

Consett Area Neighbourhood Forum – Management Committee

7pm, 9 September 2024

Consett Business Centre

Attendees:

Christine Thomas – Chair
Mike Shiels – Secretary
Mark Russell – MC member
Niamh McDonald – MC member
Kelli Turner – MC member
Richard Lumley – MC member
Ian Peart – MC Member
Jo-Anne Garrick – Planning Consultant

Apologies:

Anne Louise Grant – Treasurer
Anthony Robson – MC member
Lucy Reed – Data Protection Officer
John Million – MC member
Maureen Clyne – MC member

Minutes

1. CIO application

Application is completed. Additional objective related to sustainability was added at suggestion of Debbie Lamb.

All trustees have signed.

Expected to receive approval within 30 days.

2. Housing Needs Assessment and Design Codes

No funding allocated yet. Jo-Anne said this is much slower than has historically been the case.

If necessary, we can make the decision to consult on the plan, as is, and then repeat consultation later when HNA/Design Codes have been added (or decide to go to referendum without). There is no limit to how many times we consult.

3. Rationale for green space allocation and Heritage assets to do the individual plans

Historic Environment Record is required to be held by all districts. Good starting point for non-designated heritage assets. Would filter out existing listed buildings, etc.

Blyth did policy for each conservation area, then policy for the other areas.

The areas where no conservation assessment is on the Durham website, it is because there is no agreement yet to publish this, therefore we cannot use it.

Jo-Anne will send methodology documents around again, as some have not seen them.

Before we formally consult on green spaces, we need to inform all landowners in the neighbourhood area whose land is marked as a potential green space. We get this info from Land Registry search. The landowners can raise objections which will be adjudicated by the examiner.

4. 29 September Forum Meeting

Aim of this meeting is to show members the progress made, where we are on the journey. Explain the rationale and approach.

We are not at formal consultation stage yet, so no point in trying to get them to provide that level of input.

Jo-Anne is happy to review the draft presentation to ensure that we are not including anything that will cause negative impact later in the process.

Confirmed the agenda to include on Forum invite:

1. Progress update since last Forum
2. GIS mapping update
3. Discussion of green spaces and heritage assets
4. Next steps: completing the Neighbourhood Plan

5. Completing GIS descriptions and images

Christine proposed we hold a further set of meetings at her office, with PCs, to go through GIS information and refine as far as possible before 29 Sep. Meetings will be by ward, to focus on different areas that people are expert on.

This needs to be very focused on improving data for existing assets, not adding new items to this list (that is for later consultation).

6. Future Events

Tuesday 24 September: Shotley Bridge Village Trust.

Thursday 26 September: Building Self-Belief AGM, 4-7pm, Derwent Manor - Christine will include some of the collaborations with CANF. All MC members are welcome (please RSVP to email Christine sent out). Liz Twist will attend.

Friday 27 September: Derwent Valley AAP Environment Conference, at Consett Rugby Club. Christine is delivering a presentation, where the CANF Green Spaces and the potential for the development of a series of community gardens will be mentioned and encouraged.

7. Actions completed / new actions

Actions were reviewed and updated - See action log.

8. Date / time of future meetings

- Management Committee meeting – 23 Sep 2024, by Zoom
- Next Forum (29 September) is St Johns Hall, Moorside

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