

Consett Area Neighbourhood Forum – Management Committee

6.30pm, 7 May 2024

Location:

Blackhill Baptist Church

Present:

- Christine Thomas – Chair
- Mike Shiels – Secretary
- Anne Louise Grant – Treasurer
- Lucy Reed – Data Protection Officer
- Maureen Clyne – MC member
- Richard Lumley – MC member
- Ian Peart

Apologies:

- Mark Russell – MC member
- Kelli Turner – MC member
- Niamh McDonald – MC member
- John Million – MC member
- Anthony Robson
- Jo-Anne Garrick – Planning consultant

Minutes

1. Welcome to Ian Peart

Welcomed Ian to the meeting. He will be formally adopted with a suitable motion at next Full Forum meeting.

2. General Progress Update

Christine noted that the “Live log” on the website is being used to capture all meetings held, for future reference. Christine will move the live log to a more prominent place on website, so it is easier to find.

Christine met Jo-Anne last Monday (29 Apr).

Christine and Maureen are doing a project with Consett Academy year 12. Online consultation with children, with draw for £50 prize to encourage participation. To be launched in next few days.

Anne-Louise to gather emails for charities and local businesses, using those gathered for Incinerator campaign and online forms received since then, to send out link to consultation form on website. Will include an invitation for us to come and speak to them if they want.

Mark met with Business Durham, who can also send out consultation link to their members.

We have received feedback that Moorside shops need to be included in retail section.

3. Funding

We did not get funding for design codes or housing needs assessment. We believe we have the skills and capability to carry this out ourselves (rather than wait), but if this turns out not to be the case, we can go back to Locality and try again for funding.

There may be an issue with software licences for GIS – Ian to check if there is a way to use Durham CC licences.

Christine gave an update on requirements to set up a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). We will need the final vision and constitution to apply to Charity Commission. It needs to be final, as any subsequent change would mean starting again with a fresh application. Based on this, we do not expect to apply for CIO until after the draft Plan has been submitted to Durham CC.

4. MC responsibilities

Following discussion, it was agreed to allocate main responsibility for different aspects of the Neighbourhood Plan as below. This is not exclusive (others can participate anywhere they wish), but these will be the key editor(s) for each subject:

- Vision & Objectives: **Christine**
- Settlement & Housing: **Ian and Niamh**
- Retail & Industry & Employment: **Mark and John**
- Tourism & Open spaces: **Lucy and Anne-Louise**
- Environmental: **Anthony**
- Community Facilities & Heritage: **Kelli and Mike**
- Youth (based on consultation): **Maureen & Christine**
- Community actions: **All** - this section will develop as items drop out of the main plan, e.g., parking, and disabled access.

5. Neighbourhood Plan timeline

Christine has agreed a working timeline with Jo-Anne for producing the Neighbourhood Plan in time for next Full Forum:

Produce a draft Neighbourhood Plan (with gaps identified for us to research)	Jo-Anne	17-May-24
Deadline for consultations - Neighbourhood Plan revised according to outcomes		4-Jun-24
Meet with Forum DCC councillors to get their feedback - ask if there are any gaps	Christine	TBC
Update the draft Neighbourhood Plan and send to MC	Jo-Anne	14-Jun-24
Zoom Committee meeting to discuss any gaps/final amendments to Neighbourhood Plan draft	MC	17-Jun-24
Final revision to Neighbourhood Plan, ahead of Full Forum	Jo-Anne	
Full Forum meeting		23-Jun-24