

West Rainton Parish Council – 21 July 2016

Item 7: Village Partnership (Update from meeting held on 22 June 2016)

Note from Cllr A Wallage, Chairman

1. Minutes from last meeting 20 April 2016 approved. (Copy attached)
2. Presentation from Alaine Robson of Durham Works - overview of direct help for the unemployed in the village . Funding available to support youth employment /NEET/s. 16-24 yr old. Funding available up to 2018. Support also available for local business to help support apprenticeships. Need to register with Durham Works. Alaine to send link to their website so that we can include a link on the PC website.
3. Keely Fingleton, youth leader manager, advised of One Point Family Fun Day at Pitlington – 13 July 2016. Youth session now restricted to only one session. This raised the question of how such information gets shared beyond the VP. Community calendar on PC website mentioned but this needs to be promoted more.
4. Cllr Kellett advised that approx. £20,000 funding was available from DCC to fund some traffic safety proposals at the school. This had been made available following a site survey carried out in November 2015, organised by the Play Scheme Leader, which highlighted road safety concerns. Partnership Members were asked to consider 4 options determined by Michelle Shearer, Senior Engineer (Traffic Assets) and agree preferred option as only one option could be funded and a decision was needed quickly to secure funding.(must be spent by 31/3/2016) . Some mixed views were expressed. It was agreed that some consultation with parents and neighbouring residents would be helpful to determine priorities. This was to be conducted by the HT.

Options considered included –

- Option A) Pedestrian refuge island - some localised widening required
- Option B) Pedestrian refuge island - some localised widening required and some loss of parking in front of the bungalows
- Option C) Promontory to provide pronounce crossing point
- Option D) 20 mph zone around school

Subsequent to the VP meeting, Cllr Kellett advised that funding was available to fund both options C & D.

5. Parish Plan - call for volunteers to get involved on Steering Group. No one nominated as VP representative but all invited to come along to the next

steering group meeting if they wanted to know more about the next stages and to get involved. Feedback and consultation on next year's big lunch plans, as part of a general survey/questionnaire would be welcomed by St Mary's Church.

6. West Rainton Welcome Pack - issued to any new neighbour by VP representatives. . Group information needs updating. Something the PC should contribute to and /or could promote on our website?
7. Date of Next Meeting - 20 July 2016 at Arden House

Cllr Wallage
July 2016



West Rainton & Leamside Partnership

Minutes of Meeting dated 20th April 2016 at 7.15pm in Arden House.

1. **Attendees :** Ade Walton (Chair), Sheila Oates , Cynthia Cochrane, Viol Gibson, Annabel Burns, Mike Whitehouse, Zoe Dewdney-Parsons Kath Whitehouse ,Jeff Dean (secretary) Claire Scott, Coral Lonsdale John Murphy ,Yvonne Probert ,Avril Wallage, Elaine Bulmer, Kathleen Tweddle, Les Stobbs, .Alison McDonough, Maureen Boettcher.
2. **Apologies:** Allison King, Bill Holden, Jeff Morland , Bill Kellett.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** Agreed and accepted noted that he Play scheme had visited Barnes Park in Sunderland.
4. **Capital Fund.** John Murphy explained that the capital investment fund had allocated around £50,000 to date. Monies had gone to the churchyard project, the development of the footpath at the rear of the Meadows, the PTA for equipment at the school, and the parish plan. There had been a second round of applications which had closed at the end of March against the £200,000 which is still remaining in the fund. So far £248,000 worth of submissions had been received and the panel will meet in the near future to look at these bids
5. **Parish Plan.** Avril Wallage (chair of the parish council) introduced Yvonne Probert from Durham Community Action, who spoke about the process of developing a parish plan. Yvonne noted that the aim is to involve as many people in the village as possible and emphasised the importance of getting the process right. She felt that the process would take about one year and the parish plan will be the result of community consultation, will identify needs, and lead to action points and action. There will be a launch of the parish plan on Thursday 12th of May at 7 o'clock at the Jubilee Hall. Following the launch event a steering group will be formed which it is hoped will represent the whole of the community and the steering group will lead on the community consultation. There is no one fixed way of undertaking the consultation but once it has been completed the results will be analysed, actions proposed which again will go to community consultation so that priorities can be set. Avril emphasised that this process is to assist the parish council in assessing what residents as a whole see as the major needs in the village and to help set the longer-term vision for the village. It was noted in discussion that there have been previous consultations 11 years ago and five years ago and that it is important that this present round of consultations build on that previous work.
6. **Finance Report.** Kath Whitehouse presented the up-to-date Finance report. Noted that in future she will present reports which relate to the end of the previous month so that she can tie in with the monthly bank reconciliation statements. In discussion it was noted that several groups are still retaining considerable sums that were distributed through the community fund exercise

and John Murphy emphasised that it was important that these monies are spent wisely according to the time schedule which was originally agreed when the grants were made.

7. **Village Flower Tubs.** Jeff Dean reported that further to decision taken at the January 2016 meeting he had arranged for Anthony Baker to clear out and replenish the tubs and also to report on the state of the tubs. Jeff noted that the volunteers have been found to care for the tubs once they had been planted although as yet no volunteers had been found for the tubs at Leamside. Kathleen Tweddle agreed to approach some local residents there with a view to them taking on this responsibility.

8. Any Other Business

8.1 Big Lunch. Annabel Burns reported that the Big Lunch is planned for Sunday 5th June. There will be the usual parade through the village and all groups are asked to carry their banners. It was also noted that as this is the year of the Queen's 90th birthday there will be a Commonwealth twist to the event and groups are urged to represent in some way one of the countries of the Commonwealth.

8.2 Village newsletter. Mike Whitehouse reported that the deadline for the newsletter is Monday 25th April and the editing group will meet on Wednesday 27th April at his house at 7 o'clock.

8.3 Parish council. Avril Wallage reported that Cynthia Cochrane and Maureen Boettcher have been co-opted as members and there is now a full complement of parish councillors.

9. **Next meeting: Wednesday 22nd June 2016 at 7:15 at Arden House.**