

Consett Area Neighbourhood Forum – Management Committee

7pm, 15 July 2024

Location:

Consett Business Park

Attendees:

- Christine Thomas – Chair
- Mike Shiels – Secretary
- Anne Louise Grant – Treasurer
- Anthony Robson – MC member
- Ian Peart – MC Member
- John Million – MC member
- Mark Russell – MC member
- Maureen Clyne – MC member
- Niamh McDonald – MC member
- Richard Lumley – MC member

Apologies:

- Kelli Turner – MC member
- Lucy Reed – Data Protection Officer
- Jo-Anne Garrick - Planner

Minutes

1. Website

Live log is now on the home page. Vision updated to match latest draft.

Link added to draft Neighbourhood Plan

Added Ian Peart to page of MC members

All minutes added

Ian has a live link that can be added to website in future, so people can see what progress we are making.

2. Design codes and Housing Needs Assessment

Meeting held with Locality. We have asked for:

- Housing Needs Assessment to be completed by 29 September. Will be based on census data, etc. – no input needed from Forum.
- Design Codes – target January 2025. To be included in final version of plan, ahead of formal consultation.

Will have different design codes for different areas, to reflect their characteristics, including industrial areas.

3. GIS mapping and approach

Meeting held with Durham County Council. They are on board with us doing GIS – further meeting scheduled for 10am, Tuesday 30 July, with Spatial Awareness Team plus Sammy Hicks (IT manager).

There will be things Durham can do to support more use of GIS in future. For now, we will set up “collaboration” to allow data to be shared in a limited way.

There is “story map” functionality which allows the creation of a scrolling presentation with different maps, attachments, photos, etc.

Ian has all the heritage and green space data loaded from the previous workshops, but it needs validation and refinement. Dates sent out for meetings, to which participants from previous workshops have been invited.

- Wed 24 July - heritage
- Thu 25 July - heritage
- Wed 31 July - heritage
- Thu 1 Aug – green spaces

Christine provided Ian with a key for the office, to enable holding GIS meetings.

4. Draft NP progress

MC discussed settlement boundaries. More info needed from Jo-Anne but feels like we maybe need Housing Needs Assessment first, so boundaries can match areas likely to be needed to meet demands.

MC agreed to a target of 29 September Forum meeting to complete the remaining gaps in the Neighbourhood Plan, as per the allocated sections (see action log)

5. Community asset transfer

Discussions were held with Christine about the possibility of a “community asset transfer”, which is where an asset was passed over to us to run on behalf of the wider community.

This is something we should think about, to be ready to address a similar opportunity in future, should it arise.

6. Liz Twist MP and Kim McGuinness

Christine held a meeting with Liz when she was a candidate to brief her on the Forum and explain the background to it. As MP, she has now agreed to a further meeting. Christine to circulate the proposed date for meeting.

Christine also met Kim McGuinness during her mayoral election campaign and has requested a meeting – no response to date.

7. CIO Trustees

For CIO there is no liability for trustees, therefore it was proposed that all MC members should be listed as trustees. However, if any member does not wish to participate, that is fine.

Christine will send request for the required personal information – any members who are happy to be a trustee should complete this by the deadline.

8. Actions from previous meetings

Actions were reviewed and updated. See separate action log.

9. AOB

Next Forum (29 September) is St Johns Hall, Moorside

Scheduled Forum meeting for 19 January 2025 (likely Steel Club, Consett – to be confirmed)

10. Date of next meeting

Monday 29 July, 7pm, Zoom.