



BEDALE AND VILLAGES COMMUNITY PLAN FORUM

7.30pm on Wednesday 12th March 2008 at Bedale Hall

Present: Mike Barningham (Chair); Yvonne Rose; Bob Pocklington; Mark Haynes; Lee Featherstone; Cllr Carl Les; Hazel Kirby; Mark Firth; Martyn Mongon; Harry Lillystone; Carol Roberts; Ian Marr; Susan Latter, Stuart Isaac & Peter Cole.

Apologies: John Noone & Mike Mills.

1. Welcome

Mike introduced Peter Cole who has recently been appointed HDC Community Link Officer.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held 15th January were agreed as a true record thereof.

3. Matters Arising

- Yvonne continues to liaise with Beth Carss and ID24 to develop the website. It was suggested that a volunteer from the TIC be invited to keep the website up to date.
- A Forum representative to sit on the Bedale Sports Locality Group has yet to be identified.
- Mike agreed to discuss proposals for a new footbridge near Leach House with Sir Henry Beresford-Peirse.
- Details of the free 'Welcome Host' course have been circulated to members of the Chamber of Trade.
- Yvonne has been in discussion with Tim Wood to clarify the LDF Allocation of land behind Mowbray School. Yvonne agreed to contact Persimmon Housing to discuss a solution to a potential access problem to the site.
- Peter confirmed that Park Mark signs are available and are waiting to be installed.
- Mike agreed to provide copies of the Forum's logo on disk for all to use if and when required (including for use by the Bedale Youth Venue Ltd.)

4. Recreation / Leisure Projects

Peter provided an update on the prioritisation of local projects and circulated the template which now includes initial project 'scores' suggested by Lisa Wilson & Dave Goodwin. Peter confirmed that new projects can be added to the list and projects which are no longer deemed viable can be removed. Information has yet to be submitted on certain projects and the document will be reconsidered at future meetings. It was suggested that a column be added to determine the project's 'state of deliverability'.

Action: Group members to consider the initial project scores and notify Peter of any disagreements with the scores. Peter to ensure that responses from those projects not yet submitted are received and forwarded to Lisa Wilson for consideration, along with proposals to install disabled toilets and new flooring at Scruton Village Hall.

5. Focus Group updates

Business and Tourism

Yvonne reported that the domain name www.bedale.org.uk has been purchased which would allow the delivery of local information through a 'community' website. It was suggested that this site would promote local events and societies, include links to the TIC website, complement Parish Magazines and perhaps eventually replace the Bugle. Forum members agreed in principle to support the project. **Action:** Hazel, Yvonne & Nicky Smith to explore funding sources (including the Small Grants Fund and a contribution from the Bedale & Villages Forum.)

Environment

Beck Bridge: Mark reported that some engineering work has been undertaken to consider the foundations necessary and ramping. Concerns were expressed over proposals to remove Planning Conditions which relate to the Station development. **Action:** Yvonne to contact Allerton Industries for a quote to carry out work on the bridge. Mark to provide an update at the next meeting.

Community Interest

Hazel reported that whilst the Group has not met recently a meeting had been held to discuss the Youth Venue. The organisation is seeking to become a Registered Charity company which will then allow it to apply for Registered Charity Status and open a bank account. Bob confirmed that £27K has been raised to date and that seven Directors have been appointed (including two police officers), along with a Treasurer and Secretary. Work is being undertaken in partnership with Lawrence Monaghan (NYCC 4Youth) to ensure that the venue will complement existing school and community-based provision. Bob suggested that a site visit could be arranged later on in the year. Mike congratulated Bob and those involved in the project and thanked Bob on behalf of the Forum for his work to develop the youth facility.

Transport

Mike reported that a meeting had been held on 30th January to discuss:

- **Car parking charges:** a suggestion was made that Bedale Town Council take responsibility for the maintenance and repair of car parks to avoid the imposition of charges.
- **The NYCC Traffic Management Strategy:** written questions have been submitted to NYCC in response to concerns over funding allocations, an apparent lack of progress with respect to the White Bear junction and future priorities within the Strategy.
- **The Rights of Way Improvement Plan:** a new version has been published and is available from the TIC.

Action: Mike agreed to write to Sir Henry Beresford-Peirse with regards to the proposed Renaissance Park.

It is understood that NYCC Highways are responsible for maintaining the footpath and block paving between Bedale and the Sports Club. **Action:** Mike to contact NYCC Highways to confirm their list of works and Statement of Priorities.

Safety / Community Policing

Carl confirmed that the last meeting proved successful and continuing with the 'You Said, We Did.' theme provided a forum for asking questions about safety and community policing issues. Lee thanked the community for its support and provided an update on activity:

- Weekly night time farm patrols are being undertaken in partnership with police officers in Thirsk & Richmondshire, along with a series of late night & weekend operations to tackle anti-social behaviour.

- Links have been established with Bedale High School through the 'Crimebeat' initiative to educate pupils about the impact and consequences of anti-social behaviour.
- Monthly surgeries are to be held in the market place starting 8th April 2008 to discuss specific issues with local residents.

Lee encouraged members to contact him via email with any questions, intelligence or concerns relating to Community Safety at lee.featherstone@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

A date for the next Safe Group meeting has yet to be agreed.

6. Finance update

Mike circulated a copy of the finance report for information and indicated that approx. £9k is due in March from HDC. It was agreed that Yvonne be added to the list of signatories.

7. Meetings and Correspondence

- HSP Exec Meeting 6th March 2008: Mike reported that approximately £26k is available this year from the Second Homes Discount Fund. Following discussion it was agreed that a bid be submitted to support the Bedale Youth Festival. The enhancement of street lighting around Wycar and the purchase of Christmas lights were also identified as priorities though it was suggested that other funding sources may be available to support these projects. **Action:** Mike and Peter to follow up with Nicky Smith.
- A letter had been received from Sgnt. Grainger regarding plans to address safety issues for cyclists at the Aiskew level crossing. The letter also made reference to proposed road improvement and traffic calming measures on Firby Road, Masham Road, Burneston and Hackforth. Forum members expressed concerns over proposals for the area adjacent to Mowbray School. **Action:** Mike to respond on behalf of the Group.

8. Any Other Business

Mike confirmed that slides and photographs taken during the visit to Holland will be made available. Time was spent observing 'shared space' transport & traffic schemes which are being piloted elsewhere in the UK, along with docklands housing redevelopment in Utrecht.

Mark provided an update on the Heritage Partnership Scheme and described the expressions of interest from local businesses. Mark confirmed that the scheme has received a positive response and encouraged Forum members to promote the scheme.

Mark reported that work is underway to install finger posts at South End and Masham Road, whilst plans have been commissioned to refurbish garages at Bedale Hall.

9. Dates of future meetings

Tues 6th May 2008

Weds 16th July 2008

Tues 16th September 2008

Weds 12th November 2008

(to be held at 7.30pm at Bedale Hall)