

Bedale and Villages Community Plan – Environment Group

Date: 1 June 2009

Present: Carol Roberts, , Yvonne Rose, Robert Latter, Jo Scorrer, Carol Clark, John Burton

The meeting considered the issues that had been raised at the strategic review meeting of the CPF on 12 May 2009 :

1. Safety Improvements at the Aiskew Level Crossing

AGREED to contact Highways to identify solutions to the problem.

2. Pedestrian improvements/access between Bedale Church Yard and Emgate

AGREED that this had a low priority at the moment pending any developments in the graveyard.

3. Visual improvements to Bridge Street to enhance the route to Bedale Station (new café and waiting room renovations underway.)

AGREED that this would be resolved when the development of the buildings on the south side takes place, which will hopefully be in the near future.

4. The need for a pedestrian bridge over Bedale Beck remains a priority for the Group

There is now a question mark over this project because of the re-surfacing of the lane in front of Fleece Cottages and potential developments on land alongside the railway.

Access from the station to the Market Place could be dealt with by a pelican crossing across the A684; this needs to be investigated further.

Access from Aiskew needs to be protected and enhanced if new housing is being built up to the railway line.

The possibility of Leader money was raised for providing pedestrian/cycle access.

5. The relocation of Bedale Allotments

AGREED this was no longer a priority as there were only 2 people on the Bedale waiting list and the Aiskew allotments were now active.

6. A suitable power source to supply electricity to the market stalls for lighting etc.

AGREED to pursue this as a matter of urgency. It would also be useful for events in town. Need to liaise with the Town Council and NYCC.

7. A piece of public realm artwork and/or improved street furniture along the High Street.

AGREED that the Seal of Brian Fitzalan (d 1306) could be a good basis for a modern bronze sculpture which would be a major feature in the Market Place and could be used in other places e.g. at the entrances to town, as logo, etc.; it would link the present day with our past.

The motto is TOT CAPITA TOT SENTENTIE (So many heads, so many opinions).

There could be a competition with high profile judges that would generate publicity and the installation itself could generate tourists. It might also be a mechanism for accepting donations towards future projects in town.

It would be funded by grants such as Arts Council England and other sponsors.

8. The need for a Bedale Cycleway

AGREED that this be referred to the Transport group.

9. Additional items:

There is a need for more trees in the Market Place and for a seat at the south end of the Market Place.

Other suggestions:

Bedale Marina (!)

A Mill Trail between Bedale & Hawes - refer to Trade & Tourism

Circular walks around Bedale & Aiskew - refer to Transport group

Next Meeting - 27 July at **7pm** for a walkabout town.