Minutes of: Bacup Neighbourhood Forum Neighbourhood Plan

Meeting

Date of Meeting: 4th July 2013, Council Chamber, Futures Park, Bacup

Present:

Cllr Jackie Oakes (Chair)

Cllr Andy McNae

Cllr James Eaton

Cllr Helen Jackson

Cllr Christine Lamb

Cllr Barbara Ashworth

Anne Swift – Stacksteads Countryside Park Group

Tricia Brindle - Bacup Consortium

Julie Johnson - Health Improvement Service

PC Louis Grant - Lancashire Police

John Challinor - Bacup TMO

Bryan Lamb - Rubicon

Terry Haslam Jones - Acre Mill Baptist Church

Linda Ward – Community Organiser

Catherine Doyle - REAL

Jacqueline Parson - Bacup Fellowship of Churches

Barry Hyde - Tourism and Heritage Group

Dale Connearn - Bacup Traders Group

Kathy Fishwick - Civic Trust

Dawn Taylor -Community First Responders

Souta Van Wick – Bacup Consortium Trust

Anthony Doggett - Healthwatch Lancashire

John Greenwood - Proffitts

John Doherty – Bacup Credit Union

David Presto - Rossendale Borough Council

Alison Wilkins - Rossendale Borough Council

Plus 3 members of the public.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Cllr Oakes welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Steve Hughes, Carolyn Wilkinson, Leila Allen, Wendy Watters.

3. Notes and actions from the last meeting

The notes from the meeting held on 14 March were accepted as a correct record.

4. Update on local activities and services

a) Police Update

PC Louis Grant tabled the latest crime figures for Bacup – Irwell and Greensclough wards. He advised that if people contacted him via the Police website he could provide the figures for Stacksteads also. These will be available for future meetings.

The problems with parking outside St Saviours Primary School in Bacup were raised. PC Grant advised that the Police are already aware of the problem, although there is no obvious solution.

PC Grant advised that the problems caused by people drinking in Bacup town centre are being addressed and the Police aim to be very proactive in dealing with this issue.

b) Military Mountain Bikes Project at Stubbylee

John Greenwood gave an update on this project which aims to provide rehabilitation for veterans and to raise awareness of mountain biking facilities amongst local residents. He explained that Mountain bikes are good for physical rehabilitation of injured servicemen and women, and that there are many veterans in the North West, which is a big recruiting area for all the services. Services for veterans need to be in their local communities and the project involves veterans being trained to take young people and members of the community mountain biking. The project currently has funding for two veterans and further funding is being sought. The project is working in partnership with LCC Young People's Service and will be ready to begin running sessions from August.

John can be contacted on 01706 223 700 / john.greenwood@proffittscic.com or people are welcome to call in to the project which is based at Stubbylee Annex.

c) Civic Trust - Local Listing

Kathy Fishwick gave an update on the work being done on the Local Listing of buildings that people appreciate – part of a nationwide initiative through English Heritage. She highlighted a one day workshop being run in Bacup by English Heritage on 1st August from 10.00am at the AB&D Centre. The workshop is being run for the public and is being held in Bacup because of the work that has been done so far, including raising awareness through the Neighbourhood Forums. She asked if people could let he know if they are planning to attend - Rossendalecivictrust@googlemail.com

Kathy also drew attention to the Anniversary Sermons at Goodshaw Baptist Chapel from 6-7pm on Sunday.

d) Heads Up Project

Souta Van Wick from Bacup Consortium Stubbylee Greenhouses project gave an update on the Heads Up project at the Greenhouses which is funded through Big Lottery. The project is aimed at helping the health and wellbeing of the local community, and she explained that many people in the local area suffer from a variety of mental health problems. They work with about 60 people per year, and the project includes a welfare rights worker and has strong links with RBC, LCC, Inspire, Community restart, Bacup Family centre, schools and other community groups. Therapeutic horticulture is provided and people can take recognised qualifications. The project has a good record of getting people into employment or further training.

Bacup Consortium also organises various events at the greenhouses during the year including Stubbyfest on 1 September. There is also a café and items are sold in the shop e.g. bird tables.

Further information: info@stubbyleecg.org / 01706 872111

e) Townscape Heritage Initiative

David Presto gave an update on the THI project. The draft bid has been approved by Cabinet and Heritage Lottery have indicated that they are happy with it. The final bid will be submitted at the end of August and 100% of the match funding has been identified. 50 letters of support have been received for the project, but there is still time to submit one - send to Davidpresto@rossendalebc.gov.uk

The scheme involves refurbishing shop fronts on St James St and St James Square by putting back original features and creating an area that looks authentic and is more pedestrian friendly.

f) Rossendale Credit Unions

John Doherty Chair of Bacup Credit Union (BCU), explained that BCU was the first to be set up in Rossendale 22 years ago, originally by Bacup Fellowship of Churches who wanted to provide loans at a good rate as they were concerned about loan sharks in the area. BCU is open Monday - Saturday and provides loans and saving opportunities and is keen to expand the membership.

5. Progress on implementing the Bacup Neighbourhood Action Plan

The Action Plan Newsletter Update was circulated at the meeting.

Julie Johnson from the Health Improvement Team at Lancashire Care NHS Trust gave an update on the activities in the area to promote health and well being. She also highlighted the training that the HIS can offer in support of many groups e.g. the Heads Up project, Military Mountain Bikes etc. There are also a range of resources and information available on the Change 4 Life website.

Anthony Doggett introduced Healthwatch Lancashire which was set up in April to be the consumer champion for health and social care services across Lancashire. They provide advice and information and also feedback on how services are working.

Further information: www.healthwatchlancashire.co.uk / 0844 8800133

6. Determining of Grant and Project Funding Applications

The funding panel had approved the following grant applications:

Rossendale District Schools Football Association – £108.00 pro rata towards borough wide funding for pitch hire, competition entry and equipment.

The Forum considered the following project funding application.

Rossendale Community First Responders—£314.93 pro rata towards borough wide funding for airtime for pagers. It was agreed that the grant could be paid once the Full Business Case was received without it needing to come back to the full Forum.

It was also agreed that the second year of the funding agreed for Rossendale Revival for events in Bacup would be paid to REAL instead in order to simplify the administrative and accounting aspects.

8 Any Other Business

There was no other business

7. Date of next meeting

October 2013 – date to be confirmed.