

STOKESLEY & VILLAGES COMMUNITY REGENERATION GROUP

Chairman: Cllr. Bridget Fortune Vice Chairman: Cllr. John Fletcher Treasurer: Cllr. Caroline Seymour
Hambleton District Council Community Link Officer: Peter Cole

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

7.30pm on Wednesday 9th June 2010

Stokesley Town Hall, Stokesley

Present

Cllr. Bridget Fortune (Chair)	HDC & Rudby Parish Council
Cllr. John Fletcher	HDC & Great Ayton Parish Council
Cllr. Ron Kirk	Roseberry School & Hambleton District Council
Cllr. Frances Greenwell	Great Ayton Parish Council
Cllr. Jackie Griffiths	Stokesley Parish Council & Hambleton District Council
Peter Cole	Hambleton District Council
Gus Pennington	Faceby Village Meeting
Cllr. Caroline Seymour	NYCC and Stokesley Parish Council
Carol Cook	Whorlton Parish Council
Phil Henderson	Stokesley & District Community Care Association
Bill Cross	Rural Action Yorkshire
Fe Foreman	Stokesley & District Cycleways Group
Caryn Loftus	The Great Ayton Station Project
John Nelson	Rudby Parish Council
PC Michelle McFarlane	Safer Neighbourhoods Team, North Yorkshire Police
Hazel Warhurst	Ingleby Arncliffe Parish Council
Geoff Lodge	Hambleton Community Safety Partnership
Linda Scarlett	Carlton Parish Council
Cllr. Heather Moorhouse	NYCC & Easby Parish Council
Mike Horrocks	LEADER Funding Programme

Apologies

Dr Mike Orr
Mary Grant

Welcome & Introduction

Cllr. Fortune welcomed Linda Scarlett (Carlton Parish Council), Carol Cook (Whorlton Parish Council), Mike Horrocks (LEADER Funding Programme) and Bill Cross (Rural Action Yorkshire.)

The LEADER Funding Programme

Mike Horrocks, Programme Manager for the North York Moors, Coast and Hills LEADER programme explained the purpose of the LEADER funding programme, a European initiative for assisting rural communities to improve the quality of life and economic prosperity in their local area. Mike provided an overview of the projects supported by the programme over the last 12 months and encouraged members of the group to submit initial expression of interest application for those projects within the LEADER area.

The four key priorities for the LEADER programme are:

- Basic Services

- Village Renewal and Development
- Encouragement of Tourism
- Conservation and Heritage

Whilst it was noted that Stokesley is not in the LEADER area given its market town status Mike indicated that project would be eligible if the 'best' location for the project were in the town. Mike also confirmed that other funding sources can be used to 'match' LEADER funding as long as it is not matched by other EU funding. For more information about the LEADER Programme please visit: www.moorscoastandhills.org.uk

Chairman's Welcome and Report

Cllr. Fortune welcomed everyone to the group's fifth Annual General Meeting and presented the Chair's Report which included a summary of the Group's history, key achievements for 2008/09 and an invitation for those present to identify future priorities for the Group (see Annex A.)

Project Update

Ingleby Arncliffe: Hazel reported that the contracts for the remaining work to be undertaken will be signed shortly and it is anticipated that the project will be completed by the end of August 2010.

Great Ayton Station Project: Caryn confirmed that professional help has been secured to negotiate with the landowner and that the Eske Valley Railway has agreed to replace the existing notice boards. LEADER funding is being sought to develop the project and a 'Friends of Great Ayton Station' Group is to be established.

Captain Cook's School Room Museum: It is understood that a decision on a Lottery bid is expected in June.

Stokesley Cycleways Group: Fe reported that a Report on Cycle-Way Requirements for Stokesley and District July (2010) has been drafted which describes and provides the rationale for the four recommended routes and the results of the consultation with the local community and stakeholders has been analysed. The response to the survey was excellent, with over 260 positive on-line or written responses. This represents approximately 5% of the total population. Funding opportunities will now be explored in partnership with the Hambleton Project Development Officer and bids worked up for submission to NYCC, Sustrans and LEADER. Fe thanked Gus and Peter for their support over the last 12 months.

North Road Regeneration Park: Geoff and Michelle reported that work is underway to encourage all residents of Stokesley to use the new play facility. It was agreed that an update on how this integration is working be presented at future meetings of the Forum.

Participatory Budgeting

Bill Cross, Chief Executive of Rural Action Yorkshire, provided details of the 'Participatory Budgeting' initiative which seeks to promote and increase the level of community involvement in the management of budgets and setting priorities. A successful pilot has been rolled out in Eastfield (Scarborough) and as a result funding has been secured from the Police Authority to address anti-social behaviour and improve community cohesion. Bill indicated that although some funding is available to Parish Councils to help identify issues and undertake community consultation there has been no take up in Hambleton. A further approach to Parish Councils promoting the scheme will be made late in 2010 and further

opportunities for 'clusters' of Parishes to take part will be available. For further information about Participatory Budgeting please contact Bill at bill.cross@ruralyorkshire.org.uk

Finance Report

Cllr. Seymour circulated the Finance Report for year ending June 2010 which confirmed that the Group has £370.63 in reserves. It was suggested that any remaining monies from SNAG be allocated to the North Road Regeneration Park and football project. The Report was accepted as true record and Cllr. Fortune thanked Cllr. Seymour on behalf of the Group.

Action: Cllr. Seymour to meet with Sara Atkins and PC McFarlane to agree how the remaining money is allocated.

Election of Officers

(Peter Cole in the Chair)

Nominations were sought for the post of Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. The following were duly elected:

- **Chair:** Cllr. Bridget Fortune

Proposed by Cllr. John Fletcher and seconded by Cllr. Ron Kirk.

John thanked Bridget on behalf of the Group for her contribution and commitment over the last 12 months.

- **Vice Chair:** Cllr. John Fletcher

Proposed by Cllr. Ron Kirk and seconded by Cllr. Jackie Griffiths

- **Treasurer:** Cllr. Caroline Seymour

Proposed by Cllr Bridget Fortune and seconded by Cllr. Jackie Griffiths. Cllr. Seymour agreed to continue as Treasurer with a view to stepping down once a replacement is found.

- **Secretary:** Peter Cole

Proposed by Gus Pennington and seconded by Phil Henderson

Closing Remarks

The Chairman confirmed that this concluded the business of the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

Date of Next Ordinary Meetings

- Wednesday 4th August
- Wednesday 6th October
- Wednesday 8th December

All meetings to be held at 7.30pm at Stokesley Town Hall

The meeting finished at 9.30pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....

Annex A

Stokesley and Villages Community Regeneration Group

Good evening everybody and welcome to our group's fifth AGM. Thank you for coming.

I'm Cllr Bridget Fortune, Chair of the Stokesley and Villages Community Regeneration Group. The purpose of the Group is to group work with partner organisations to communicate the needs and aspirations of the local community and to unlock a variety of grants available to improve existing services or undertake new projects.

The Group also provides a forum in which to share information, ideas and good practice in relation to the regeneration of the Stokesley and villages area. We seek to represent residents of Stokesley and the surrounding villages and are always on the lookout for new members and new ideas to promote our market town and villages.

Tradition dictates that the AGM provides an opportunity for the Chair to reflect on activity undertaken over the last twelve months. A tremendous amount of work has been undertaken over the last year and a number of projects in the Stokesley & Villages Community Plan have been completed, or are near completion. These include:

- **Phase 1 of the North Road Regeneration Project:** the play area is well-used and Phase 1 of the project is now complete. It is hoped that Phase 2 of the scheme, which includes the installation of a skatepark/cyclebowl, should be complete by the end of 2010.
- **Parish Caretaker: Kirkby in Cleveland and Ingleby Greenhow:** LEADER funding for this project was been secured to contract a parish caretaker for the parishes of Kirkby-in-Cleveland and Ingleby Greenhow in order to support and extend the work already being undertaken in both parishes to enhance the local environment. I understand a caretaker has recently been appointed.
- **Crathorne Reading Room:** Local tradesmen were employed to install improved kitchen facilities and disabled access to the community facility and that the project is now complete. This relatively small project has brought great benefit to users of the Room and is much appreciated by the local residents.
- **The Picton Community Recreation Area:** the play area, which includes a community garden, opened on Saturday 19th September 2009.
- **Stokesley Intergenerational Project:** Work took place in partnership with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme to develop a programme of activities to bring together younger and older people. 6 adults and 6 students attended a 10 session programme which included photography, IT and furniture making demonstrations. The scheme came to an end in May 2010 and it is hoped that similar activities will be held in the future.
- **Great Ayton Village Hall:** The Hall is currently out of use whilst refurbishment work is carried out. It is anticipated that this work will be completed by the end of the summer 2010 and will improve facilities for the amateur dramatics and youth provision.

Projects supported by members of the Group over the last twelve months include:

- **Stokesley Cycleways Group:** A Steering Group has been established to develop four cycle routes linking Stokesley, Great Ayton and the surrounding villages. A Business Plan has been drafted and consultation with the local community and stakeholders has been undertaken. Funding opportunities are being explored in partnership with the Hambleton Project Development Officer and bids are being worked up for submission to Sustrans and LEADER. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Working Group for its hard work over the last 10 months and in particular Fe Foreman, Chair of the Group who has driven the project forward.
- **Ingleby Villages Recreational Area:** The field has had landscaping and planting undertaken by committee members and volunteers, and the next step is to choose the supplier for the play equipment. The site includes a bog garden and an area will be left unmown for a wildflower meadow, which will have a cycle track running through it.
- **Potto Beck Fish Pass:** Funding is being sought to undertake the project which seeks to build a new fish pass at the confluence of Potto Beck with the River Leven. The proposed new fish pass will alleviate the difficulty brown trout have in ascending the existing fish pass into Potto Beck to reach its good spawning grounds. It is hoped that temporary improvements to the Pass will be in place by September 2010.

Over the last 12 months the group has helped secure over £17,000 from the Hambleton District Council Community Grant Scheme for 5 community projects.

Future priorities for the Group include ongoing support for the Stokesley Cycleways Group, the Great Ayton Station Project and plans to refurbish the Captain Cook Schoolroom Museum. We are also keen support to the Middleton on Leven Play Area and the Hutton Rudby BMX Park, projects that have been in the Stokesley & Villages Community Plan for some time.

Regarding future projects – this is really up to you. Over the next 12 months we will be undertaking a review of the Stokesley & Villages Community Plan and we would welcome your suggestions for community-led projects to be included in our new Plan for 2011 to 2016. We need you to tell us of projects that you are aware of that you think our group could help with.

Thank you.