



Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 28th July 2009

Northallerton Town Hall

7.00pm – 9.00pm

Minutes

Present:

Sally Anderson (Chair); Lesley Shaw; Marjorie Stratford; Diane Ferguson; Robert Beaver; Cllr. Barrie Meecha; Robert Carter; Gloria Davies; Rev. Michael Webster; Stuart Isaac; Phoebe Newton; Adrienne Lucas; Cllr. David Blades; Nicky Smith; Kevin Holt; Mark Haynes; Emily Thomas; Cllr. Tim Swales and Cllr. Tony Hall.

Apologies:

Malcolm Ashman; Rosemary Bullimore; Sarah Robinson; Jacquie Boulton.

Welcome & Introductions

Sally welcomed members to the Forum's Annual General Meeting and explained that due to unforeseen circumstances Nick Taylor, Scarborough's Renaissance Business Manager was unable to attend. Nick has agreed to attend the next NVCF meeting to be held on Tuesday 29th September.

1) Chair's Report

Sally presented a review of the Forum's activities over the last twelve months including the production and screening of the 'Johnny's 'Allerton Yards & Hidden Corners' film, consultation on a scheme to improve the appearance of the 'Town Square' and the creation of a Transition Town Steering Group to consider community initiatives to reduce Northallerton's reliance on fossil fuels. Sally also made reference to progress made on the Evolution Business Centre and the Brompton Pavilion, both of which are to be completed in September, initial proposals to develop the Rutson Hospital as a community facility and the completion of the Smeatons/Hornby Parish Plan.

Sally confirmed that the Northallerton Shopmobility scheme remains a priority for the Group as do issues regarding public transport (in particular the bus terminus outside the Buck Inn, the need for an integrated Northallerton to Thirsk service and the provision of timetable information at bus stops.) Other local projects for consideration by the Group over the next 12 months include 'Northallerton Blooming Together', the Base Project and enhancements to play and recreation facilities in Northallerton and the surrounding villages. Sally suggested that further work needs to be done to engage with the private sector and confirmed that Stuart will be undertaking work to improve links with the local business community over the next 6 months.

2) Finance Report

It was agreed that this item be deferred in Ken's absence and that a year-end Finance Report be presented at the next meeting.

3) Election of Officers: 2009-2010

The following were duly elected Chair and Secretary of the Northallerton & Villages Community Forum.

- **Chair:** Sally Anderson
Proposed by Cllr. David Blades and seconded by Lesley Shaw.
- **Secretary:** Peter Cole
Proposed by Lesley Shaw and seconded by Rev. Michael Webster.

It was agreed that a Treasurer and Vice Chair be elected at the next meeting of the Forum.

4) Any Other Business

- Two Project Proposal Forms were presented to the Group for consideration:
 - **Chopsticks Woodchip Production:** to extend the covered working area at the rear of Chopsticks building for the storage and drying of waste timber to enable it to be converted to chip.
 - **Den Security Fencing:** the installation of security fencing for the Den at Mill Hill School.

It was agreed that representatives from both organisations be invited to the next NVCF meeting to provide further information about the projects.

- David thanked Group members for their support for this year's Northallerton carnival which proved very successful
- It was agreed that the ActDivertz Group which seeks to co-ordinate diversionary activities for young people become a sub group of NVCF and that any money secured by the ActDivertz Group to undertake such activities be held in the NVCF bank account. It was agreed that there is no requirement to amend the Constitution as it already makes reference to the creation of sub groups to address specific issues. It was suggested that a reporting mechanism be agreed to ensure that NVCF is made fully aware of ActDivertz projects.

5) The Bedale Renaissance Masterplan

Mark presented an overview of the work being undertaken in Bedale as part of the Renaissance Masterplan, including:

- the refurbishment of Bedale Station and Assembly Hall
- public realm works e.g. the Fleece Cottage ginnel improvements and lighting enhancements on Wycar
- shop front enhancements as part of the Bedale Heritage Partnership Scheme
- the building of an extension to Bedale Hall to provide a venue for the Children's Centre
- the opening of the X-Nihilo youth centre on Bridge Street.

Mark confirmed that Northallerton will remain a priority market town for Yorkshire Forward.

6) Closing Remarks

Sally thanked Forum members for their continuing support over the last 12 months.

7) Dates for Future Meetings:

- **Tuesday 29th September: 4pm Main Committee Room, Stone Cross Civic Centre**
- **Tuesday 24th November: 4pm Main Committee Room, Stone Cross Civic Centre**

