



# Northallerton and Villages Community Forum

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010

4.00pm – 6.00pm

Meeting Room 4, Stone Cross Civic Centre, Northallerton

## Minutes

**Present:** Sally Anderson (Chair); Lesley Shaw; Gloria Davies; Marjorie Stratford; Mark Haynes; Peter Cole; Ken Blackwood; Rev. Michael Webster; Hazel Kirby; Sgnt. Simon Wilson; Stuart Pudney; Sue Seddon; Jacquie Boulton.

**Apologies:** Stuart Isaac; Cllr. Jack Dobson; Cllr. David Blades & Rosemary Bullimore

---

### 1. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies

Sally introduced Sue Seddon & John Matthews (Hambleton District Council) and Stuart Pudney (Deputy Chief Executive North Yorkshire Police Authority.)

### 2. Minutes of the Last Meeting held Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2009

Agreed as a true record thereof.

### 3. Matters Arising:

- **Business Community Consultation:** It was agreed that in Stuart's absence this item be deferred until the next meeting.
- **Northallerton Rail Users Group:** Ken confirmed that both he and Robert Carter had attended a meeting of the Rail User's Group in December 2009 at which questions were raised regarding proposed changes to the timetable of the Grand Central and the Liverpool Tran Pennine service. Ken suggested that the Group could provide a suitable forum for further dialogue regarding other forms of public transport and agreed to attend future meetings of the Group.
- **Notice Board Displays:** Peter confirmed that he had been contacted by Mary Welch, Integrated Passenger Transport at NYCC, regarding the possible 'adoption' by NVCF of the notice board outside the Railway Station to display NVCF literature and other promotional material. It was suggested that a community notice board 'strategy' be drawn up. Mark indicated that the glass-cased notice board in Central may also provide a location to promote community activities. It was noted that two HDC notice boards have been removed from the Applegarth Car Park. **Action:** Ken to discuss the future use of the notice board at the railway station at the next meeting of the Rail User's Group. Sally to follow up with Northallerton Town Council with regards to notice boards in the town.

### 4. The Northallerton & Villages Area Profile

John Matthews presented a draft copy of the Area Profile for Northallerton and the surrounding villages and explained the rationale behind its publication. John explained that the document is seeking to identify local issues and specific needs and will help with both the review of the Northallerton & Villages Community Plan and with the allocation of resources to address 'hotspots'. John invited members to forward him details of any errors or omissions in the document and explained that it will evolve over time as more recent data becomes available. Work has been undertaken in partnership with NYCC, the police, the PCT and the Fire & Rescue services to source suitable data and it is hoped that the final version will be available by the middle of March 2010. It was noted that the process by which the document will be updated has yet to be agreed by the LSP.

It was suggested that the final document include population and employment trends and that population statistics for Brompton, Romanby and Northallerton be subdivided. John agreed to include County Tracker data where appropriate.

**Action:** Peter to arrange an extra meeting of the Group to consider the draft document in more detail. Ken to provide John with an update on projects in Appleton Wiske. Sally to feedback to the LSP concerns over how the document will be updated. Members to forward comments, errors, omissions etc. to John at [john.matthews@hambleton.gov.uk](mailto:john.matthews@hambleton.gov.uk) by the middle of March 2010.

## 5. ActDivertz

Sgnt. Wilson provided a summary of the diversionary activities being undertaken by the multi-agency partnership over the next twelve months including:

- A Friday night football project at Hambleton Leisure Centre
- A football tournament to be held on the May Bank Holiday
- The 'Adrenalin' mixed dance group
- Cinema trips to Teesside park
- A fashion show
- Boxing at RAF Leeming
- The 'Hot Girly Gossip' Club

Simon also reported that a 'Facebook' account has been set up to promote the activities on offer to young people and that other events being considered include fishing, gardening, police station/prison visits and go karting. Sally congratulated Simon on the work being undertaken by the Group.

## 6. Project Update

### ▪ Hambleton Renaissance Business Plan

Mark presented the update circulated prior to the meeting and confirmed that both the Evolution Business Centre and Northallerton signage projects are now complete. Mark also reported that the feedback from consultation on the proposed Town Square enhancement project is being collated and that a report is to be drafted in partnership with NYCC Highways regarding the issue over the removal of 4 car parking spaces. Approximately 57% of those consulted were in favour of the proposed scheme whilst 20% of those consulted felt that the plans should be more ambitious. Once the agreed design has been costed applications will be submitted to various funding sources. It is understood that planning permission for the proposed scheme is not required. **Action:** Ken to forward details of the 1555 Royal Charter to Mark.

Mark explained that a formal offer to purchase the Rutson site has been submitted to the PCT and that an outline business plan for the project is almost complete. Additional funding has been secured and it is hoped that the site will be purchased by the end of the financial year. Both Broadacres and voluntary organisations are involved in the development process (the NDVSA is co-ordinating the voluntary sector input.)

Mark confirmed that Northallerton Town Council had deferred the decision to match fund the funding secured from the HDC Community Grant scheme and the Yorkshire Forward Delegated Funds to develop a yard or alley way adjacent to the High Street. It is understood that the scheme will be considered by the Amenities Committee in February but given that both the Community Grant funding and the Delegated Funds must be spent by March 31<sup>st</sup> the completion of the scheme by this date is unlikely. Jacquie indicated that the Delegated Funds available for 2010/2011 have been allocated and that there will be no cash available for new projects. It is unclear whether there will be Yorkshire Forward funding for projects beyond 2011. It was asked that the Group's disappointment over the Town Council's decision to defer a decision on proposals to enhance an alley way/hidden space be minuted.

Mark suggested that the funding already secured be used to implement the Town Hall Christmas illumination replacement scheme endorsed by the Group at the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2009. Members voted on whether to support the proposal to allocate Yorkshire Forward Delegated Funds to the Christmas Lights Scheme. Two members voted in favour of the proposal, there were no objections and there was one abstention. A resolution was not reached. **Action:** Mark to consider options for the delivery of public realm work in Northallerton which can be completed by the end of March 2010.

### **Other Projects:**

#### **Reels on Wheels**

Ken confirmed that a decision from the Film Council on the Rural Cinema bid for mobile digital cinema equipment is expected in the middle of February. Ken indicated that films could be screened for free if a suitable venue could be found. It was suggested that Northallerton College could provide such a venue.

#### **Northallerton Shopmobility**

Peter provided an update on the Northallerton Shopmobility scheme which will operate from the new Abbey Health premises in Central Arcade. Initially 5 powered scooters will be purchased and the fleet will be supplemented by manual wheelchairs. It is hoped that the scheme will be launched sometime in April 2010.

### **Village Projects:**

**Appleton Wiske Minibus:** Ken confirmed that a replacement 16-seater minibus has been purchased.

**Brompton Allotments:** Mark indicated that approximately 20 allotment plots may be available to residents of Brompton should Brompton Town Council agree to a land-lease proposal.

**Local Food Matters:** Peter described the purpose of the Local Food Matters event being held at Northallerton Town Hall on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January between 10am and 2pm. Hosted by the Northallerton and Villages in Transition Group the event will provide an opportunity to explore how residents of Northallerton and the surrounding villages can feed themselves when the cost and supply of oil becomes uncertain. The event will also consider practical solutions as to how the quality of life for people living in Northallerton and the surrounding villages can be improved through the development of a sustainable, low-carbon lifestyle and economy. It was noted that Richmond has achieved Transition Town Status. **Action:** Peter to provide feedback from the event at the next meeting.

## **7. Any Other Business**

- **Access to High Speed Broadband**

Ken reported that access to high speed broadband in villages is being considered by the LSP Board. It was agreed that given the importance of broadband to small businesses the issue be included in the Area Profile.

▪ **The Bullamoor Windfarm**

It is understood that a decision on the proposed scheme has been deferred pending further consultation with the MOD. It was agreed that an update on the proposed scheme be presented at the next meeting.

▪ **Northallerton TIC**

Gloria confirmed that although the TIC is due to reopen on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010 the lease on the premises has not yet been renewed. Car parking for volunteers remains an issue and it was suggested that this be raised at the next Northallerton Area Forum to be held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March. **Action:** Mark to liaise with Denise Pearce at HDC regarding the renewal of the lease.

▪ **Northallerton Area Forum**

**Action:** Peter to circulate a copy of the minutes of the Area Forum meeting held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January for information.

▪ **Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)**

It was suggested that the initial results of the JSNA be considered at the next NVCF meeting to be held in March. Members agreed that the care of the elderly (including transport for services for the less mobile living in villages) is a key local priority and should be reflected in the Area Profile. It was also agreed that improvements to community transport should be a priority.

The meeting closed at 5.55pm