



# Northallerton and Villages Community Forum

Tuesday 17th March 2009

3.00pm – 6.00pm

Main Committee Room, Stone Cross Civic Centre, Northallerton

## Minutes

**Present:** Sally Anderson (Chair); Michael Webster; Peter Cole; Lesley Shaw; Robert Carter; Ken Blackwood; Mark Haynes; Gloria Davies; Marjorie Stratford; Carol Russell; John Sheehan; Robert Beaver; Sandra Snaddon; Stuart Isaac; Hazel Kirby; Hugh Thompson; John Parkinson; Mark Firth; Emily Thomas & Tony Hall.

**Apologies:** Rosemary Bullimore; Sgnt. Simon Wilson; Stan Hudson; Tim Swales & David Blades.

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### 1. Minutes of the Last Meeting held Tuesday 27th January 2009

Agreed as a true record thereof.

### 2. Matters Arising

- **Visit Northallerton Leaflets:** Mark confirmed that the Visit Northallerton leaflets have been printed and are ready for distribution.
- **AGM:** the time, date and venue for this year's AGM have yet to be confirmed.
- **Northallerton's Yards and Hidden Spaces:** DVD's of the film are now available and have been distributed. Positive comments about the film have been received and screening the film in the High Street has strengthened the argument to develop the 'Town Square'.

### 3. Northallerton & Villages Community Plan Review

Members were given the opportunity to consider those projects within the Northallerton & Villages Community Plan which have either yet to be started or which have been initiated and which have yet to be completed. Projects were divided into the LSP Theme Groups (Prosperous, Healthy, Places, Safe & People) then further subdivided into:

- a) those which are of a high priority for the Forum to deliver
- b) those which are of a low priority for the Forum to deliver
- c) those which are considered a high priority for another LSP Group and/organisation to deliver
- d) those which are no longer considered a priority
- e) those projects which are considered complete

**Action:** Peter to collate the results and circulate this information prior to the next meeting for further consideration.

Of those projects which have been completed since the Plan was drafted in 2001 the following recent successes were identified:

<b>Northallerton Signage</b>	<b>Northallerton Town Hall Lights</b>	<b>Chopsticks</b>
<b>Brompton Pavilion</b>	<b>Northallerton Managed Workspace</b>	<b>Hidden Yard's Film</b>
<b>Visit Northallerton Leaflets</b>	<b>The NVCF Communication Strategy</b>	<b>Shopmobility Scheme</b>

It was noted that plans are being developed to introduce a Northallerton Shopwatch Scheme and to enhance the East Road underpass. Plans to introduce a bus terminus at North End are also being considered.

#### 4. Parish & Village Plans: The Next Steps

Kathryn reported that following a restructuring of Rural Action Yorkshire funding to support development work will come to an end on 31st March 2009. RAY will continue to provide information, advice and guidance for community-led projects eg. the development of youth cafes across North Yorkshire and will continue to provide a voice for rural issues. The Community Buildings programme will continue as will plans to introduce user-friendly IT/video links in remote areas. Public transport in rural areas, support for local food producers and access to allotments will remain a priority. Kathryn circulated details of the Calor 'Villages of the Year' competition and encouraged members to enter. It was noted that Romanby Parish Council is to circulate a questionnaire to identify community priorities following the production of a Village Plan in 2007. **Action:** Kathryn and Robert to liaise regarding possible support from Rural Action Yorkshire.

#### 5. Ongoing Projects: Update

Mark presented an update on those local projects which appear in the Hambleton Renaissance Business Plan and other projects being supported by the Group.

**Northallerton Town Square:** Consultations have been undertaken with the public on the 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> February in the Town Square area. A consultation with young people at Allertonshire School also took place on 25<sup>th</sup> Feb. Further consultation will take place at Romanby Primary School and the Base Project. The majority of people are supportive of the scheme. Plans will now be drawn up and will be circulated for further comment.

**Northallerton Managed Workspace:** The steel framework has been completed and work has started on the blockwork. It is anticipated that the project will be completed by September 2009. Peter invited members to suggest a name for the complex and indicated that a site visit is to be arranged for NVCF members in July.

**Climate Change:** Following a visit to Kirkbymoorside it was agreed that NVCF host a screening of the 'Inconvenient Truth' at the Hambleton Forum on Tuesday 21st April 2009 in order to stimulate further discussion on climate change initiatives and identify those individuals willing to take responsibility for a 'Northallerton as a Transition Town' initiative. A further meeting will be held at 7pm on Friday 1st May at Northallerton Methodist Church to agree how the Transition Town agenda can be taken forward. It was agreed that an initial Task/Finish group be established from within NVCF and that input from young people is required.

**Northallerton Shopmobility:** Peter confirmed that the proposed scheme, which will now operate from the Public Toilets adjacent to the Applegarth car park, has now been adopted by HDC subject to the outcome of a job evaluation to be undertaken in May.

**Brompton Pavilion:** Robert confirmed that funding has been secured and work is now underway onsite.

Mark Firth confirmed that Northallerton will remain a 'priority' market town within the RMT programme and that although Yorkshire Forward's future priorities will be similar there will be more of a focus on *economic* outputs. There will be no EMBED support for

the Area Groups beyond March 2009. A decision on the future of the Skills Development Programme has yet to be made.

Mark described the potential offered by two new projects being developed, the Northallerton Town Park and proposals for a 'Community Facility' at the Rutson Hospital. Both projects were welcomed and endorsed by the Group.

## 6. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- Peter confirmed that Nick Taylor, Scarborough's Urban Renaissance Manager, has been invited to the Forum's next meeting.
- It was agreed that the impact of, and funding for, the 'Business Against Crime in Hambleton' scheme be discussed at the next meeting.
- It was also suggested that Nicky Smith be invited to the next meeting to describe current and future funding opportunities for community-led projects.

## 7. Finance Report

Ken reported that the Forum has approximately £65 in reserves. **Action:** Sally, Mark & Mark Firth to explore funding opportunities to support further NVCF activity.

## 8. Any Other Business

- **Northallerton Carnival:** Suggestions for this year's Carnival, to be held on Sunday 12th July, include the promotion of local food producers, a beach/seaside theme and the sale of eco-merchandise. It was agreed that once again NVCF have a stall.
- **The Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA):** Peter reported that an LSP peer review is to be undertaken between 21st and 23rd April. This review is an inspection of how organisations and communities across the District are working in partnership to improve the quality of people's lives in Hambleton **Action:** Peter to circulate an invitation to members to participate in the review.  
**Northallerton Blooming Together:** Lesley confirmed that funding is being sourced and a business plan is being drafted. It was agreed that 'Northallerton Blooming Together' and the 'Bienvenue Ormesson Northallerton 2009' be added to the Community Plan. **Action:** Lesley to forward completed project proposal forms to Peter and to provide further details of both projects at future NVCF meetings.
- **Bus Surgery:** Peter reported that Bus Users UK is to host a bus user's 'surgery' between 10am-3pm on Wednesday 1st April in Northallerton to canvas views on public transport provision across the District.

## 9. Dates for the Next Meeting

- **Tuesday 19th May, Meeting Room 4, Stone Cross Civic Centre at 4pm**