



BEDALE AND VILLAGES COMMUNITY PLAN FORUM MANAGEMENT GROUP

The Bedale Room, Bedale Hall

7.30pm Tuesday 16th July 2008

Minutes

Present

Mike Barningham (Chair); Bob Pocklington; Cllr Carl Les; Hazel Kirby; John Noone; Peter Cole; Harry Lillystone; Yvonne Rose; John Dunwell; Wanda Reynolds; PC Lee Featherstone & Geoff Lodge.

Apologies

Susan Latter & Mark Haynes

1) Welcome & Introductions

Mike introduced Geoff Lodge, the Community Safety Partnership's Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator.

2) Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held Tuesday 6th May 2008 were agreed as a true record thereof.

3) Matters Arising

Yvonne reported on the Bedale Area Forum held Monday 15th July at which the Bedale DPPO was adopted (see Agenda Item 4 below.) It was agreed that now confirmation has been received that the A1 is to be widened to 3 lanes up to the Leeming Bar junction there is a greater need to resolve the issue of the White Bear junction (see Agenda Item 5 – Transport Update.) A decision has yet to be made on the relief road which once made may lessen congestion at the junction.

Peter reported that a decision has yet to be taken on the allocation of LSP funding, though a recommendation has been made that as support for Christmas lights has been made previously the money be allocated to purchase equipment and furniture for X-Nihilo (previously the Bridge Street youth venue.)

4) Designated Public Place Order Bedale: Update

Geoff Lodge provided an update the Designated Public Place Order in Bedale and Aiskew which imposes restrictions on the consumption of alcohol by adults over 18. The Order increases police powers to dispose of alcohol and arrest those who refuse to comply with the Order. Landowners permission is being sought in areas where the public has access, including council land (but not private car parks.) Areas covered by the Order include the Kingfisher playpark, Beckside and Wycar Green. Geoff explained that the imposition of the Order is part of a two-stage process which will involve consultation with HDC Licensing, the police and local residents (through the local press.)

Lee confirmed that evening anti-social behaviour patrols are being co-ordinated in an attempt to address the ongoing issue of proxy sales of alcohol to young people. Hazel reported that a recent meeting of the Community Interest Focus Group Elizabeth Fitzgerald from Trading Standards had provided an update on the Alcohol Reduction Campaign (ARC) scheme which is being piloted across

Bedale to address alcohol-related anti-social behaviour and which is based on the principal of education, *not* prosecution. The scheme, a partnership between NYCC Training Standards, the Police and the Community Safety Partnership, aims to reduce proxy sales of alcohol to minors and help provide additional training for retailers through the Retail Alcohol Standards Group (RASG.) The scheme seeks to promote the '21 Policy', which whilst not law is a policy adopted by NYCC. The success of the scheme will be assessed using 'community information' rather than intelligence (perceptions, evidence of criminal damage, litter, graffiti etc.)

5) Focus Group Updates

▪ Business and Tourism

Concerns were expressed over content of the visit-bedale.com website which has received funding from Awards For All, Bedale Town Council and the Chamber of Trade. Yvonne confirmed that the bedale.org community website will be 'owned' by the Town Council and will include minutes of Town Council meetings and links to other community sites. The process by which the site is to be populated and updated has yet to be agreed. **Action:** Peter to supply the TIC with copies of the suite of 'Visit.....' leaflets and forward concerns over the website to Beth & Mark.

It was noted that Yorkshire Day is to be celebrated by the TIC on Friday 1st August 2008.

The next meeting of the Group, which has now been incorporated into the Chamber of Trade & Tourism, is to be held at 7pm at the Black Swan on Wednesday 1st October.

▪ Environment

Yvonne confirmed that structural engineers have undertaken a survey on the Harbour Wall which has identified that work needs to be done on the Clark's side to address issues including tree penetration and repointing. It was suggested that as the bridge is listed English Heritage funding may be available to help finance repair work.

It was questioned whether £10k would be sufficient to ensure that resurfacing work on Gas Works Lane would be of an 'adoptable' standard.

Yvonne confirmed that the next meeting of the Group is to be held at 7.30pm in the TIC on Monday 21st July.

▪ Community Interests

Hazel provided an update on the CIFG meeting held on Tuesday 8th July:

Police Support:

Bob had raised the issue of Police involvement at local events at a recent meeting of the Police Liaison Committee and is awaiting a response. It was agreed that this issue should remain a priority for the Forum. Hazel confirmed that the issue of Police support had been raised at the recent LSP Exec. meeting and that Lindsay Ross, Chair of the Thirsk Area Group (TRI) had similar concerns.

X-Nihilo (Bedale Youth Venue):

An issue over rates has to be resolved given that X-Nihilo has yet to achieve registered charity status. Bob confirmed that the paperwork to achieve charitable status has been submitted and that charitable status should be granted shortly. Bedale School is to use the venue 5 days a week and has agreed to provide financial support and IT equipment to support the delivery of learning provision. Staff members from the school have agreed to join the Steering Group. David Hewison has been appointed Treasurer of the Steering Group. The Burneston Village Trust has donated £1000 (a total of almost £31k has been raised to date.) It is anticipated that the venue will open early in August with an Open Day to be arranged for those individuals and organisations which have supported the project.

Bedale Scouts & Guides:

Mike confirmed that architects plans have been drafted by Native Design in York but concerns were expressed over the associated construction costs (approx £300k - £350k) **Action:** Mike to invite Craig Harrison to provide an update at the next CIFG meeting to be held at 7.30pm at X-Nihilo, Bridge Street, Bedale on Tuesday 2nd September 2008.

Reels on Wheels:

Peter reported that the cinema equipment is currently being used regularly in Northallerton. It was agreed that the group identify an individual or organisation willing to take responsibility for delivering a similar scheme in Bedale and the surrounding villages.

▪ Transport

It was agreed that a problem-solving meeting be held in September to consider a number of issues raised in the Bedale Traffic Management Plan that are of concern to the Transport group of the Forum, local residents and the Police.

The issues for consideration are:

- Junction at Firby Road and Sussex Street/ Masham Road
- Tactile paving and crossing points location on Sussex Street/Masham Road
- Children's safety around Schools especially on Firby Road
- Speeding Traffic on the approaches to Bedale especially Masham Road, Leyburn Road and South End
- White Bear junction
- Emgate safety options
- Aiskew Puffing crossing

Action: Peter to circulate suggested dates for the meeting.

▪ Safety/Community Policing

Lee confirmed that the level of police support for local events was under review and that a Safety Advisory Group has been established to consider risks associated with hosting local events.

Carl reported on the last meeting of the Safer Bedale Group held on Thursday 12th June 2008. Issues identified at the meeting included:

- Speeding traffic is still seen as a problem, especially from South End and Masham Road
- Boy racers have been observed selling drink to under-age drinkers
- The Designated Places Order to prevent unsocial drinking should be introduced as soon as possible
- Parking outside Halls on Sussex Street is causing congestion
- Traffic issues still need addressing, including White Bear Corner, a 20 mph zone at the school sites, a 40 mph buffer, and the use of tactile paving – is this a help or a hindrance.

Dates for future meetings in 2008:

- 18th September
- 11th December

Action: Carl to bring notes from the next Safer Bedale meeting to the Forum for discussion.

5) Finance Update

Mike presented a copy of the Finance Report for information and invited Forum members to suggest ways in which the reserves (approx. £10K) can be used to support local projects. It was confirmed that the Forum receives an income resulting from the rental of 17 Market Place. Suggestions as to how this money can be spent included the Scouts & Guides, Christmas lights, the Bedale Bugle and enhanced street lighting. It was agreed that the Forum allocate £500 to support publication of the Bedale Bugle. **Action:** Forum members to email suggestions as to suitable projects to Peter prior to the next meeting. Hazel to contact Nicky Smith regarding projects being undertaken in the

surrounding villages which may require funding. Peter to liaise with John regarding editorial for future editions of the Bugle.

8) Any Other Business

- It was agreed that Mike provide regular updates on the Forum's activities at future Town Council meetings and that the Town Council identify another representative to attend Forum meetings. It was noted that with regards to VAT recovery the Town Council requires early stage notification of any local initiatives.
- John confirmed that a planning decision on the garage to the rear of Bedale Hall will be made on Monday 4th August. English Heritage's proposals include landscaping of the car park.

9) Date of next meeting: Tuesday 16th September (AGM)

Mike invited suggestions for speakers at this year's AGM. **Action:** Mike and Peter co-ordinate invitations to, and marketing of, the AGM. It was agreed that refreshments be provided and that invitations be extended to Bedale & Aiskew Town Councils.

10) Dates of Future Meetings:

- Wednesday 12th November 2008