



**Distington Big Local**  
**Distington Community Centre, Church Road, Distington, CA14 5TE**

**Partnership Board Meeting**  
**7 June 2016, 3-5pm**  
**Distington Community Centre**

**Present:** Rhoda Robinson (Chair), Mike Pritt, Alison Boyd, Norma Pritt, Christine Pattinson, Carl Cooper, Josephine Greggain, Julia Powley, Pete Duncan, Pat Nelson, Alan Lowe, Ingrid Morris (minutes)

**Apologies:** John Bowman, Hollie Dennis (PCSO), Shelley Hewiston, Bridget Johns, Annette Whitehead

**33.16 Welcome**

**34.16 Conflict of Interests** None

**35.16 Minutes of previous meetings**

**(i) Minutes of May 3<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary Board Meeting** were agreed as a fair and accurate record.

**(ii) Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting** (re - becoming incorporated) were agreed as a fair and accurate record.

**36.16 Matters Arising** (and not covered elsewhere)

**(i) Our Plan** Our latest plan has been accepted by Big Local.

**37.16 Development Workers' Report**

**Website** Our new website is much improved and should be up and running soon.

**IT Challenges in the Office** We generally manage to sort these out but we have had to spend a lot of time on this recently. The Board agreed to paying for remote IT support and members recommended getting quotes from *Hayton IT & MRA Consultants*, both local companies.

**Becoming a Charitable Company** The application for this is progressing well. A Company Secretary needs to be nominated and it was decided that this position should be taken up by the Development Worker. Big Local have said that the new company does not have to restrict itself to the DBL area but can't use DBL funds for things outside of the DBL area.

**British Legion Land** There is a meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> June with the Property Managers, Property Consultants, The Parish Council, Distington Community School & DBL. We understand that the sellers are not bound to accept the highest offer but the best one, which may well be a community led offer. At this meeting we will hopefully get an idea of how much we need to put an offer in for & what negotiations have taken place with the school. It was suggested that DBL should commission someone to value the land and Chris Perkin from First Choice may be able to do this. There is currently no planning permission for this land, Pete Duncan suggested we try to establish if any planning permission has been applied for through Copeland. It could also be that Andy Lloyd has looked into this as part of the Land Feasibility Study. He has agreed to consult residents as to their views on the use of the land during the Summer Fun Day on 25 June. Pete also suggested setting up an architect's competition to put forward different ideas & proposals for the land & then awarding the contract to the best one (i.e. no win, no fee).

**Job Club** Numbers for this are increasing.

**Digi Club** Starts 15 June and we have a new volunteer, Paul Tharagonnet, helping with this.

**Play Parks & Football Pitch.** Local resident Carl Hewer is looking at getting the football pitch up and running near the Rugby Club. We could do with a pitch at this end of the village, though the one up there is easily accessed by the cycle path.

**Bus Shelters** Proposals for new shelters still need to go to Bus Shelter committee. AL will write to the fellow who objected stating we have support from local residents and that The Board intend to go ahead. If work on the Hinnings Rd shelter has still not started by 17 June, Carl will chase this up.

**Land Feasibility Study** Still ongoing

**Village Maintenance** The gate by the fencing at the entrance to the village has now been completed and the owner of the building has a key to gain access to his property. If we are unable to fix the wall, we will look at putting fencing up behind it. There has been some uptake by residents for maintenance work.

**CCTV** The Community & Environment Group have selected the following sites to get quotes from Compass for: The Community Centre, the Church Roof, The Doctor's Surgery, 5 Hinnings Road (Annette's House), 125 Main Street (Josephine's House) & the Rugby Club

**Church Relief Project** All completed apart from connection to the mains.

**CAB** – Sessions have booked out since the beginning of the year, and they are hoping to offer Best Energy Deal advice in the next few months.

**38.16 Treasurer's Report** There was an under spend in our last plan of approximately £32K. A recent payment for wages to Lakes College was questioned and confirmed to be legitimate. Our NatWest bank account is now open and awaiting payment in from CVS. Alan's invoice for work done in May hadn't been paid at date of meeting and it was suggested we write a letter of complaint to CVS.

**39.16 Sub Group Recommendation Transport Fund** The Board accepted this proposal and agreed to go ahead with a maximum spend of £5K a year (see proposal for details of fund) with a quorum on 4 from the Community & Environment Group to make decisions on applications. It was agreed that decisions could also be made electronically via email if time was too short to wait for the next scheduled meeting.

**31.16 AOB** (i) Pete Duncan advised that we will need to do another Review Day before the end of October 2016 to evaluate our work covered in the last plan. Action : Alan / Ingrid – set a date for this and organise the Review Day. Big Local are keen to learn how we are engaging with young people, Pete has forwarded information to Christine about this and will also send it to Alan / Ingrid. They would also like us to engage with our MP, Alan has already had a meeting with him and will invite him to our AGM on 16 September 2016. There is a workshop on 24 June in Newcastle on 'How to deliver your Big Local Plan', none of us will be attending as we have our Summer Fun Day the day after.

(ii) **Caravan Proposal** As the sub group were unhappy about the decision not to go ahead with the Caravan Trial they have asked for feedback on the decision. Board members to email Alan either clarifying or updating their reasons for voting against the trial by 20/6/16. This information will be treated confidentially, collated and summarised and presented to the subgroup at their next meeting.

**32.16 Date of next Board Meeting: Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2016, 3pm in the Community Centre**