Thomas, Frank Harrington, Alan Varley, Christine Greenwell, George Clasper and Nirmal Sehgal.

Apologies: Andrew Tucker, Chris Winks and PC Laura Mc Cann, William Moses.

Declarations of Interest: None

Minutes of 2019 A.G.M.: Passed

Matters Arising: None

Chairman's 2019-2020 Report:

AD drew attendees notice to the fact that this A.G.M being conducted via Zoom would be a tailored version compared to the normal.

Since the last A.G.M in 2019 this had been a period like no other as it was 18 months since the last AGM and some information seemed as if it had happened a lifetime ago. This AGM covered the period May 16th 2019 to 31st March 2020 only and the time period after that would be covered in the next AGM programmed for April 2021.

Subgroup Reports: -

Management Group: Meetings take place prior to monthly meetings, currently via Zoom and work well.

Editorial: Another year of excellent PN&V monthly magazine.

Projects: There were 7 projects covering:

- Healthy Lifestyle Initiative for the Community incorporating
- Wider use of the bridleway with step counts
- A financial donation to reinstate a damaged pedestal
- Further donations to give the existing 5 pedestals an anti-graffiti finish for protection

- The creation of a youth directory; thanks to Ben Guadio and Yuvi for all their hard work
- Yuvi's contribution to the Young Reporter competition, excellent submission.
- Educational pedestal on the SSSI site on Darras Hall

Youth Forum: This was unsuccessful on the part of the High School Students.

Community Actions and Aspirations: Some discussions have taken place to identify suitable heritage walks in Ponteland.

Thanks: For the support from the Town Council both financially and in general assistance.

Thanks to Chris Jennings the Editor of PN&V for all the coverage given to the group's activities.

Thanks to MP Guy Opperman for supporting our Healthy Lifestyle initiative and to the Hancock Museum for the artist's floral illustrations for the SSSI pedestal.

Treasurer's Report:

The period audited was 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020.

Balance at this time was £1.888.22

Receipts were funding from Ponteland Rugby Club, the PTC and residents' donations for projects.

Expenditure: Audit fee donation, insurance, website, room hire, SSSI pedestal, router purchase and CPRE membership. Further information can be sent out by email upon request.

Election of Officers: - Officiated by Frank Harrington:

Chairman: Alma Dunigan – nominated by Chris Brummitt, seconded by Frank Harrington.

Vice Chairman: Chris Brummitt - nominated by Shirley Hill, seconded by Frank Harrington.

Hon Secretary: Shirley Hill – nominated by Frank Harrington, seconded by Chris Brummitt.

Hon Treasurer: Heather Thomas – nominated by Shirley Hill, seconded by Alan Varley.

Members of Executive Committee: - Nominated by Alma Dunigan, seconded by Heather Thomas.

Co-opted Members: Town Council and Police – Alma Dunigan and Frank Harrington.

Local Organisations Annual Reports:

Friends of Ponteland Park: Key activities during 2019-2020 have been:

Crocus planting in February, planting of daffodils to form a daffodil walk, continued planting and work on the meadow. Issuing a Newsletter in March.

Darras Hall Estate Committee:

At the beginning of 'lockdown' they seamlessly converted to Zoom and work continued with a changed format.

Ponteland Medical Group:

The Practice was placed under considerable stress due to Covid 19 restrictions that caused their whole working pattern to be changed.

We have had 1 zoom meeting and a second is planned for next week.

Ageing Well:

Due to the Covid situation no meetings were held and Merton Hall was closed.

CPRE:

The Northumberland branch has concerns over a reducing membership that has given the committee the opportunity to rethink ideas to increase numbers such as Pub Quiz's, talks and Northumberland walks; all have shown signs of interest. Head Office in London is creating a new strategy designed to boost numbers. Locally AD promoted the idea of using PN&V to inform residents of their work, invite new members at branch meetings which were held at Merton Hall. This was not taken up.

Address from elected Chairman:

AD said this had been a very successful year and thanked all present for their support.

A.O.B.

Frank Harrington wished to express his thanks to the Management Team for keeping the PCP going under such very difficult circumstances.