



**BEDALE AND VILLAGES COMMUNITY PLAN FORUM  
MANAGEMENT GROUP**

**7.30pm on Wednesday 15th July 2009**

**BEDALE ROOM, BEDALE HALL**

**MINUTES**

**Present**

Mike Barningham (Chair); Stuart Isaac; PC Julian Sutcliffe; Harry Lillystone; Bob Pocklington; Yvonne Rose; Emily Thomas; Sue Latter; Carl Les; John Noone; Angela Kingsbury; Rev. Andrew Woodhouse; Peter Cole; Mark Haynes; Noel Collings; Ian Watkin; Carol Clark & Wanda Reynolds.

**Apologies**

Ian Marr.

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**1. Welcome & Introductions**

Mike welcomed Noel Collings, Emily Thomas, Angela Kingsbury and Rev. Andrew Woodhouse to the meeting.

**2. Minutes of the Last Meeting held Tuesday 12th May 2009**

Agreed as a true record thereof though it was noted that there will *not* be a school competition to design the High Street public artwork referred to at the last meeting.

**3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4. A Climate Change Strategy for Hambleton 2009-2014**

Noel Collings, Hambleton District Council's Sustainable Development Officer, presented an outline of HDC's Climate Change Strategy and explained that the purpose of the Strategy is reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions being released within the District (at a National level the UK government has set its own target of 20% reduction in emissions from the 1990 base-line figure by 2010.) Noel described measures by which climate change can be addressed at a local level including the promotion of community allotments to reduce 'food miles', the installation of micro-renewable energy sources (small-scale wind turbines, ground source heat pumps etc.) and the use of energy meters to monitor domestic energy consumption.

Noel reported that 15% of the energy used at Stone Cross comes from renewable sources and that a Green Travel Plan has been adopted by the Council. The Council has also produced a Supplementary Planning Document which provides energy saving advice and guidance for the construction industry. Noel confirmed that details of the strategy will be made available on the District Council's website shortly. Members agreed that there is a need to examine government bureaucracy with respect to waste management.

## 5. Broadacres Community Development Initiatives

Emily Thomas described the role of Community Development Co-ordinator, which is to develop stronger links between tenants and the local community and described the purpose of the 'Community Development Fund' which can be used to support community-based activities. Broadacres employs approximately 200 members of staff across Hambleton and provides a range of services to over 4,700 homes in North Yorkshire. A tenants group meets quarterly and it was suggested that links between this group and the Bedale & Villages Community Plan Forum be strengthened. Broadacres is keen work alongside community organisations across the Bedale area and is looking to purchase properties to help address the current housing shortage. A mortgage rescue scheme has been established to support those at risk of facing mortgage payment arrears. Broadacres are to undertake 'roadshows' in August and September in the villages surrounding Bedale including Well and West Tanfield. For further details visit: <http://www.broadacres.org.uk>

## 6. Energising Bedale: A Renaissance Vision

Members considered a proposal from Carol which outlines plans to develop land around the Station development and improve pedestrian and cycle links between Aiskew and Bedale. It was agreed that given the complex nature of the situation (including the LDF, cost implications, the impact of the proposed relief road and the Bedale Traffic Management Plan) these proposals be considered by the Transport Group. **Action:** Mike to convene a meeting of the Transport Focus Group (which includes representation from both HDC and NYCC) to consider the proposals in more detail and to provide feedback at a future meeting.

## 7. The Wensleydale Railway: Future Developments

Angela outlined plans to refurbish the Railway Station including the tiling of the Waiting Room, carpeting the shop and ticket office and the installation of a new door from the Waiting Room to the platform. Angela confirmed that all the work is being undertaken by skilled volunteers and that funding is being sought to support the refurbishment. Sue Latter proposed that the Group donate £1400 from the Group's rental income for 17A Market Place to carpet the large Tom Plummer Room. This proposal was seconded by Carl Les and agreed by the Group. **Action:** Peter to forward an application form to Rev. Woodhouse for funding.

Bob confirmed that Aiskew Parish Council is still pursuing Wensleydale Railway with regards to safety concerns at the Aiskew level crossing.

## 8. Focus Group Updates

### ▪ Business and Tourism

Yvonne confirmed that events are to be held in Bedale on Saturday 1st August to celebrate Yorkshire Day. The [bedale.org](http://bedale.org) website is now live and a room is being used at Bedale High School to maintain and populate the site. It was agreed that Group donate £300 to the school to purchase a PC to allow students to undertake further work on the site. **Action:** Peter to forward an application form to Yvonne for funding.

### ▪ Environment

Yvonne confirmed that following the recent review meeting the following priorities have been agreed:

- Safety at Aiskew Level Crossing
- The supply of electricity to stall holders at Bedale Market (and for community events on the High Street.)
- Public artwork on Bedale High Street

The installation of a bridge over Bedale Beck, pedestrian access to Emgate and visual enhancements to Bridge Street are considered projects for the medium term whilst the relocation of the allotments is no longer seen as a priority. A cycleway and circular walk

around Bedale and increased seating and more trees on the High Street are also being considered. It was noted that lighting enhancements on Wycar will be completed shortly.

- **Community Interests**

Peter confirmed that given the high number of apologies received the meeting held on Tuesday 7th July had been cancelled. The next meeting of the group is to be held on Tuesday 27th October.

- **Transport**

Mike reported that a decision on the bypass should be made in October 2009. Mike agreed to convene a meeting of the Group to consider the proposals outlined in Agenda Item 6, along with plans for a Gateway Car Park.

- **Safety/Community Policing**

Carl confirmed that the next meeting of the Safer Bedale Group is to be held on Thursday 1st October at 7pm at Bedale Hall. Julian reported that PC Lee Featherstone is now based at Newby Wiske and that a decision on the provision of speed guns in response to the number of speeding offences has yet to be made. It was noted that regular speed checks are being undertaken in Crakehall following consultation with the Parish Council.

## 9. Finance Update

Mike presented a finance report as at 17th March and confirmed that following a rate review the rental income from 17A Market Place has been reduced. It was noted that £2,500 has been committed to Crakehall Village Hall along with the £1400 to the Bedale Station Group and £300 to Bedale High School.

## 10. Any Other Business

- **Bedale High Street Enhancements Project: Street Furniture & Public Art**

Yvonne proposed that the Group donate £2000 to support improvements to the centre of Bedale, in particular the pedestrian area in front of the Post Office. It is proposed that the area be redesigned to provide a better quality community space and that better street furniture and a public art feature be installed to continue the long term plans for the development of an arts trail in Bedale. The proposal was seconded by Carol Clark and agreed by the Group. It was noted that £4000 has already been secured from the HDC Community Grant Scheme. It is anticipated that the scheme will be completed by March 2010.

- **Visit-Bedale.com: Non-accredited/Inspected Accommodation**

Following a discussion regarding the inclusion of non-accredited/inspected accommodation on the visit-bedale.com website it was agreed that only accredited/inspected accommodation will be included on the site. It was agreed however that the site will include a link to the bedale.org website which can include all accommodation providers regardless of accreditation.

- **Scouts & Guides**

Mike confirmed that planning permission has been granted and that an architect and quantity surveyor have been appointed. The design includes straw bale insulation and a 'green' roof. It is anticipated that subject to funds being made available construction will start in summer 2010. Bob is awaiting a response to a letter sent to HDC regarding the possible use of Unit 1 of the Station Complex as a temporary venue for the Scouts & Guides whilst their new venue is being built.

## Dates of Future Meetings

- Tuesday 15th September (AGM)
- Wednesday 11th November

All meetings to be held at 7.30pm at Bedale Hall