



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

**7.30pm on Wednesday 18th March 2009**

**BEDALE ROOM, BEDALE HALL**

**Minutes**

**Present**

Mike Barningham (Chair); John Noone; Carol Clarke; Sue Latter; Stuart Isaac; Mark Haynes; Peter Cole; Harry Lillystone; Hazel Kirby; Lee Featherstone; Bob Pocklington; Mike Lowe; Cllr. Carl Les & Yvonne Rose.

**Apologies**

Angus Maude; David Haxby; Kathryn Chapman; Keith Cooper; Peter Harbord; Graham Turner and John Burton.

**1. Minutes of the Last Meeting held Wednesday 28th January 2009**

Agreed as a true record thereof.

**2. Matters Arising**

- **Community Minibus:** Mike and John agreed to follow up on the issue of overnight parking of the Mini Bus and the suggestion that Bedale Hall archway, with security gates at both ends, could provide a medium term solution subject to being of a sufficient width.
- **Fleece Cottage Ginnel:** Mike confirmed that a letter had been sent to Bedale Town Council regarding the issue of a gate at the end of the ginnel and that the issue had been raised by Wanda at the recent Town Council meeting. Yvonne reported that the Environment Sub Group were opposed to the proposal for a gated entrance to the ginnel. Lee confirmed that there may be cost implications for such a proposal and that as a result further discussions with the Town Council are needed.
- **Park Mark Signs:** Peter reported that following a conversation with Clive Thornton (Senior Engineer at HDC) the Park Mark signs will be erected shortly.

**3. North Yorkshire Neighbourhood Profiles: Bedale & Villages**

Peter presented the narrative from the Neighbourhood Profile of Bedale and surrounding villages, a project undertaken by NYCC in partnership with HDC, the Police, the PCT and other members of the LSP. The Countywide Neighbourhood Profile is a database which uses data sets (obesity levels, income, age, deprivation indices etc.) to compare performance within the four wards in Bedale and also across other areas within the District, the County and the UK. It was agreed that the profile provides a useful planning tool to help identify 'hotspots' and allocate resources where they are most needed.

#### 4. Bedale Public Realm Works: Update

Mark presented an update circulated prior to the meeting on the various public realm works being undertaken across Bedale:

- It is anticipated that the extension to Bedale Hall will be completed in May 2009.
- Soft revetment work is underway on Beckside
- The work to resurface Gasworks Lane is now complete
- A developer has acquired the Drill Hall and the White Bear outbuildings and has submitted a planning application for both sites and Dovetail Interiors
- Enhancements to the Fleece Cottage ginnel should be completed in March.
- Heritage Trail plaques and interpretation boards are being constructed, along with the Assembly Room artwork for Phase 1 of the Bedale Arts Trail.

Mark confirmed that almost all of the £600k from Yorkshire Forward has been spent. It was agreed that both a pedestrian bridge across Bedale Beck and a Gateway Car Park should remain as future priorities for the Group. It was suggested that the Community Plan Review meeting to be held in May will provide an opportunity for members of the group and the wider community to identify new projects.

#### 5. Focus Group Updates

- **Business and Tourism**

Yvonne reported that Heritage Trail leaflets are being produced and that the [www.bedale.org](http://www.bedale.org) community website, which includes a business directory and links to the visit bedale.com website, is now live. The Chamber of Trade has donated £100 to purchase promotional material for the Heritage Trail.

- **Environment**

The Sub Group has identified a need to install new lights outside the TIC and that improvements should be made to existing street furniture. It has been suggested that the grey lamp posts be painted black to reduce their visual impact.

- **Community Interests**

Hazel reported on the meeting held Thursday 15th January. Mike confirmed that Prohelp had provided support for the design of the Scout & Guide Hut and that a decision on a Planning Application has yet to be made. It was suggested that once a decision is made Nicky Smith be invited to provide funding advice and guidance. **Action:** Peter to check whether the Scout & Guide Hut is included in the Section 106 Leisure/Recreation list compiled by Lisa Wilson. Peter to invite pupils of Bedale High School to the next meeting to be held on Tuesday 28th April.

- **Transport**

Mike reported on progress being made towards the creation of a 'Safe Route to Schools' incorporating land on Benkhill Drive gifted to the school by Broadacres. Both Bedale High School and NYCC Highways are involved in the project and the project is being considered both by elected members and the LSP Board. The crossing at Sussex Street remains an issue.

Concerns were expressed over congestion at the White Bear junction and the need to re-align the road to improve traffic flow. It was noted that the sloping pavement at the White Bear Corner poses a risk to pedestrians and that heavy lorries from Masham will continue to use the junction even after the opening of the bypass. **Action:** Mike to clarify whether the bypass would lead to a re-designation of the roads into Bedale. Mike to agree a date for the next meeting of the Transport Group.

- **Safety/Community Policing**

Lee reported that incidents of reported crime are on the slight increase, in particular the number of car break-ins, quad bike thefts and shed burglaries. It was suggested that this slight increase may be due to the current economic downturn. Lee confirmed that new staff are to start in April, repainting of yellow parking lines is to be carried out and that work is being undertaken with young people to address incidents of anti-social behaviour. As a result of the successful Friday Night Football project very few incidents of anti social behaviour on Friday evenings have been reported. The next meeting of the Safer Bedale Group is to be held at 7pm on Thursday 7th May at Bedale Hall. **Action:** Peter to co-ordinate publicity for this meeting.

## 6. Community Plan Review

Peter reminded members that residents of Bedale and the surrounding villages will be invited to the next Forum meeting to be held in the Ballroom on Tuesday 12th May. The meeting will provide an opportunity to review the Community Plan and to prioritise those projects in the Plan which have yet to be started or which have yet to be completed. **Action:** Peter to circulate a list of those projects in the Plan which have yet to be started or which have yet to be completed prior to the next meeting.

## 7. Finance Update

Mike presented a copy of the accounts and confirmed that as at 17th March 2009 the Group had £9895 in reserves. It was agreed that Yvonne Rose be added to the list of signatories of the Group.

Hazel presented a draft application form and guidance notes for funding from the Group's rental income from 17 Market Place for consideration. The wording of the application form was endorsed by the Group and it was agreed that:

- Either capital or revenue applications for those projects within the Bedale & Villages Community Plan would be eligible for funding.
- A Sub Group be established to consider funding applications that would include one member of each existing sub group (Business & Tourism, Transport, Environment, Safe and Community Interest.)
- This Sub Group convene prior to the main group in order that recommendations can be made to the Forum.
- The key criteria for each application is the evidence of *need*.
- Evidence of expenditure is required
- Revenue funding cannot be applied for beyond the first year of a project.
- The amount of funding available is between £100 and £2000

Mark indicated that HDC is undertaking a rent review for 17 Market Place in response to the economic downturn which may impact on the rental income received by the Forum.

Peter presented details of a request for financial support from the Crakehall Village Hall Management Committee to help with an extension of the refurbished village hall to include storage facilities for sports equipment. It was noted that Yorventure funding is being sought which would require a 10% contribution from a 3rd party. A proposal from John Noone that £2500 be allocated from the Group's existing reserves to fund the project was seconded by Cllr Carl Les and endorsed by the Group. **Action:** Peter to notify Nicky Smith of this decision.

## 8. Meetings and Correspondence:

### ▪ **Kingfisher Playground, Aiskew & Leeming Bar Playground**

Peter circulated details of the proposals to enhance play facilities at the two sites. Both projects were endorsed by the Group and will be added to the Bedale & Villages Community Plan.

### ▪ **The Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA)**

Peter reported that an LSP peer review is to be undertaken between 21st and 23rd April. This review is an inspection of how organisations and communities across the District are working in partnership to improve the quality of people's lives in Hambleton

**Action:** Peter to circulate an invitation to members to participate in the review.

## 9. Any Other Business

**Aiskew Railway Crossing:** Bob expressed serious concerns over the risk posed to cyclists by the Aiskew railway crossing and reported that Aiskew Parish Council has agreed to fund some improvement work to be undertaken by Wensleydale Railway. It was agreed that a permanent solution requires a partnership approach and that the issue be considered at the next meeting of the Transport Group. It was also agreed that improvements to the crossing be added to the

Bedale & Villages Community Plan.

### **10. Dates of Future Meetings**

- Tuesday 12th May
  - Wednesday 15th July
  - Tuesday 15th September (AGM)
  - Wednesday 11th November

All meetings to be held at 7.30pm at Bedale Hall