



## **BEDALE AND VILLAGES COMMUNITY PLAN FORUM**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**7.30pm on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

**The Ballroom, Bedale Hall, Bedale**

#### **Present**

Mike Barningham; Bob Walker; Carol Roberts; John Tubby; Ian Watkins; Harry Lillystone; Stuart Isaac; Sgnt. Stuart Grainger; John Noone; Kirk Lester; Carole Clark; Sue Latter; Cllr. John Weighell; Hazel Kirby; Wanda Reynolds; Kathryn Chapman; Jenni Hamilton; Elizabeth Fitzgerald; Mark Haynes; Peter Cole; Yvonne Rose; PC Lee Featherstone; John Dunwell & David Parkins.

#### **Apologies**

Bob Pocklington; Mark Firth; Geoff Lodge; David Brown; Chris Hall.

#### **1. Welcome & Introductions**

Mike welcomed members to the Forum's sixth Annual General Meeting and introduced Lawrence Monaghan, Area Youth Work Team Leader (Hambleton South.)

#### **2. X-Nihilo: Bedale Youth Venue Ltd.**

Lawrence provided the background to the project, the need for which was first identified in the Bedale Market Town Masterplan (2004.) The Bedale Youth Venue Ltd. was formed at the end of 2007 and received support from the town and parish councils of Bedale & Aiskew, the Safer Neighbourhood Police Team, Bedale Chamber of Trade, the Voluntary Services Association, Hambleton District Council, Bedale High School, and RAF Leeming.

The Youth venue opened on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2008 and provides a safe environment for young people to meet and access to information, advice and specialist support services. NYCC 4Youth Service will deliver drop-in provision on Monday & Thursday evenings. 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. Lawrence listed those organisations which provided financial support for the project and thanked the large number of people and local businesses involved, many of whom had provided volunteer support.

#### **3. Chair's Report**

Mike presented the Chairs' Report and described the activity undertaken by the 5 Focus Groups over the last 12 months:

##### **Business and Tourism**

The Group, now part of the Bedale Chamber of Trade & Tourism, has provided support for the TIC & visit-bedale.com website, the installation of fingerposts and the feasibility study on redevelopment of the Drill Hall. The Group continues to monitor progress on the Shop Front enhancement scheme in partnership with Yorkshire Forward and plans to develop the Bedale Hall Garage and Assembly Rooms, which it is hoped will increase employment opportunities in the area.

## **Environment**

The Environment Group has worked to progress proposals to install a pedestrian footbridge over Bedale Beck and has worked in partnership with Bedale Town Council to enhance the Beckside path and install new lighting in Wycar. Future priorities for the Group include proposals for ginnel/footpath enhancements around Fleece Cottages and the installation of further lighting on Wycar.

## **Community Interest**

The Group continues to support and monitor ongoing projects and identify other projects which may benefit from support from the Forum. Over the last twelve months such projects have included:

- X-Nihilo
- The Bedale Festival
- Bedale Community Minibus Scheme
- Reels on Wheels
- Diversionary Activities for Young People
- The Young Persons Buss Pass Scheme

## **Transport**

Members of the Group have had the opportunity to observing 'shared space' transport & traffic schemes which are being piloted elsewhere in the UK, along with docklands housing redevelopment in Utrecht. The Problem Solving Group is to meet with NYCC Highways to consider specific areas of concern including Junction at Firby Road and Sussex Street/Masham Road, tactile paving and crossing points on Sussex Street/Masham Road, children's safety around schools and congestion at the White Bear Junction.

## **Safer Bedale**

The Group has provided support for the implementation of the Bedale 'Designated Public Place Order', the installation of CCTV cameras and continues to host successful 'You Said. We Did.' meetings to identify and resolve crime and community safety issues.

## **4. Finance Report**

Accounts for year ending the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007 were circulated for information. Mike confirmed that the Forum has reserves of approximately £7k and will continue to receive an annual income from rental of 17 Market Place. Members supported the proposal from the Bedale Chamber of Trade to hire a temporary ice rink for one day in December. Members agreed to the Chamber's request for £1k against the total cost of £2.5k.

## **5. Election of Officers**

Nominations were sought for the post of Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.

- **Chair:** Mike Barningham

Proposed by Yvonne Rose and seconded by John Noone. Mike confirmed that he would remain Chair of the Forum for one more year and suggested that steps be taken to identify a new Chair for 2009/2010.

- **Vice Chair:** John Noone

Proposed by Yvonne Rose and seconded by Harry Lillystone

- **Treasurer:** Yvonne Rose

Proposed by Mike Barningham and seconded by Sue Latter

- **Secretary:** John Dunwell

Proposed by Mike Barningham and seconded by Yvonne Rose

## **6. Any Other Business**

Cllr. Weighell explained that NYCC is cautiously optimistic that a bypass around Bedale will be built and that NYCC, having submitted its recommendation, is awaiting a Ministerial decision as to if and when work on the road will start. Traffic modelling has demonstrated that a relief road will have direct, and positive, impact upon congestion at the White Bear Corner, both on the number and size of vehicles using this route.

## **7. Closing remarks**

Mike thanked Forum members and Chairs of the Focus Groups for their continuing support over the last 12 months. Mike also thanked Peter and Mark for their assistance in organising the meeting and those exhibitors in attendance.

## **8. Date of the next meeting:**

- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2008, Bedale Hall at 7.30pm.