

GENERAL MEETING - Bowburn & Parkhill Community Partnership - Charity Number 1112151
Tuesday 19 February 2013 from 6.30pm

--Present: M Bell, J Blackburn, J Blakey (till 7pm), R Cowen, E Devine-Lawson, K Griffiths, G Kitson, D Paget, S Raine, F Salisbury, M Syer, S Thompson, S Walworth, H Wilson

In Attendance: PC Cockburn, M Ridley

1. Apologies for absence: P Bage, J Geyer, K Haigh, G Hutchinson, P Parker, A Richardson, M Williams

The Partnership remembered the life of Margaret (Maggie) Robinson who played a significant part in the setting up of the Partnership; also the Parish Council and the community of Bowburn.

2i. Police: PC Cockburn described the reported incidents over the past 4 weeks.

Cassop: – Theft from a car which was left insecure;

Bowburn: – 1 Burglary of a container on Bowburn South Industrial Estate; 5 Theft (a sledge, diesel from Durham Services, wrought iron gate, 12 insulation sheets from the Taylor Wimpey site, 5 metres of cable from works at the library), 1 Attempted Theft of champagne from the Co-op – fingerprints led to two suspects who have been stealing champagne across the NE; 3 Criminal damage of windows in various streets; Drive Off from the filling station without paying for petrol – unfortunately the car had false number plates; .

Parkhill: – 1 burglary at the Crystal Nursery where a caravan was broken into.

2ii. PACT meetings: The PACT meetings will target 3 areas of anti-social behaviour to focus on over one month. The next meeting is 6 March in Bowburn Community Centre at 6pm.

It was reported that there was disturbing anti-social behaviour in Norton Avenue.

Bruce explained that evidence is needed before a warrant can be served, but work is on-going.

A member asked if there was CCTV in the Service Station.

Bruce said there was in the filling station but not the lorry park and the owner is reluctant to put in any security.

PC Cockburn and Cllr Blakey were thanked for their attendance and left the meeting at 7pm

2iii. Neighbourhood Wardens: P Parker and P Bage were unable to attend this meeting.

Two members were extremely concerned about the inconsiderate dog owners who allow their pets to foul the paths - to Runcie road and through the allotments, also in the park.

It was suggested that the Neighbourhood wardens are contacted, extra signs are going into the park area

3. Minutes: The General meeting, 15 January 2013, were approved as a true record and agreed by members.

Matters Arising: None

4. Finances:

>**Income:** Tea & raffle (January) £3.25 less £1.00 costs; Quiz £114.

>**Expenditure:** Insurance £249.99.

> **Raffle prize:** The prize was donated and won by R Cowen. The prize for March has been donated by K Griffiths.

> **Quiz:** The new quiz at £1 for prizes of £20, £10, and £5 is "Love is all around". Please support your Partnership.

5. Item for Any Other Business: Roundabout

6A. Masterplan Updates – Project Leaders:

Highways: At the Highways meeting on 28 January:

>The speed humps on Tail-upon-End Lane will be constructed in March.

>Pot holes in the Old Quarrington road have been logged on the County Council system.

>Pot holes on the motorway roundabout should be repaired very shortly.

>The increase in water flowing opposite Broadmeadows estate has been recorded at Durham County Council.

>White lines will be put at the junction of George Street and Prince Charles Avenue.

ii) **Parkhill:** Nothing to report.

iii) **Community Centre:** Tenders for the outside work are being asked for by the end of February, and the provisional start date is 11 March.

The next board meeting on *Wednesday 27 March* will be the AGM when all group representatives should attend.

Nominations for officers should be given to the Centre 14 days before the AGM.

Computing for beginners – a useful course that includes an introduction to the internet. It will be held on Tuesday evenings. If you are interested please contact Ian Boseley on ianboseley@hotmail.com

iv) **Youth Centre:** Youth workers report.

> Monday afternoon - drop in job club; Monday evening - girls group

>Tuesday early evening - junior youth club; Tuesday evening - senior club

>Thursday afternoon - drop in job club; Thursday evening - lads group

All sessions are well attended; funding has been secured for:

>The job club to enable the young people to gain qualifications in first aid, food hygiene, heart start and CSCS cards to help them on the employment ladder.

>A healthy eating project for the girls; A project around alcohol awareness and personal safety for the seniors. Some young men are currently painting the gym.

If anyone would like any further information please call in and see Joanne, or use the club's email address bowburnyouthie@yahoo.co.uk

The gym project has been very successful; there is the potential for volunteers to run the Youth Club gym long term – there is a meeting next week; Thanks were given to the Community Centre for giving up their car park to the gym.

At this meeting it was asked if the young people would be supervised by someone from the Youth Club. **(Janet)**

v) Environment: > Street Lighting from Broadmeadows to Tail-upon-Ends Lane has been finalised. 'Mabey' lighting scheme was not going ahead; it was asked if this decision could be overturned but it cannot be.

At the Highways committee, Cllr Morgan suggested a scheme that he and Cllr Plews have planned to renew the cables to the lighting columns from the cemetery road to the junction of Old Quarrington Road with underground cables. This would make the lighting secure and help to prevent fly-tipping.

As there is a shortage of funds for this scheme Partnership members:

Agreed – that the restricted monies in the Partnership funds for lighting and paths can go to fund the lighting scheme on the Bowburn cemetery road ie £3630.11.

vi) Park Project: Alison Turner-Mills, Estate manager for Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation (CISWO), wrote to say that the Park bungalow is leased to DCC, and CISWO are in discussions with the Council regarding the future of the bungalow in the hope that a mutually acceptable resolution can be found in the near future.

vii) Regeneration Fund: Julie Anson has informed the Partnership that the street lighting maintenance costs for the lighting from Broadmeadows to Tail-Upon-End Lane will be covered by Durham County Council.

This gives a sum of £25 000.00 to return to the Regeneration fund in Bowburn in addition to the £17 047.00 unspent monies in the fund – making a total of £42 047.00.

Ideas were put forward to spend this remaining Regeneration fund.

It was agreed to cost the following schemes and consider them at a future meeting:

(a) Any shortfall on the Community Centre frontage,

(b) Environmental works at Romaine Square and possibly look at a small Targeted Business Improvement Scheme (improve shop fronts) to compliment the works. (J Anson would get designs/costs and present to the Partnership).

(c) A community chest - suggestions of up to £1000 per application

(d) Play equipment for Park Hill - F. Salisbury secretary of PH residents association is making inquiries about this

(e) A youth worker for the 11/12 year olds at the Youth Club - the Youth Club has costs

(f) Rewire the Youth Club – M Syer to get costs

(g) Renew the lighting cable on the main Old Quarrington road - Cllr Morgan to get costs

However it was not agreed to save the £42 047 as match funding towards a future larger scheme.

viii) Planning: Mr S Pilkington informed the Partnership that an appeal has been made against the refusal of the Heugh Hall wind turbine (12/00569/FPA).

It was agreed to write to confirm that the Partnership were still of the same opinion that the wind turbine would be an unacceptable 'feature' on the escarpment. **(RC and Janet)**

ix) Housing: Nothing to report.

x) Integrate new residents: The 'Bowburn Village Information Leaflet' on going.

6B. Future Masterplan/County Durham Plan/Big Society:

The table of information showing 'Future Plans' for Bowburn will be discussed at a future meeting.

It was agreed to ask G Scott if he could give an indication of how our representations have been received. **(Janet)**

7. Correspondence:

>Wednesday 27 February at Bowburn Hall Hotel, 7.30pm - details about the Durham Free School (Head Peter Cantley) particularly for those currently in Year 6.

>Pledge to be Green Dog Walkers who take a pledge to: always clean up after their dog; carry extra dog bags and gladly give out dog bags to other dog walkers

Those who have taken the pledge are recognisable by the Green Dog Walkers logo. Info 03000 261 000

>Scrub bashing – Hurworth Burn 3 miles east of Trimdon reservoir car park 3 Mar 10am to 12 noon. It is a drop-in session; you will get dirty; children under 16 to be supervised; tools provided. Also there is a grassland improvement scheme where cattle have been brought in to graze near Kelloe – dog walkers are asked to keep their dog on the lead when going through this area.

8. Reports and matters arising:

i) **AAP** – Next meeting will be held on Wed 6 March from 5.00 pm – 7.00 pm at the Active Life Centre, Coxhoe.

ii) **Parish Council**: Report of Cassop-cum-Quarrington Parish Council Meeting, 16 January 2013

Parish Councillors were shocked and saddened to hear of the death of Councillor Maggie Robinson last month. Maggie was a Parish Councillor of long standing and served as Chair for several years. Her death creates a "Casual Vacancy" on the Council, which may be filled by co-option, but an election will not be necessary as elections are due in May. The decision as to whether to co-opt will be taken at the next Parish meeting (20 Feb). The new Sunday bus service from Cassop to Durham (no 59) is now running. The Parish Council has agreed to contribute £1,000 towards the costs of this service, as have other Parishes on the route. This will cover 12 months' costs, to be reviewed at the end of the year.

The Parish discussed the annual precept and budget. Changes in the revenue support grant and the ending of the double taxation relief grant (paid towards the upkeep of the cemetery), partly offset by a new Local Council Tax Support Scheme mean the Parish will receive £4,649 less in the next financial year if the Parish precept remains the same. However, recognising that everyone has to tighten their belts the Parish agreed not to request an increase in the precept but to leave it at last year's level. In addition there will be no increase in rental charges for allotments and garage sites, nor any increase in cemetery charges.

Next meetings: 20 February and 20 March 2013 in Bowburn Community Centre.

Litter Pick: Saturday 2 March and 6 April 2013 - meet at 9.30am in Bowburn Community Centre Car Park.

The Junior Youth Club are interested in the litter pick.

(Janet, S Raine)

iii) **Quarry Liaison**: No update this month.

9. Group Noticeboard:

>**Banner**: The next meeting is 4 March 2013 from 7pm.

>**BVC**: Please send articles and photos for Issue 66 to Mike on msyer@btinternet.com by the end of February. The website shows Interchange editions 1994-1996, there is to be a quiz in March/April. Thanks were given for grants from Co Durham Foundation, Cllrs Blakey and Williams, and funds from the profits of the pantomime.

>**Credit Union Bank**: The collection point is open for banking and information on Fridays from 11am to 12 noon. New members can also join in Bowburn Community Centre on Fridays from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon.

>**Durham Times**: Articles are needed on club, community, pub events. Send information to bowburnnews@aol.com.

> **Bowburn FC** is struggling and could be relegated due to the fact they can't sign more players, but it will hopefully find funding to regroup not only on but off the field for next season. A raffle to raise money for this season's pitch fees is drawn a week come Sunday. Alan Richardson is trying to help get sponsors. There is a twitter account @bowburnfc and a new website <http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/bowburnfc>

> **www.Bowburn.net** is changing its design and adding new links, but would like peoples' thoughts on it. Please sign into forum and give your views on what you want. Also lots of groups have asked to be linked to this site as people do see this as where information will be found; all village websites could be on even if they update their own.

> **Bowburn Facebook page** is picking up rapidly and has 342 members

> **A twitter account** @bowburnnews started two weeks ago and has 73 followers already. it is updated regular with news, events, business etc. as it happens

>**Fun Day**: On hold until arrangements are made for a Fun Day in 2013.

>**History**: The group meets the third Thursday of each month at 7.00pm in Bowburn Community Centre. The next meetings are 21 February and 21 March. For more information please contact www.bowburnhistory.co.uk

>**Radio Bowburn** is now Radio Frosty.

10. Any Other Business: It was reported that the roundabout at the bottom of the Red Brier bank has been damaged by a vehicle driving over it. (Janet)

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting: 19 March 2013 at 6.30pm. in Bowburn Community Centre.

Future meetings: 16 Apr, 21 May (AGM), 18 Jun; 16 Jul, 20 Aug, 17 Sep, 15 Oct, 19, Nov, 17 Dec