



BEDALE AND VILLAGES COMMUNITY PLAN FORUM

**Community Interest Focus Group
Tuesday 28th April 2009 at 7.30pm
X-Nihilo, Bridge Street, Bedale**

Minutes

Present

Peter Cole; Emma Curtis; Shannon Bradbury; Sharon Jones; Kate Hughes; James Ward; Mike Mills; Andrew McLeod; Sharon O'Rourke; Bob Pocklington; Abi Mollard; Becky Gatrill & Stella Hemingway.

Apologies

Hazel Kirby; Ian Marr; Lee Featherstone & Lawrence Monaghan.

1) Welcome & Introductions

Peter introduced Sharon Jones (Children's Centre Manager), Andrew McLeod (Bedale Scouts & Guides) and Sharon O'Rourke (Extended Schools Co-ordinator for the Bedale area) and welcomed pupils from Bedale High School to the meeting.

2) Minutes of Meeting held Thursday 15th January 2009

Agreed as a true record thereof.

3) Matters Arising

There were no Matters Arising not covered elsewhere on the Agenda.

4) Extended Schools Provision

Sharon provided an overview of Extended Schools provision across Bedale and explained that work is being undertaken to revise the existing service directories for Bedale, Northallerton & Stokesley. The two Directories are produced annually and describe the events being held, and support available for, families with children under five years old. A meeting is to be held with Yvonne Rose to ensure that links are established between the Surestart website and the www.bedale.org community site. It was suggested that the Bedale & Villages Community Plan Forum support the publication of future directories and that key partners are encouraged to help with the costs of production.

5) Projects Update

Project	Notes
X-Nihilo	Bob confirmed that the first year's rent had been paid and that other sources of funding to pay future rent (including fundraising activities by members of the youth centre) are being explored. Consultation is underway to ascertain whether sessions can be provided for young people with special needs and/or mobility issues and those 'older' young people aged between 16-19. Bob reported that 202 young people had signed up as members of the centre to date and that the

	<p>centre is now open 2 nights per week. Discussions are underway with Mowbray School to explore the possibility of establishing an Excel club and the Management Group are looking at ways of providing transport between X-Nihilo and the surrounding villages.</p> <p>It was suggested that 'theme nights' be held to help ensure that the venue is used not only by those at risk of exclusion from school but by a broader cross section of young people and those who lack the confidence to attend. It was suggested that analysis of attendance and membership be used to find a long term solution to this issue.</p>
Snape School Community Recreation Project	<p>Sharon confirmed that permission has been granted to allow the field identified as a location for the proposed recreation area to be used both by the school and by members of the local community. Plans for the site are being worked up, plans that will be presented to the Parish Council for consideration. It was suggested that members of the Council and community be invited to attend future BVCPF meetings to secure further support from the Group.</p>

6) Issues for the Bedale and Villages Community Plan Forum

The following key issues were raised by pupils of Bedale High School for discussion at the forthcoming Community Plan review meeting being held on Tuesday 12th May:

- The need for self-defence classes for young people (including boxing and judo)
- More and better quality seating in Bedale Park
- Improvements to the existing youth shelter in Bedale Park
- Stricter enforcement of speed restrictions in villages
- A reduction in traffic congestion on Firby Road and the need for a footpath on both sides of the carriage way
- The need for a designated cycleway between the Bedale High School and the Bedale Athletics & Sports Association
- Excursions for *all* young people aged 14-19 from the Bedale and villages area (including pupils of the High School during the holiday periods)
- The need for wireless broadband across Bedale and the surrounding villages
- The publication of a map of footpaths and cycleways around Bedale for use by families.

Sharon confirmed that Extended Schools are to put 'suggestions boxes' in local schools, the feedback from which can be shared with the BVCPF. **Action:** Peter to ensure that these comments are included in any discussions which identify both future priorities for the Group and new projects for inclusion in the Community Plan.

7) Any Other Business

Andrew confirmed that a decision on a planning application for the new Scout & Guide building is expected from Hambleton District Council shortly. A list has been compiled of partner organisations that might be willing to use the premises when not being used by the Scouts & Guides whilst Nicky Smith is providing advice on further funding opportunities.

8) Dates of Future Meetings:

- Tuesday 7th July: 7.30pm at X-Nihilo, Bridge Street, Bedale
- Tuesday 27th October: 7.30pm at X-Nihilo, Bridge Street, Bedale