



Bedale and Villages Community Forum

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 15th September 2009 in the Ballroom at Bedale Hall

7.00pm – 8.30pm

Minutes

Present

Mike Barningham (Chair); Stuart Isaac; John Noone; Rosemary Taylor; Stuart Grainger; Nicky Smith; Mike Mills; Sharon O'Rourke; Bob Pocklington; Mike Lowe B.E.M.; Cllr. John Weighell; Keith Cooper; Chris Hall; Ellen Dunning; Andrew Maude; Harry Lillystone; Yvonne Rose; Peter Cole; Wanda Reynolds; Joanna Scorrer; Carol Roberts; Beryl Pemberton; Revd. Andrew Woodhouse; Ian Watkins; Stella Hemingway; R. Poole; Carol Clark; David Brown; Simon Hough; Joe Carney; Gary Frost & Mark Haynes.

Apologies

Ian Marr; Sue Latter; Cllr. David Webster; Heather Amy; Jacquie Boulton; Cllr. Carl Les; Graham Tuner & Kirk Lester.

Welcome & Introductions

Mike welcomed those attending to the Forum's seventh Annual General Meeting and introduced Gary Frost from the Highways Agency and Simon Hough and Joe Carney from Carillion/Morgan Estates.

The A1 Dishforth to Leeming Extension: Update

Simon provided an overview of the work completed to date on the A1 Upgrade between Dishforth and Leeming Bar/Bedale. The dual 3 lane extension is 22 km in length and work started on site in March 2009. The remaining 7 buildings earmarked for demolition will be removed shortly and a team of 35 archaeologists are undertaking a watching brief given the archaeological sensitivity of some areas affected by the upgrade. It is anticipated that the earthworks, including 143km of drainage, will be completed within 2 seasons. 100km of fencing is to be erected, of which 40% has been completed to date, and 350,000 tonnes of aggregate has been imported. Surfacing work at the southern end near Boltby is due to be carried out in mid October and it is anticipated that the project will be completed in 2012. Over 600 people are working on the project, of which approximately 30% are local. Site security is not seen as an issue with only 2 incidents of theft being recorded to date. Northern Archaeology Associates are involved in the excavation of the Scheduled Ancient Monument Sites and are aware of the significance of the Bedale Beck Navigation.

Cllr. Weighell raised concerns over the perceived speeds of site traffic coming from Crakehall and from local quarries along Masham Road. Stuart Grainger confirmed that the Police were working closely with the contractors and that a few vehicles have been removed from the project due to speeding. Regular speed checks are being undertaken which have demonstrated that the speed of *local* traffic remains an issue.

Mike encouraged Forum members to attend consultation events on proposals for the Bedale Bypass to be held on the 18th and 19th of September in the Market Place, on the 26th September at the Aiskew & Leeming Bar Primary School and on the 2nd October at the Aiskew Methodist Hall.

Chair's Report

Mike presented the Chair's Report which described activity undertaken by members of the Forum over the last 12 months. These included ginnel and signage improvements, street lighting enhancements and the development of the Bedale.org website. Mike also made reference to the Bedale Heritage Partnership Scheme which has led to environmental enhancements to Bedale Beck, the creation of the Bedale Heritage Trail and office space at the Assembly Rooms and the opening of a Children's Centre following the completion of the extension to Bedale Hall.

Mike confirmed that whilst much work has been done there is still more to do and noted in particular plans for the Scout & Guide Hut/Community Facility and the proposed relief road and gateway car park.

In conclusion Mike thanked members of the Forum, the sub groups and key partners that have helped deliver community-led projects identified within the Bedale & Villages Community Plan including Yorkshire Forward, the Officers of HDC, NYCC, English Heritage, the Police, Bedale Town Council, Bedale High School and the Bedale Chamber of Trade & Tourism.

John Noone presented Mike with a gift in recognition for his support for the Group since its inception in 2001 and thanked Mike on behalf of the Group, and the community it seeks to represent, for his work to improve the quality of life of those living in Bedale and the surrounding villages.

Finance Report

Mike presented the Financial Report and confirmed that as at 28th January 2009 the Group had £1227.19 in reserves. Mike reminded members that following a recent rent review undertaken at 17 Market Place the future rental income allocated to the Group will be reduced.

Election of Officers

Nominations were sought for the post of Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary and the following were duly elected:

- **Chair:** Yvonne Rose
Proposed by Bob Pocklington and seconded by John Noone.

- **Vice Chair:** John Noone
Proposed by Mike Barningham and seconded by Harry Lillystone.

- **Treasurer:** Mike Barningham
Proposed by John Noone and seconded by Ellen Dunning.

- **Secretary:** John Dunwell
Proposed by Mike Barningham and seconded by Carol Clark.

Any Other Business

- **Amendment to the Constitution**

Members considered Bob's proposal that the word 'Plan' be removed from the title of the group. There were no objections to this proposal and henceforth the Group will be called 'The Bedale & Villages Community Forum'. **Action:** Peter to amend the Constitution to reflect this decision.

- **Support for the Bedale & District U3A**

Members considered a request from Beryl Pemberton on behalf of the Bedale & District U3A for £200 to help deliver a programme of activities for people *of all ages* across Bedale who are not in full time employment. Members agreed that U3A was an excellent organisation whose work benefited both young and old people alike. Bob proposed that the Forum donate £200 to U3A as requested, a proposal that was seconded by Mike Barningham and endorsed by the Group. **Action:** Peter to forward Beryl a claim form for completion.

- **X-Nihilo**

Bob confirmed that the X-Nihilo Management Group is seeking to provide transport for young people between the Youth Centre and the surrounding villages and is in the process of establishing the demand for such a service.

Closing Remarks

Yvonne thanked Mike for his support for the Group over the years, and also thanked Mark, Nicky and Peter for the work undertaken over the last twelve months. Yvonne confirmed that despite the uncertainty over future Yorkshire Forward funding and a possible reduction in public spending the Forum will continue to support the development and delivery of those projects identified with the Bedale & Villages Community Plan.

Date of Next Meeting:

- Wednesday 11th November: 7.30pm at Bedale Hall