

Bedale & Villages Community Forum

Chair: Yvonne Rose OBE

Vice Chairman: Cllr. John Noone

Treasurer: Cllr Mike Barningham

Secretary: Peter Cole

Management Group

7.30pm on Thursday 14th July 2016

The Drawing Room, Bedale Hall

Minutes

Present

Yvonne Rose (Chair); Nicky Smith; Christine Casling; Sue Grimshaw; Cllr Christine Mollard; Kathy Lowrie; Margaret Curry; Mary Jaques; David Parkinson; Harry Lillystone; Cllr Malcolm Young; Bob Pocklington; Cllr Mike Barningham; Cllr Richard Corner; Bill Tetlow; Cllr Claire Capel.

Apologies

Cllr Carl Les; Hazel Kirby; Cllr David Webster; Sara Hodgson; Sue Latter; Cllr John Noone; Sylvia Broadwith; Adele Wilson; John Knopp; Darren Rosamond; John Kettlewell; Ian Watkins.

1. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies

Yvonne welcomed Christine Casling (Tanfield Parish Council), Sue Grimshaw (Thornton Watlass Village Hall Committee), Mary Jaques (Carthorpe Village Hall Committee) and David Parkinson to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting held Thursday 19th May 2016

Agreed as a true record thereof, though it was suggested that the date for the switch on of the Christmas Lights has not yet been confirmed.

Action: Cllr Mollard to clarify whether the date for the switch on of the Christmas Lights has been agreed.

3. Actions & Matters Arising

- **Scouts & Guides Festival:** It was reported that the Festival held on the 12th June was well attended and had proved a success.

4. The Bedale & Villages Community Plan: Priorities for 2016-2017

Yvonne reminded members that all 4 Area Partnerships were being encouraged to review their Action Plans and to identify community priorities and issues for 2016-2020. Yvonne explained that a comprehensive and aspirational plan was necessary to help secure funding should it become available and that the Plan will evolve over time to support projects across Bedale and the surrounding villages. It was suggested that the Plan would provide a valuable source of information

for the soon-to-be appointed HDC Vibrant Market Town Officer and would help inform the Officer's work programme.

Action: Peter to collate feedback received, to further populate the Plan and present it to members for further discussion at the next meeting of the Forum to be held in November 2016.

5. The HDC 'Making a Difference' grant 2016-2017

Peter reported that a total of £125,000 is to be made available to community projects across the district in 2016-2017 through the council's 'Making a Difference' grant scheme which is now in its second year. The deadline for applications is Friday 19th August 2016 and applicants will be notified of the grants panel's decision early in October 2016. To be eligible projects must be delivered between October 1, 2016 and July 30, 2017. Applications must be supported by a Hambleton District Council ward member.

For further information or to download an application form please visit:

http://hambleton.gov.uk/info/20046/grants_and_funding/440/making_a_difference_grant

6. Grant Applications for Consideration

▪ Leeming Bar Community Hub

Members considered a funding application for £2000 from the Leeming Bar Resident's Association to support the development of the Leeming Bar Community Hub. It is hoped that the 'multi-use, high quality community facility', based on a refurbished railway carriage located at Leeming Bar Station, will open in September 2016. Fundraising activities have been held, a HDC 'Making a Difference' has been secured and local businesses have offered both financial, and in-kind, contributions.

Proposal: Cllr Mike Barningham proposed that £2000 be awarded to the Leeming Bar Resident's Association, Cllr Malcolm Young seconded the proposal and the proposal was unanimously endorsed by those present.

▪ Carthorpe Village Hall & Youth Club

Members considered a funding application for £900 from the Carthorpe Village Hall & Youth Club to help with the purchase of a new carpet to cover the existing concrete floor and a television with which to host 'film nights'. It was noted that between 25-30 children attend the not-for-profit Youth Club on alternate Friday evenings travelling from as far afield as Burneston and Kirklington. All the volunteer leaders are subject to the necessary DBS checks and Child Protection and Volunteer Recruitment policies are in place.

Proposal: Cllr Mike Barningham proposed that £600 be awarded to the Carthorpe Village Hall & Youth Club in the first instance and a further £300 be awarded should there be a shortfall in the funds raised. Cllr Christine Mollard seconded the proposal and the proposal was unanimously endorsed by those present

▪ Exelby, Leeming & Newton Village Hall

Members considered a funding application for £2000 from the Exelby, Leeming & Newton Village Hall Committee to help with the costs associated with an ambitious refurbishment

project which will include the installation of an efficient combi-boiler, improved lighting, interior redecoration and a new induction hearing loop. It was noted that £3k had been secured and that an application to Yorventure had been submitted for a further £5k. It was recommended that an Awards for All application be resubmitted to cover the total cost of the project.

Proposal: Yvonne Rose proposed that a decision on the grant application be deferred pending the result of the Awards for All application. Bill Tetlow seconded the proposal and the proposal was unanimously endorsed by those present.

- **Repairs to the Marmion Tower Steps at West Tanfield**

Members considered a funding application for £1000 from West Tanfield Parish Council to help them undertake repairs to steps leading from the Marmion Tower to the River Ure in West Tanfield. David Parkinson reported that the Parish Council had agreed to manage the footpath repair/replacement project and that £750 had been secured from the Tour de France fund. The steps are located on common land and lead down to the 'village green' on the banks of the river.

Proposal: Cllr Malcolm Young proposed that £1000 be awarded to the Parish Council subject to the completion of a grant application form. Cllr Richard Corner seconded the proposal and the proposal was unanimously endorsed by those present.

7. Focus Group Updates:

- **Business & Tourism:** Yvonne reported that a number of local businesses had met to discuss improvements to, and the co-ordination of, Bedale's web platform. Further meetings of interested parties are to be held to develop a 'website plan'.
- **Environment:** It was noted that the Masham Road allotment site is being well-maintained and that positive feedback has been received following the town centre planting scheme undertaken in partnership with Leeds City Council and Braithwaites nursery. It was suggested that a meeting be held with NYCC to discuss the opportunity for weight limit restrictions to be imposed at the White Bear junction following the opening of the relief road. More volunteers are being sought to support the Bedale Library Management Committee and a business plan will be submitted to NYCC for consideration once complete. An initial meeting has been held to explore the options for an arts trail between the proposed gateway car park and the Town Centre and work is underway to create a piece of iconic artwork to be sited on, or near, the relief road roundabout.
- **Community Interest:** No update was presented in Hazel's absence.
- **Transport:** Mike reported that work on the Firby Road/Sussex Close footpath is near completion and that a planning application for the Gateway Car Park is to be submitted to HDC. It is anticipated that the application will be considered by the Planning Committee in October 2016. Work to create a cycle route between Aiskew and Bedale over Bedale Beck is on hold pending the results of a traffic survey which is to be undertaken once the relief road is open. NYCC have requested the survey to determine traffic volume and speed.

8. Finance Update

Mike presented a financial update on transactions since the last meeting of the Group held in May 2016 and confirmed that as at the 13th July 2016 the Forum had £10852.23 in its General Account and £1417.36 in its Events Account. Commitments for 2016 include Bedale Town Square (£2000)

and the Edge (£4000) though it is not yet clear whether the Edge will seek to claim the full allocation.

9. Any Other Business

- **Bedale Youth Venue:** Concerns were expressed over the long-term future of the Edge and membership of the Management Committee. Whilst funding is not a significant problem at present should no one come forward to join the Management Committee there is a risk the facility will be forced to close. It was agreed that the future of the Edge be discussed in more detail at November's meeting of the Forum. Yvonne thanked Nicky for her ongoing support for, and membership of, the Management Committee.
- **Annual General Meeting 15th September 2016:** It was agreed that the vibrancy and long term sustainability of Bedale High Street should be the focus of the meeting. Yvonne reported that Kevin Stevens from Red House had offered to present a draft plan at the AGM that would help develop a 'blue print' for a scheme to improve the appearance of the High Street.
- **Local Churches:** It was noted that Aiskew Methodist Church and Community Hall has been sold with planning permission for the construction of 2 detached residential dwellings. It is understood that an ambitious refurbishment project is to be undertaken at the Bedale & District Methodist Church to encourage other community groups to use the facilities and to make the building more energy efficient.

10. Dates for Meetings in 2016

- 15th September (AGM)
- 10th November