

Present: W Bates, J Blackburn, J Blakey, R Cowen (till 7.10), K Haigh, G Kitson, D Paget, S Raine, F Salisbury, M Syer, S Thompson

In Attendance: M Ridley

1. Apologies for absence: J Anson, M Bell, J Chambers, PC Cockburn, S Featherstone, J Geyer, K Griffiths, A Richardson, S Walworth, M Williams

2i. Police: PC Cockburn sent a report of incidents over the past 4 weeks.

Cassop: – 1 Theft of a window from a motor vehicle; 1 Criminal damage of four slashed tyres.

Parkhill: – 1 assault at Balagans of female on female; 1 Criminal damage of paint daubed on house.

Bowburn: – 1 Burglary of boiler from a Taylor Wimpey house; 6 Theft (tools and equipment from the sewage works, motor vehicle wheels, a wacker plate, 10 catalytic converters from vehicles, and 1 vehicle driven about the site then abandoned at Tursdale Business Park); 7 Criminal damage with three to vehicles in various streets, and three to private houses and one to the Co-op wall.

2ii. PACT meetings: The next meeting is 24 April in Bowburn Community Centre at 6pm.

2iii. Neighbourhood Wardens: Contact Neighbourhood Wardens on 03000 261 018.

3. Regeneration Fund Applications: R Cowen described the six projects in the Expression of Interests. The meeting came to the following decisions:

001 - Parkhill Residents Association for play equipment and lighting.

Comment - VAT may not have been added so the group are now applying for up to £3600.00 and can match that with their own funds.

Decision - Agreed to take this project to full application subject to an increase in the amount requested of up to £3600.

002 - Youth Club electrics, gym equipment, floor, door, path and drainage.

Comment - None needed

Decision - Agreed to take this project to full application as per the EoI.

003 - Railings along the C12a

Comment - If an application is granted to develop the 'Daisy Field' the Partnership would request that the developer improves the railings.

Decision - Do not take this project forward

004 - Provide a Community Chest

Comment - Make this a flexible amount depending if there are any funds left.

Decision - This project is on hold.

005 - Drain an area of footpath on the other side of the pit-heaps.

Comment - Reduce the amount requested to £12,500.00 and seek match funding from the Parish Council and Parish Paths Partnership.

Decision - Agreed to take this project to full application subject to a reduction in the amount requested to £12,500 and seek match funding.

006 - Landscape Romaine Square, improve access to bus stop, renew railings to the carpet shop.

Comment - Reduce the application and improve the access to the bus stop only

Decision - Agreed to take this application forward to partial application and apply for £3000 to improve the access to the bus stop.

The remaining funds will be allocated to a contingency fund to cover any increase in costs and fund a community chest.

4. Planning: Fire & Rescue training facility on Bowburn North Industrial Estate led by R Cowen.

Cllr Jan Blakey took no part in the following discussions.

>It appears to be an ideal use for unused space, bought by the Fire Service, on this Estate.

>The application includes parking for 67 cars. The Conference Room can hold 100 persons. Potentially, this is a lot of additional traffic through Bowburn. While the entrance to the estate is controlled by traffic lights, I am sure we would prefer it if this sort of additional traffic went onto the Durham Green estate so that the majority of it need not come through Bowburn (only traffic coming from the west would need to travel through Bowburn)

Clarify - If the Conference Room can hold 100 people, how is it anticipated they will arrive? If by car, where will they park? How often is it anticipated 100 people will attend?

>So far as I can see, it will involve a fair amount of outdoor activity with noise and large vehicles. There may also be smoke release. This could cause a problem for Bowburn but I believe that the site is sufficiently far from the housing area that it should not do so.

This however could be a point for us to query.

>The site does include the line of the desired Industrial Highway. Permanent buildings are being kept from that line. The application does refer to the road but in an oblique way. However, in my opinion we should

>Request that details of the protected line be specified so that everyone is sure that the road will not prejudice activities and vice versa.

Clarify - How the existing road will link to any future Industrial Highway which appears to go through this site.

>The plan makes provision for pedestrian access.

There is no reference to cycling. It should set a good example by providing good facilities for cycling with good changing facilities within it. These may well be provided as a matter of course in connection with the training facilities but I believe it should be spelt out in the application. This would accord with the Cycling Strategy and provisions of the Preferred Options and National Planning Policy Framework.

>The site will not include storage facilities other than in connection with this training. The Fire Service is looking for another site for a workshop and stores.

Durham Green estate may be a suitable use for the workshop and stores.

On balance the Partnership should not object to the proposal but should raise the issues mentioned above.

Agreed that the comments raised above should be sent to Planning. (R Cowen)

5. Minutes: After the correction to include W Bates in those present, the minutes of 19 March were approved as a true record and agreed by members.

Matters Arising:

>Item 6A (ii) R Cowen liaised with F Salisbury about information for a Neighbourhood Plan.

>Item 6A (iii) Janet informed J Anson and M Ridley that up to £3000.00 is allocated to the Community Centre refurbishment fund from the Regeneration pot.

M Ridley thanked the Partnership on behalf of the Community Centre.

>Item 6A (viii) A letter of support was sent to Planning in respect of the front of the Community Centre.

>Item 6A (ix)/AOB Cllr Blakey has reported the problem of the footpaths being on an angle in Horton Crescent, and the overgrown conifers in Runcie Rd have been cut back on the footpath side.

A member commented that this had made walking through this area much easier.

6. Finances:

>There has been no income or expenditure since the end of March and the accounts have been independently examined by the CVS to prepare for the AGM in May.

The accounts for the year show a closing balance of £9258.34 which includes £6739.53 restricted funds.

This evening £73.00 has been paid in affiliation fees and room hire to the Community Centre.

> Raffle prize: The prize was won by J Blackburn and kindly donated by F Salisbury.

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

7. Item for Any Other Business: (i) Nomination papers for the AGM

8A. Masterplan Updates – Project Leaders:

i) Highways: Temporary road closure over the Motorway at Heugh Hall Farm on the C12a: The bridge works between 9.30am to 3.30pm are taking place this week. A diversion will be signed via the A688.

ii) Parkhill:

Parkhill Report of the Residents' Association Meeting in Bowburn Community Centre on 10 April.

A presentation was made by Oliver Sherratt regarding keeping Parkhill tidy. The Association is to receive litter picks and bags. There was very positive engagement. The Association is keen to work with B&PCP on Neighbourhood Planning. The first hard copy newsletter was launched and a new website is up and running at www.parkhillresidents.org An application has been submitted to B&PCP for Play Area equipment. Two members J Chambers and F Salisbury are unopposed as Cassop cum Quarrington Parish Councillors. All meetings are now in Bowburn Community Centre, every second Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm.

iii) Community Centre: The plans have been passed for the frontage and doors. Work will start on Monday 22 April with the wall and herbage kept at a low height at the new parking bays. At the beginning of the works, the entrance will be via the smaller doors to the left of the main entrance.

At the AGM on 27 March Dorothy Baker was thanked for her service to the Community Centre as she resigned as secretary and treasurer. S Matthews is now secretary and D Paget is now treasurer.

On Thursday 18 April the Health Care officers will hold a coffee morning to look for ideas on groups activities. An art and craft course is on Tuesday afternoons from 1.30pm.

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:

Thanks were given for approving the application to the Regeneration Fund.

The biggest need is revenue to fund the Junior Youthie for future years.

v) Environment: Artwork: P Armstrong is making enquiries about the costs and planning of the Coal Column.

vi) Park Project: No update.

vii) Regeneration Fund: See Item 3 above.

viii) Planning: See Item 4 above.

ix) Housing: No updates this month.

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

8B. Future Masterplan/County Durham Plan/Big Society:

>The 'Future Plans' for Bowburn will be discussed at the May meeting with G Scott.

9. Correspondence:

>**Disability North-A Taste of Portugal** at The Biscuit Factory N/C on 2 May from 6.30pm.

Sample a range of wines and Port - together with some delicious snacks from David Kennedy's Food Social. Tickets are £20 each or 2 for £35. Book your place at **Disability North-A Taste of Portugal**.

10. Reports and matters arising:

i) AAP: >The County Durham Plan: Preferred Options

This report informs the AAP of some of the headline responses received to the consultation held last year.

A full report will be made available and put on the Council's website.

In response 3766 comments were received with around 900 related to specific site allocations. 803 comments to the Citizen's Panel were received and an estimated 2000 people attended drop-ins and workshop sessions. There was support for the Vision, Objectives and Spatial Approach. In terms of the quantity of development, specifically housing, many in the house building industry thought it was too low, while many residents thought it was too high. There was support for how development had been distributed across the County.

There was agreement that Durham City has an important role to play in the Plan and that it is a key driver for regeneration, however there was also some concern over the high amount of development directed to the City. Most of the strategic sites proposed across the County received some support but most also had objections, some in significant numbers such as Mount Oswald, North of Arnison, Sniperley Park and others.

In terms of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), there was some general support for the principal but some concern, particularly from developers, over some of the costs and assumptions used.

The aim is to report the Submission Draft to Cabinet in July 2013; followed by publication and a final round of public consultation planned for September/October this year. Following any changes, the Plan will be formally submitted in early 2014; the Public Examination follows in spring/summer and finally Adoption later in 2014.

Facebook:- www.facebook.com/EDRCAAP;

>Next meeting is the AGM/Board Meeting on 22 May from 5.00 pm at Bowburn Community Centre.

ii) Parish Council: Report from the meeting of 20 March 2013.

The Parish agreed to send a letter supporting proposed changes to the Community Centre frontage.

It was agreed to accept responsibility for maintenance and insurance of the goalposts on Parish-owned land at Turdsale - to be provided by the Neighbourhood Budget of Cllrs Blakey and Williams.

Only 5 families had come forward to make arrangements about repairs to headstones in the cemetery. If no others can be traced then the Parish will have to bear the cost of repairing them to make them safe.

Next meetings: 17 April and 15 May at 7pm in Bowburn Community Centre.

Litter Pick: Saturday 4 May and 1 June 2013 - meet at 9.30am in Bowburn Community Centre Car Park.

6 young people from the Youth Club were enthusiastic about the litter pick in April. They collected 16 bags and hope to carry on.

It was reported that black sacks of rubbish have been dumped on Bowburn North estate and dumpy bags on the path opposite the Community Centre.

iii) Quarry Liaison: No update this month. RC to check position

(Action R Cowen)

11. Group Noticeboard:

>Banner: A band is being organised for the Eve of Gala concert on 12 July.

The AGM for the Banner Group is on 13 May at 7pm in Bowburn Community Centre.

>BVC: Issue 66 is being distributed. Comments on this issue were given to the meeting.

The website now includes Interchange editions 1994-1996, there is to be a quiz on 26 April in Crowtrees Club.

>Credit Union Bank: The bank will be advertised at the coffee morning on Thursday morning.

The collection point is open for banking and information on Fridays from 11am to 12 noon in Bowburn Community Centre, when new members can also join.

>Durham Times: Articles are needed on club, community, pub events to bowurnnews@aol.com.

>Bowburn FC: There is a twitter account @bowburnfc and a new website www.pitchero.com/clubs/bowburnfc

> www.Bowburn.net Please sign into forum and give your views on what you want.

> Bowburn Facebook page is picking up rapidly.

> A twitter account @bowburnnews 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: Meetings take place on 18 April and 16 May. 18 May County Hall hosts 'Yesterday belongs to you' and M Syer will take guided walks around our parish 2/3 times per year.

For information please contact www.bowburnhistory.co.uk

>Radio Bowburn is now Radio Frosty.

12. Any Other Business: Voting papers were distributed to propose officers and members of the trustees.

13. Date and Time of Next Meeting: 21 May (AGM) 2013 at 6.00pm in Bowburn Community Centre. Followed by the General Meeting.

Future meetings: 18 Jun; 16 Jul, 20 Aug, 17 Sep, 15 Oct, 19, Nov, 17 Dec